

American History -- Academic

For each of the sections that follow students may be required to analyze, recall, explain, interpret, apply, or evaluate the particular concepts being taught.

America in the First Half of the 20th Century

- Describe the causes and the effects of the Spanish-American War and its impact on U.S. Imperialism
- Give examples of progressive reform at the urban, state and federal levels
- Describe the long campaign and great effort required to achieve women's suffrage
- Identify World War I as a conflict of global origins and dimensions
- Describe how the sudden fall in stock prices in late October, 1929, brought on a stock market crash
- Give examples of the lasting effects of the Great Depression

World War II

- Identify the aggressive nations of Europe and Asia and their leaders
- Identify Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor as the aggressive action that propelled the U.S. into war
- Define the Nazi Holocaust and describe its terrors
- Identify the Manhattan Project and the atomic bomb

World War II at Home (1941-1945)

- Describe the changes in the American economy as it converted to wartime production
- Explain how the U.S. paid for the cost of the war
- Explain the mood of the American home front during war
- Describe how many Japanese Americans were forced into internment camps during the war

The Cold War and American Society (1945-1960)

- Identify the main goals of the superpowers in the post-war period and explain why these goals were in conflict
- Describe the goals of the U.S. policy of containment
- Explain why the U.S. became involved in the affairs of Korea and Vietnam
- Explain Senator Joseph McCarthy's role in the anti-Communist crusade

The Postwar Years at Home (1945-1960)

- Describe how the nation's economy grew after WW II
- Describe the value assigned to comfort and security by middle-class Americans in the 1950's

- Describe the changes in American Society that led African Americans to demand more equality between the races

The Kennedy and Johnson Years (1960-1975)

- Identify John F. Kennedy and describe his popular image
- Describe Kennedy's proposed domestic program, including a tax cut, the space program, and direct aid to the poor
- Describe the qualities that allowed Lyndon Johnson to move his programs through Congress
- Explain how Kennedy's commitment to the Cold War and inexperience in foreign affairs affected his handling of foreign policy

The Civil Rights Movement

- Describe the variety of opinions and goals within the civil rights movement
- Identify Martin Luther King Jr., and explain his role in the civil rights movement
- Identify the key civil rights accomplishments of Lyndon B. Johnson
- Identify the figures who expressed the rage that many African Americans felt during the 1960's

Continuing Social Revolution (1960-1965)

- Explain how women learned legal and political techniques to fight discrimination from the civil rights movement
- Describe how Latino Americans used tactics from the civil rights movement to overcome discrimination
- Describe the types of discrimination faced by Asian Americans during WWII and the Cold War
- Explain why Native Americans faced unique problems of poverty and discrimination

The Vietnam War and American Society (1960-1975)

- Describe how President Kennedy increased American involvement in Vietnam in the early 1960's
- Describe how President Johnson used the Gulf of Tonkin incident to intensify the war
- Identify the Vietnam War as the focus of the protest movement in the 1960's
- Explain the ways in which many young people in the 1960's sought to promote freedom and creativity in a counterculture that rejected the conventional lifestyles of older Americans
- Explain how growing opposition to the war persuaded Lyndon Johnson not to run for re-election and helped Richard Nixon become President in 1968
- Explain Nixon's Vietnamization of the war and also the initiation of bombing assaults in 1970

The Nixon Years

- Explain how Nixon sought to take a more conservative stance with regard to economic policies and crime
- Explain Henry Kissinger's key role in shaping foreign policy in the Nixon Administration
- Describe how Nixon reversed American policy toward the People's Republic of China
- Describe Nixon's efforts to cover up his involvement in the Watergate break-in

The Post-Watergate Period (1974-1980)

- Describe the economic troubles of the mid-1970's
- Describe how Carter's peacemaking efforts brought some stability to the Middle East
- Describe the Iran hostage crisis and explain how it damaged the Carter Presidency

High Tide of the Conservative

- Describe the roots of the New Conservative Movement
- Describe the goals of Reagan's economic plan
- Explain how the collapse of the Soviet Union ended the Cold War
- Explain why President Bush organized military action against Iraq in 1991

The Promise of Change (1992-Present)

- Identify the changes Bill Clinton promised to bring to the U.S.
- Explain how the Clinton Administration supported Boris Yeltsin in his efforts to bring reform to Russia
- Explain the basic provisions of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)

PROJECT(S) ACCEPTABLE FOR GRADUATION PROJECT

- A Living Timeline Project
- 1960's Social Revolution Project
- 1970's Culture Project