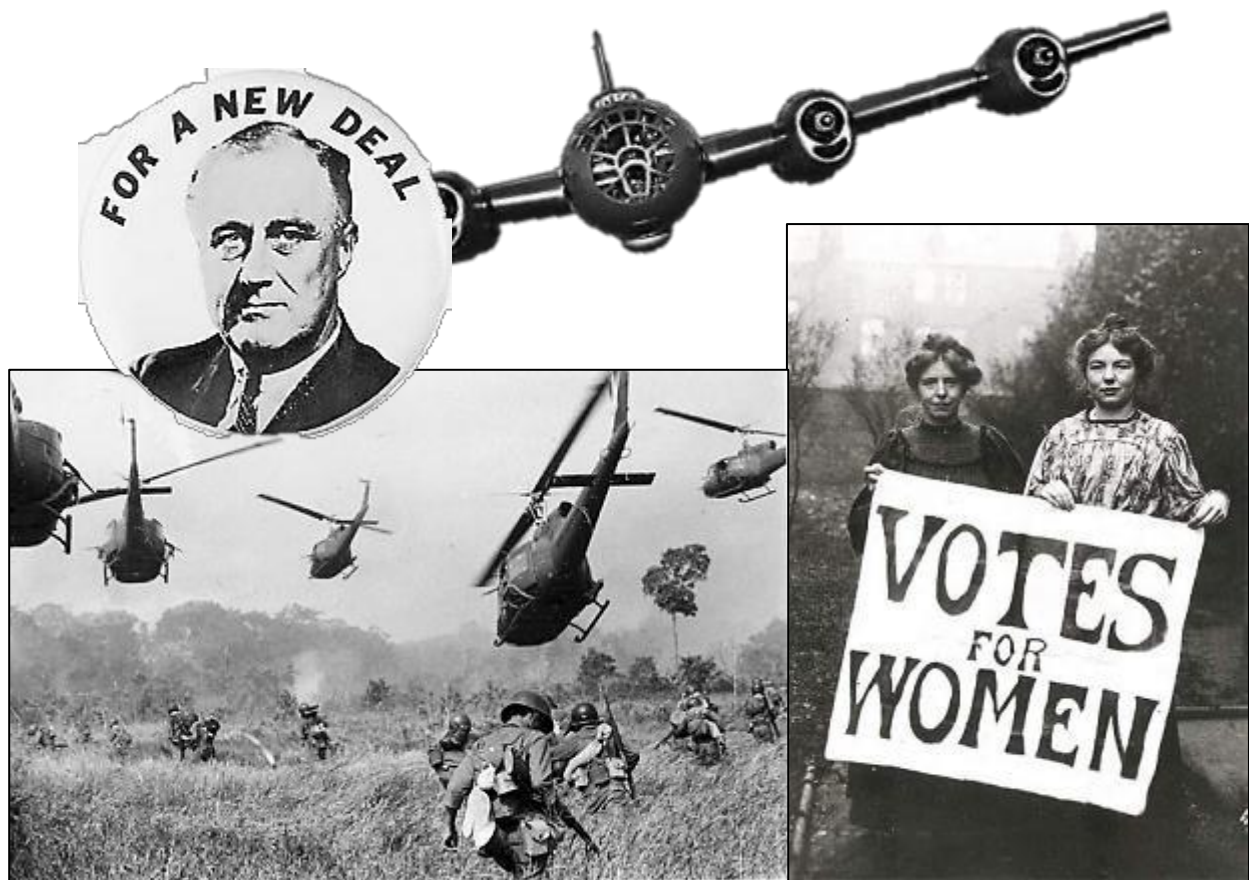




# U.S. History – Exit Level Study Guide 11<sup>th</sup> Grade

Edited by Hans G. Friedel



## 7. The Gilded Age (1877-1900)

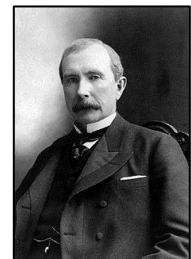
### OVERVIEW

**Gilded Age** | In United States history, the Gilded Age was the period following the Civil War, roughly from the end of Reconstruction in 1877 to the turn of the twentieth century. The term was coined by writers Mark Twain and Charles Dudley Warner in *The Gilded Age: A Tale of Today*, satirizing what they believed to be an era of serious social problems hidden by a thin layer of gold. The Gilded Age was a time of enormous growth that attracted millions from Europe. Railroads were the major industry, but the factory system, mining, and labor unions also gained in importance. The growth was interrupted by major nationwide depressions known as the Panic of 1873 and the Panic of 1893. Most of the growth and prosperity came in only the former Union states of North and West. The South remained economically devastated; its economy became increasingly tied to cotton and tobacco production, which suffered low prices. African Americans in the south experienced the worst setbacks, as they were stripped of political power and voting rights. The dominant issues were rights for Black Americans, tariff policy and monetary policy. Reformers worked for civil service reform, prohibition and women's suffrage, while philanthropists built colleges and hospitals, and the many religious denominations exerted a major sway in everyday life.

### BUSINESS DURING THE GILDED AGE



**Andrew Carnegie (November 25, 1835 – August 11, 1919)** | Carnegie was Scottish-American industrialist business tycoon and philanthropist who controlled most of the steel industry. Known as the “Captain of Industry” and a “robber baron.” Carnegie wrote “The Gospel of Wealth”



**John D. Rockefeller (July 8, 1839 – May 23, 1937)** | Rockefeller was an American industrialist business tycoon and philanthropist who owned Standard Oil and controlled 90% of the oil industry in the late 1800s. He controlled the industry by making Standard Oil a trust.

**Monopolies** | Situation in which one company controls an entire industry

**Trusts** | Small companies join together to form one large company.

**Laissez-Faire** | The idea that government should not interfere with business practices.

**Social Darwinism** | The belief that the rich succeed because they are superior to the poor. This belief was applied to big business during the Gilded Age.

## **REACTION TO BIG BUSINESS**

**Sherman Antitrust Act** | Outlawed business monopolies, but was not very effective at limiting the power of big business.

**Labor Unions** | Organizations that protected the interests of the worker. They created the 40-hour work week and dealt with dangerous working conditions. They also organized strikes. Famous labor unions included Knights of Labor and American Federation of Labor. Their activity today centers on collective bargaining over wages, benefits, and working conditions for their membership, and on representing their members in disputes with management over violations of contract provisions.

## **INDUSTRIALIZATION AND URBANIZATION**

**Industrialization** | The rise of a manufacturing economy and decline of an agriculture economy.

**Bessemer Process** | was the first inexpensive industrial process for the mass-production of steel from molten iron prior to the open hearth furnace. The process is named after its inventor, Henry Bessemer.

**Urbanization** | The large growth of cities. With urbanization came a large range of urban problems including sanitation, transportation, and crowded living conditions.

**Jane Addams (September 6, 1860 – May 21, 1935)** | She was the founder of Hull House in Chicago, public philosopher, sociologist, author, and leader in woman suffrage and world peace. She was one of the most prominent reformers of the Progressive Era and helped turn the nation to issues of concern to mothers, such as the needs of children, public health, and world peace. Addams became a role model for middle-class women who volunteered to uplift their communities. She became the first American woman to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

**Settlement Houses** | Community centers that helped immigrants address the problems of horrible living conditions, disease, illiteracy, and unemployment.

**Tenements** | Apartments built in city slums to house large numbers of people. Many immigrants were forced to live in these "slum" neighborhoods.

**Sweat Shops** | A small factory where workers were paid low wages in bad working conditions. Immigrants were considered cheap labor.

**Child Labor** | This was a major problem during the Gilded Age.



## POLITICS DURING THE GILDED AGE

**Populism** | A political philosophy supporting the rights and power of the people in their struggle against the privileged elite. Based among poor, white cotton farmers in the South (especially North Carolina, Alabama, and Texas) and hard-pressed wheat farmers in the plains states (especially Kansas and Nebraska), it represented a radical crusading form of agrarianism and hostility to banks, railroads, and elites generally. It sometimes formed coalitions with labor unions, and in 1896 the Democrats endorsed their presidential nominee, William Jennings Bryan. The terms "populist" and "populism" are commonly used for anti-elitist appeals in opposition to established interests and mainstream parties. Populists wanted:

- ✚ Government ownership of railroads
- ✚ Lower protect tariffs on industrial goods
- ✚ Silver-backed as opposed to gold-backed currency to cause inflation

**High Voter Turnout** | The Gilded Age was marked by high voter turnout.

**Political Machines** | Corrupt organized groups that controlled political parties in cities. A boss led the machine and attempted to grab more votes for their party.

**Tweed Ring Scandal** | Political scandal involving "Boss" William Marcy Tweed and the [Tammany Hall](#) machine in New York City. It was the Democratic Party political machine that played a major role in controlling New York City and New York State politics and helped immigrants, most notably the Irish, rise up in American politics from the 1790s to the 1960s.

**Pendleton Service Act** | Ensured that appointments to government jobs were based upon merit and qualifications. It was designed to prevent the "spoils system" and patronage.





**Election of 1896** | Republicans nominated William McKinley while the Democrats joined with the Populists in nominating William Jennings Bryan. Bryan gave the famous "Cross of Gold" speech at the Democratic National Convention.

"You shall not press down upon the brow of labor this crown of thorns, you shall not crucify mankind upon a cross of gold" William J. Bryan from the "Cross of Gold" speech.

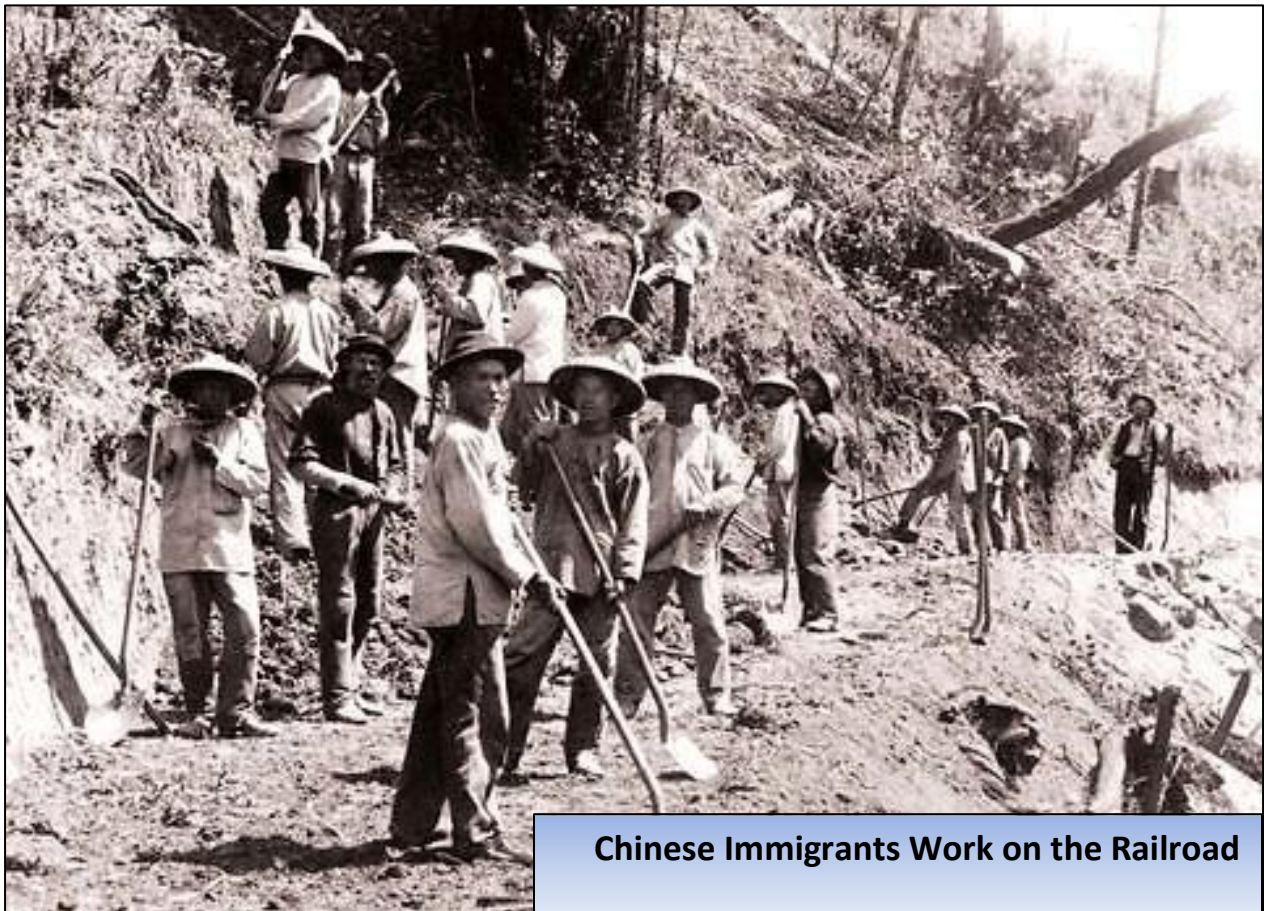
**Political Cartoons** | The political cartoons of **Thomas Nast** raised awareness of political corruption.

**The Tammany Tiger Loose—"What are you going to do about it?", by Thomas Nast, published in Harper's Weekly in November 1871, just before election day**



## IMMIGRATION

- ✚ About 20 million European immigrants arrived in the U.S. between 1870 and 1920
- ✚ Before 1890, most immigrants came from Western and Northern Europe and were known as "**Old immigrants.**"
- ✚ An increase of Southern and Eastern immigrants occurred after 1890 and were known as "**New Immigrants**" and their arrival increased tensions
- ✚ Most of these "**New Immigrants**" were processed at [Ellis Island](#)
- ✚ 300,000 Chinese immigrants arrived between 1851 and 1883



Chinese Immigrants Work on the Railroad

## 8. The Progressive Era (1890-1920)

### GOALS OF PROGRESSIVISM

**Progressivism** | was a general political philosophy advocating or favoring gradual social, political, and economic reform. Modern Progressivism emerged as part of a more general response to the vast social changes brought by industrialization.

- ✚ Protect social welfare
- ✚ Create economic reform
- ✚ Political reform of government

### IMPORTANT TERMS

**Muckraker** | Reporters and writers who exposed corruption and the abuses of big business.

**Suffrage** | The right to vote

### IMPORTANT LEGISLATION

**16<sup>th</sup> Amendment** | Established the federal income tax

**17<sup>th</sup> Amendment** | Established direct election of United States Senators by popular vote. The amendment supersedes Article I, § 3, Clauses 1 and 2 of the Constitution, under which senators were elected by state legislatures. Made government more responsive to the people.

**18<sup>th</sup> Amendment** | Prohibited the manufacture, sale, and transportation of alcoholic beverages (Prohibition)

**19<sup>th</sup> Amendment** | Established the right to vote for women.

**Initiative** | Procedure by which citizens can propose a law to be placed on a ballot.

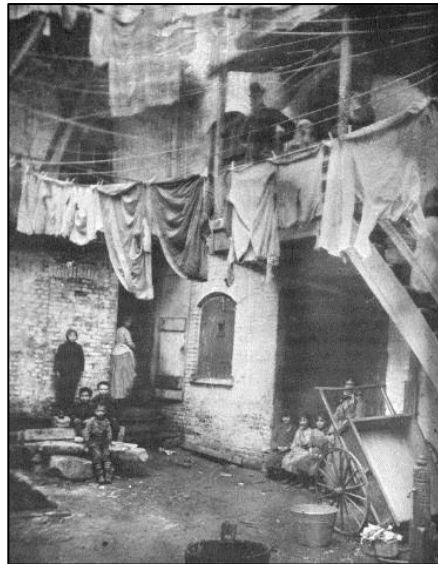
**Recall** | Procedure by which a public official may be removed from office by popular vote.

**Referendum** | Procedure by which voters can vote for a proposed initiative on a ballot.

**Prohibition** | Prohibition in the United States was a national ban on the sale, manufacture, and transportation of alcohol, in place from 1920 to 1933. The dry movement was led by rural Protestants in both political parties, and was coordinated by the Anti-Saloon League. The ban was mandated by the Eighteenth Amendment to the Constitution, and the Volstead Act set down the rules for enforcing the ban and defined the types of alcoholic beverages that were prohibited. Private ownership and consumption of alcohol was not made illegal. Prohibition ended with the ratification of the Twenty-first Amendment, which repealed the Eighteenth Amendment, on December 5, 1933.



The photographs of [Jacob Riis](#) raised awareness of working and living conditions of immigrants in the factories and tenements



### THEODORE ROOSEVELT'S IMPACT

**Trustbuster** | Term used to describe Roosevelt's attempt to reform big business by breaking up trusts.

**Conservation** | The preservation of wilderness areas.

**Meat Inspection Act (1906)** | Provided government inspection of meat.

**Muckrakers** | Roosevelt's term for crusading journalists of the time period who sought to bring about reform in American society, industry, and politics.

**Pure Food and Drug Act (1906)** | Regulation of the preparation of foods and the sale of medicines.

**Bull Moose Party** | Roosevelt's political party in the election of 1912. Roosevelt ran as a third-party candidate.

### IMPORTANT PEOPLE



**[Susan B. Anthony \(February 15, 1820 – March 13, 1906\)](#)** | She was a prominent American civil rights leader who played a pivotal role in the 19th century women's rights movement to introduce women's suffrage into the United States.



**Robert LaFollette a.k.a. "Fighting Bob" (June 14, 1855 – June 18, 1925)** | Wisconsin senator who helped reform government at the state level.

**W.E.B. Du Bois (February 23, 1868 – August 27, 1963)** | Early civil rights leader and co-founder of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in 1909. After graduating from Harvard, where he was the first African American to earn a doctorate, he became a professor of history, sociology and economics at Atlanta University. He demanded equality for African Americans.



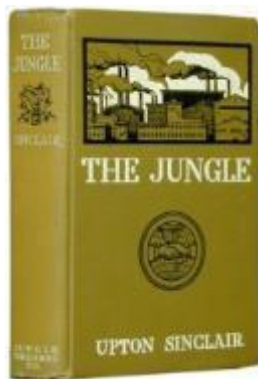
**Eugene V. Debs (November 5, 1855 – October 20, 1926)** | Labor leader who attempted to form a labor union of skilled and unskilled workers. In 1912, he ran for President under the Socialist Party as a third party candidate. He won 6% of the popular vote.

**Upton Sinclair (September 20, 1878 – November 25, 1968)** | Sinclair was the author of *The Jungle*, a book that described the terrible conditions of the meat packing industry and the struggles of immigrants who worked at them. His book led to the Meat Inspection Act and Pure Food and Drug Act.



**Woodrow Wilson (December 28, 1856 – February 3, 1924)** | He was the 28<sup>th</sup> President of the United States, from 1913 to 1921, and a leader of the progressive movement. He passed the Clayton Antitrust Act, which continued to crack down on monopolies. Wilson was the last president of the Progressive Era.

"Let a man so much as scrape his finger pushing a truck in the pickle rooms, and he might have a sore that would put him out of the world; all the joints in his fingers might be eaten by the acid, one by one. Of the butchers and floorsmen, the beef-boners and trimmers, and all those who used knives, you could scarcely find a person who had the use of his thumb; time and time again the base of it had been slashed, till it was a mere lump of flesh against which the man pressed the knife to hold it. The hands of these men would be criss-crossed with cuts, until you could no longer pretend to count them or to trace them. They would have no nails, – they had worn them off pulling hides; their knuckles were swollen so that their fingers spread out like a fan. There were men who worked in the cooking rooms, in the midst of steam and sickening odors, by artificial light; in these rooms the germs of tuberculosis might live for two years, but the supply was renewed every hour. There were the beef-luggers, who carried two-hundred-pound quarters into the refrigerator-cars; a fearful kind of work, that began at four o'clock in the morning, and that wore out the most powerful men in a few years." Excerpt from Upton Sinclair's novel *The Jungle*.



## 9. U.S. Imperialism



### INTRODUCTION

**Imperialism** | The process of a stronger nation controlling a weaker territory through political, economic, and/or military means.

**American Imperialism** | Is a term referring to the economic, military, and cultural influence of the United States on other countries. The concept of an American Empire was first popularized during the presidency of James K. Polk who led the United States into the Mexican–American War of 1846, and the eventual annexation of California and other western territories via the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo and the Gadsden purchase.

**Alfred Thayer Mahan (September 27, 1840 – December 1, 1914)** | He was a U.S. Admiral who encouraged the U.S. to strengthen its naval power to become a world power.

### EXPANSIONISM

**Alaska** | Purchased in 1867 from Russia. Alaska was known as “Seward’s Folly” and was initially considered a bad purchase.

**Hawaii** | Purchased in 1898. Queen Liliuokalani was removed from power and Hawaii was annexed by the U.S. in 1898.



## SPANISH AMERICAN WAR

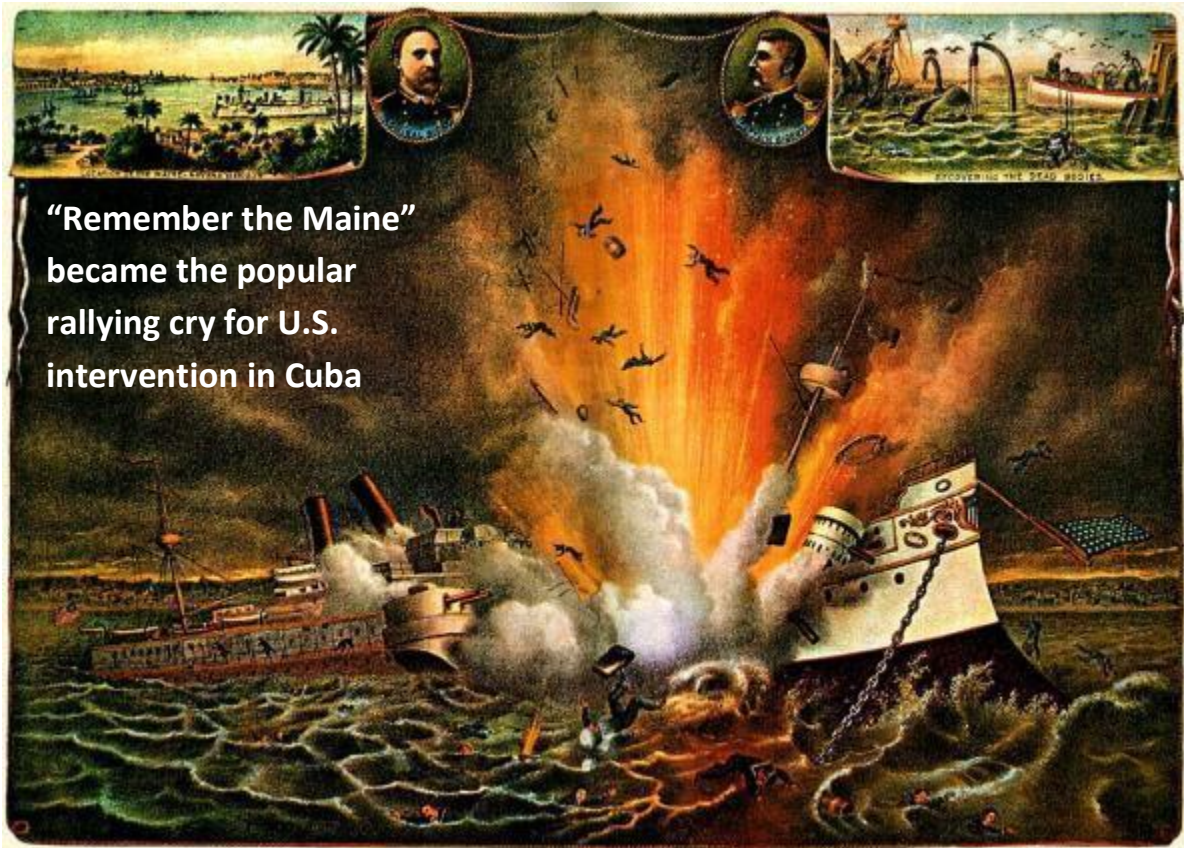
**The Spanish–American War** | began in April 1898, two months after the sinking. Advocates of the war used the rallying cry, "Remember the Maine! To Hell with Spain!"

### Causes of the Spanish American War

- ✦ **Spanish Cruelty** | Spain's military abused power and mistreated Cubans.
- ✦ **Yellow Journalism** | News that exaggerated the truth in order to get a reaction. Key editors were William Randolph Hearst U.S. and Joseph Pulitzer.
- ✦ **De Lome Letter** | Letter intercepted from a Spanish ambassador criticizing U.S. President McKinley.
- ✦ **U.S.S. Maine** | The Maine was a warship that blew up in Havana Harbor off the coast of Cuba. The Spanish were blamed and war was declared.

### Results of the Spanish American War

- ✦ Spain loses most of its empire
- ✦ **The Platt Amendment (1901)** | allows the U.S. to control Cuba
- ✦ The U.S. acquired the territories of the Philippines, Guam, and Puerto Rico
- ✦ The U.S. increases its strength as a world power





## TEDDY ROOSEVELT AND IMPERIALISM



**Rough Riders** | Volunteer cavalry unit led by Teddy Roosevelt that gained fame at the battle of San Juan Hill in Cuba

**Roosevelt Corollary** | Teddy Roosevelt declared that the U.S. would act as an international police power in Latin America. This was a later development of the Monroe Doctrine.

**Monroe Doctrine** | Was a policy of the United States introduced on December 2, 1823 named after President James Monroe. It stated that further efforts by European nations to colonize land or interfere with states in North or South America would be viewed as acts of aggression, requiring U.S. intervention. The Doctrine was issued at a time when nearly all Latin American colonies of Spain and Portugal had achieved independence from the Spanish Empire (except Cuba and Puerto Rico) and the Portuguese Empire. The United States, working in agreement with Britain, wanted to guarantee no European power would move in.

**Panama Canal (1914)** | Man-made waterway that connects the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean. Workers faced problems with mosquito borne diseases and hazardous working conditions.

**Open Door Policy** | Ensured that the U.S. could trade with China. When the partition of China by the European powers and Japan seemed imminent, the United States felt its commercial interests in China were threatened. U.S. Secretary of State John Hay sent notes to the major powers (France, Germany, Britain, Italy, Japan, and Russia), asking them to declare formally that they would uphold Chinese territorial and administrative integrity and would not interfere with the free use of the treaty ports within their spheres of influence in China. The open door policy stated that all European nations, and the United States, could trade with China. In reply, each nation tried to evade Hay's request, taking the position that it could not commit itself until the other nations had complied. However, by July 1900, Hay announced that each of the powers had granted consent in principle. Competition among the various powers for special concessions within China for railroad rights, mining rights, loans, foreign trade ports, and so forth, continued unabated.



# 10. World War I (1914-1918)

## CAUSES OF WWI

**Militarism** | Nations built large armies to help them secure their empires.

**Alliances** | European nations signed treaties with each other that created a system of alliances.

**Imperialism** | Competition between European countries to create empires.

**Nationalism** | Strong feelings of pride for one's country.

## IMPORTANT DATES

- ✚ **1914** | WWI begins in Europe
- ✚ **1917** | The U.S. Enters WWI on the Allied side
- ✚ **1918** | The allies win WWI when Germany surrenders

Allied Powers	Central Powers
Great Britain	German
France	Austria-Hungary
The United States	The Ottoman Empire
Russia	Bulgaria
Serbia	



EUROPEAN ALLIANCES AND BATTLEFRONTS, 1914-1917

## IMPORTANT PEOPLE



**Archduke Franz Ferdinand (18 December 1863 - 28 June 1914)** |

Archduke of Austria-Hungary was assassinated by a Serbian in 1914. His murder was one of the causes of WWI. His assassination in Sarajevo precipitated Austria-Hungary's declaration of war against Serbia. This caused the Central Powers (including Germany and Austria-Hungary) and the Allies of World War I (countries allied with Serbia or Serbia's allies) to declare war on each other, starting World War I.

**Woodrow Wilson (December 28, 1856 – February 3, 1924)** | Was President of the U.S. during WWI. Wilson wanted to fight the war to “make the world safe for democracy.”



**General John Pershing (September 13, 1860 – July 15, 1948)** |

The commander of the American expeditionary force during WWI. Under his leadership, American forces helped end the stalemate and led the Allies to victory.

**Henry Cabot Lodge (May 12, 1850 – November 9, 1924)** | U.S. Senator who opposed the League of Nations. Lodge demanded Congressional control of declarations of war; Wilson refused and the United States Senate never ratified the Treaty of Versailles nor joined the League of Nations.



## KEY TERMS

**New weapons introduced during the war** | Machine guns, poison gas, tanks, and airplanes were introduced. Airplanes engaged in “dog fights” in the skies over Europe.

**Trench Warfare** | Opposing side’s attacked from the ditches instead of an open battlefield.

**Stalemate** | A situation where neither side could gain an advantage in combat.

**Battle of Argonne Forest** | The battle that led to the surrender of the Germany army and the end of WWI.

**Wilson’s Fourteen Points** | President Wilson’s proposal for peace after WWI. Wilson called for the freedom of the seas, ending secret treaties, a League of Nations, and other peaceful measures.

**League of Nations** | International organization formed after WWI to help solve disputes between countries. The U.S. did not join and it was considered a failure.

**Treaty of Versailles** | The treaty that officially ended WWI. It blamed Germany for WWI and handed down harsh punishment. Germany was forced to pay reparations to the Allies for the cost of the war. The treatment of Germany in the treaty helped lead to the rise of Adolph Hitler and WWII.



**Sedition Act of 1918** | During WWI, the U.S. Government had stifled freedom of speech with the Sedition Act of 1918 in an effort to silence anti-war protests.



## REASONS FOR U.S. INVOLVEMENT IN WWI

**Close ties with the Allies** | Americans and British spoke the same language. We shared the notion of democracy. Many Americans traced their ancestry to Great Britain.

**Unrestricted Submarine Warfare** | German policy of sinking any ships in the water, including merchant and passenger ships.

**Sinking of the Lusitania (1915)** | British passenger ship that was destroyed by a German submarine. 128 Americans were killed.

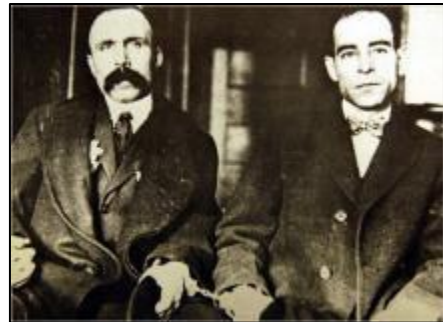


**Zimmerman Note** | Telegram sent by Germany, proposing that Mexico ally itself with Germany if the U.S. entered the war. In return, Mexico would receive land that it had lost to the U.S. in the Mexican-American War.

## THE RED SCARE

After WWI, Americans became very fearful of radical political theories. The Communist Revolution had occurred in Russia in 1917, and Americans were afraid communism might spread in the United States. Workers were going on strike to protest the rising cost of living after the war. After a series of bombings, U.S. Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer led a series of raids – Immigrants were blamed for the violence, and the [Palmer Raids](#) targets immigrants' homes and businesses. Other examples of **Nativism** include the Sacco and Vanzetti Trial, anti-immigration laws ([Emergency Quota Act](#) and [National Origins Act](#)), and the rise of the "new KKK."

[Sacco and Vanzetti](#) | Anarchists and Italian immigrants accused of murder. They were sentenced to death. Because of their political stance and nationality they were not given a fair trial. After a controversial trial and a series of appeals, the two Italian immigrants were executed on August 23, 1927. Since their deaths, critical opinion has overwhelmingly felt that the two men were convicted largely on their anarchist political beliefs and unjustly executed. In 1977, Massachusetts



Governor Michael Dukakis issued a proclamation that Sacco and Vanzetti had been unfairly tried and convicted and that "any disgrace should be forever removed from their names." The case is still officially open.

**WWI was the first war  
that saw the use of tanks**



# 11. The Roaring Twenties (1920-1929)

## IMPORTANT PEOPLE

**Henry Ford (July 30, 1863 – April 7, 1947)** |

Auto manufacturer who created the Model T and began to mass produce the automobile. He used the assembly line to speed up production and satisfy demand. This lowered prices and made autos affordable to the average American.



Ford Model T

**William Jennings Bryan (March 19, 1860 – July 26, 1925)** |

The prosecutor in the Scopes Trial. He supported creationism in school. He was also famous and was also famous as the Populist and Democratic presidential candidate in 1896 who gave the "Cross of Gold" speech that argued against using the gold standard to back money.

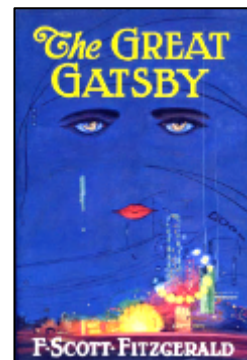
**Clarence Seward Darrow (April 18, 1857 – March 13, 1938)** | Defended John Scopes during the Scopes Trial. He argued that evolution should be taught in schools.



**Charles Lindbergh** | American pilot who made the first non-stop flight across the Atlantic.

**F. Scott Fitzgerald (September 24, 1896 – December 21, 1940)** |

was an American author of novels and short stories, whose works are the paradigm writings of the Jazz Age, a term he coined himself. He is widely regarded as one of the greatest American writers of the 20th century. Fitzgerald is considered a member of the "Lost Generation" of the 1920s. He is best remembered for writing the famous American novel, [The Great Gatsby](#).



## POLITICAL ISSUES

**Red Scare** | The fear that Communists were going to take over the U.S. It included the Palmer Raid, the Sacco and Vanzetti Trial, and the rise of nativism.




**Teapot Dome Scandal** | The prime example of corruption during Warren G. Harding's Presidency; involved Harding's Secretary of the Interior, Albert Fall leasing U.S. naval oil reserves in Wyoming to private interests in exchange for bribes.



## ECONOMIC ISSUES: REASONS FOR PROSPERITY OF THE 1920s

- ✚ Government policies that favored big business (e.g. laissez-faire economics)
- ✚ The growth of automobile industry
- ✚ Efficient production techniques such as the assembly line
- ✚ Mass media such as radio, film, and advertising led to a consumer culture

## SOCIAL ISSUES OF THE 1920s

	<p><b>Women's Issues in the 1920s</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✚ <b>Flappers</b>   embraced the urban attitudes and fashions</li> <li>✚ Women began to demand more freedom and assert their independence</li> <li>✚ However – a double standard between men and women still existed</li> <li>✚ <b>19<sup>th</sup> Amendment (1920)</b>   Prohibits any U.S. citizen to be denied the right to vote based on sex.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Prohibition</b>   Reform movement that banned the sale and consumption of alcohol. It also increased organized crime.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✚ <b>18<sup>th</sup> Amendment (1920)</b>   Prohibited the manufacture, distribution, and sale of alcoholic beverages.</li> <li>✚ <b>21<sup>st</sup> Amendment (1933)</b>   Repealed the 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment and ended Prohibition.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>The Scopes Trial (1925)</b>   The famous "Monkey Trial" that pitted the teaching of creationism against Darwin's theory of evolution in Tennessee public schools. The trial represented the clash between both science and fundamentalist religion and rural and urban Americans. John Scopes, a high school teacher was accused of violating Tennessee's Butler Act, which made it unlawful to teach evolution in state-funded schools. The trial is perhaps best known for serving as the inspiration for the play, and later movie, Inherit the Wind. Scopes was found guilty and fined \$100, but the verdict was overturned on a technicality.</p>

## CULTURAL ISSUES

**Jazz** | Jazz is a popular musical style that originated at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century in black communities in the Southern U.S. It was born out of a mix of African and European music traditions. Famous jazz composers included Louis Armstrong and Duke Ellington. **The Jazz Age** was a term coined by F. Scott Fitzgerald to describe the 1920s

**The Great Migration** | The mass migration of African-Americans to Northern cities from 1910 through both World Wars. They left the segregated south for industrial jobs in northern cities.

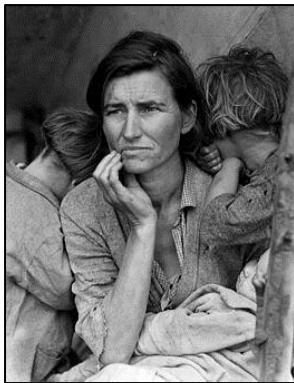
**The Harlem Renaissance** | Period of African-American cultural creativity in music, art, and literature centered in Harlem, New York. Langston Hughes was a famous poet.



## 12. The Great Depression (1929 - 1940)

### OVERVIEW

The Great Depression was a severe worldwide economic depression in the decade preceding World War II. The timing of the Great Depression varied across nations, but in most countries it started in 1930 and lasted until the late 1930s or middle 1940s. It was the longest, most widespread, and deepest depression of the 20th century. In the 21st century, the Great Depression is commonly used as an example of how far the world's economy can decline. The depression originated in the U.S., after the fall in stock prices that began around September 4, 1929, and became worldwide news with the stock market crash of October 29, 1929 (known as Black Tuesday).



The Great Depression had devastating effects in countries rich and poor. Personal income, tax revenue, profits and prices dropped, while international trade plunged by more than 50%. Unemployment in the U.S. rose to 25%, and in some countries rose as high as 33%. Cities all around the world were hit hard, especially those dependent on heavy industry. Construction was virtually halted in many countries. Farming and rural areas suffered as crop prices fell by approximately 60%. Facing plummeting demand with few alternate sources of jobs, areas dependent on primary sector industries such as cash cropping, mining and logging suffered the most. Some economies started to recover by the mid-1930s. In many countries, the negative effects of the Great Depression lasted until the end of World War II.

### CAUSES OF THE GREAT DEPRESSION

- ✚ Decline in world trade
- ✚ High protective tariffs
- ✚ Overproduction of consumer goods
- ✚ Buying stock on margin (borrowing) and market speculation for quick profit
- ✚ Very unequal distribution of wealth
- ✚ Decline in agriculture prices
- ✚ Severe drought in the southern plains (dust bowl)
- ✚ Stock Market Crash of 1929 ("Black Tuesday")

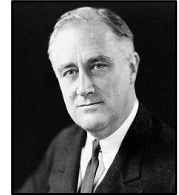


## PRESIDENTS



[Herbert Hoover \(President from 1929-1933\)](#) | President when the Great Depression began. Hoover is criticized for allowing the Depression to continue. He was defeated when voters looked to the federal government for help.

[Franklin D. Roosevelt \(President from 1933 -1945\)](#) | Defeated Hoover in 1932. Implemented the New Deal to help with the Great Depression. He gave fireside chats on the radio to communicate with the American public.



## LIFE DURING THE GREAT DEPRESSION

**Unemployment** | Unemployment rose as high as 25% during the Great Depression

["Hoovervilles"](#) | Was the popular name for shanty towns built by homeless people during the Great Depression. They were named after Herbert Hoover, who was President of the United States during the onset of the Depression and widely blamed for it.

**Bread lines and soup kitchens** | Methods by which the needy could obtain food.

[Dust Bowl](#) | Term used to describe the area of the Great Plains where heavy droughts and had dried up the farmland. The phenomenon was caused by severe drought combined with farming methods that did not include crop rotation, fallow fields, cover crops, soil terracing and wind-breaking trees to prevent wind erosion. Extensive deep plowing of the virgin topsoil of the Great Plains in the preceding decade had displaced the natural deep-rooted grasses that normally kept the soil in place and trapped moisture even during periods of drought and high winds. Rapid mechanization of farm implements, especially small gasoline tractors and widespread use of the combine harvester were significant in the decisions to convert grassland (much of which received no more than 10 inches (250 mm) of precipitation per year) to cultivated cropland.



[John Steinbeck's The Grapes of Wrath](#) | Set during the Great Depression, the novel focuses on the Joads, a poor family of tenant farmers driven from their Oklahoma home by drought, economic hardship, and changes in financial and agricultural industries. Due to their nearly hopeless situation, and in part because they were trapped in the Dust Bowl, the Joads set out for California. Along with thousands of other "Okies", they sought jobs, land, dignity, and a future.



## HOOVER'S PROGRAMS DURING THE GREAT DEPRESSION

[Hoover Dam \(Boulder Dam\)](#) | Dam built on the Colorado River near Las Vegas, Nevada to help stimulate business and provide jobs.



[Reconstruction Finance Corporation \(RFC\)](#) | Hoover's program to provide loans to struggling businesses.

## ROOSEVELT'S NEW DEAL

[The New Deal](#) | Roosevelt's program to fight the Great Depression. It was a series of economic programs enacted in the United States between 1933 and 1936. They involved presidential executive orders or laws passed by Congress during the first term of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The programs were in response to the Great Depression, and focused on what historians call the "3 Rs": Relief, Recovery, and Reform. That is, Relief for the unemployed and poor; Recovery of the economy to normal levels; and Reform of the financial system to prevent a repeat depression.



**Fireside Chats** | Roosevelt used the radio to speak to the American people and give them hope and confidence.

**FDR's First "100 Days"** | FDR was inaugurated on March 4, 1933. Two days later, he issued a proclamation ordering the suspension of all banking transactions, in effect closing the banks for a "bank holiday." This step was made to stop bank runs in which people would panic and suddenly try to take all their money out of the bank. After closing the banks, Roosevelt asked Congress to pass legislation which would guarantee that savers would not lose their money if there was another financial crisis. Banks that passed an audit for fiscal health were allowed to re-open on March 9, 1933. Also, President Roosevelt frequently turned for help to what was called the Brain Trust, which was made up of individuals from outside of government including professors, lawyers, and others who came to Washington to advise him on economic affairs. Roosevelt liked to learn through listening to experts and then questioning them. In doing so, he became familiar with different points of view. He considered their input when making decisions.

[Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation \(FDIC\)](#) | Insurance for people's bank accounts.

[Securities and Exchange Commission \(SEC\)](#) | Government agency that regulated stock market.

[Agricultural Adjustment Act \(AAA\)](#) | Law that attempted to raise crop prices by lower production.

[Civilian Conservation Corps \(CCC\)](#) | Public works program that gave jobs to young men. The workers planted trees, fought forest fires, and built public parks.

[Works Progress Administration \(WPA\)](#) | Created jobs by hiring writers and artists.

**Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA)** | Program that built dams in the Tennessee Valley area in order to control flooding and provide electrical power.

**Social Security Act** | The most important act of the New Deal. Social Security provides unemployment insurance, aid to the disabled, old age pensions, and insurance for families.

**FDR Battles the Supreme Court** | The Supreme court had declared several New Deal programs unconstitutional. FDR tried to add more members to the Supreme Court to pass his programs. This was known as court packing.

### **HOW DID THE GREAT DEPRESSION END?**

**New Deal Influence** | Each New Deal program had its own success. Some programs regulated wages and prices, which helped most families buy things they needed, like food and clothing. Others employed people as conservation workers, artists, writers, and laborers. Social Security helped the elderly who could no longer work and whose savings were gone.

Most historians agree that though the New Deal programs helped alleviate some of the problems during the Great Depression, they did not end the economic downturn; World War II was really responsible for the change in the economy. WWII brought us out of the Great Depression by creating jobs in industry and the military.

### **Civilian Conservation Corp Workers, 1930s**



# 13. World War II (1941-1945)

## IMPORTANT DATES








**1939** | Adolf Hitler invaded Poland beginning WWII.

**1941** | Japan attacked Pearl Harbor naval base in Hawaii. The United States entered the war as a result.

**1945** | Germany was defeated to end the war in Europe. The United States dropped atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki to end the war in the Pacific.

Allied Powers	Axis Powers
Great Britain United States Canada Soviet Union France	Germany Italy Japan

## IMPORTANT PEOPLE

	<b><a href="#">Franklin D. Roosevelt</a></b>   President of the U.S. during WWII and declared war on Japan after the attack on Pearl Harbor. He died while in office in 1945.
	<b><a href="#">Harry S. Truman</a></b>   President of the U.S. during the last months of WWII. He made the decision to use the atomic bomb on Japan to end the war sooner and save U.S. service member lives.
	<b><a href="#">General Dwight D. Eisenhower</a></b>   U.S. General in Europe during WWII. He was in charge of the Invasion of Normandy (D-Day). He later served as the 34th President from 1953 until 1961.
	<b><a href="#">General Douglas MacArthur</a></b>   U.S. General in charge of the Allied forces in the Pacific Ocean.
	<b><a href="#">General George Patton</a></b>   Outspoken U.S. General who led the U.S. Third Army and helped to liberate Paris.
	<b><a href="#">General Omar Bradley</a></b>   U.S. General who led the US 1 <sup>st</sup> Army during the Invasion of Normandy.
	<b><a href="#">General George Marshall</a></b>   Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army during WWII. He oversaw all the military operations in the War in Europe. After the war, he was responsible for the <a href="#">Marshall Plan</a> to help rebuild war-ravished Europe after WWII.



## CAUSES OF WORLD WAR II

The main causes of World War II were nationalistic tensions, unresolved issues, and resentments resulting from World War I and the interwar period in Europe, in addition to the effects of the Great Depression in the 1930s. The culmination of events that led to the outbreak of war are generally understood to be the 1939 invasion of Poland by Germany and Soviet Russia and the 1937 invasion of the Republic of China by the Empire of Japan. These military aggressions were the result of decisions made by the authoritarian ruling Nazi elite in Germany and by the military leadership of Japan. World War II started after these aggressive actions were met with an official declaration of war and/or armed resistance.

### **CAUSES OF WWII SUMMARY**

- ✚ Harsh treatment of Germany after WWI
- ✚ The rise of dictators, fascism, extreme nationalism, and totalitarianism in Europe and Japan (Nazi Party in Germany)
- ✚ Germany's invasion of Poland
- ✚ Germany's aerial attacks on Great Britain
- ✚ Japans' invasion of China
- ✚ Japans' attack on Pearl Harbor



### **THE WAR IN THE PACIFIC**

**Attack on Pearl Harbor (1941)** | On December 7<sup>th</sup> 1941, Japan attacked the U.S. naval base at Pearl Harbor forcing the U.S. to enter the war.

**Battle of Midway (1942)** | Major turning point in the war in the Pacific. This pivotal battle dealt a severe blow to the Japanese Navy.



**Island Hopping** | Allied naval strategy to reach Japan by taking one island at a time.

**Battle of Iwo Jima (1945)** | Part of the island hopping campaign and major battle in which the U.S. fought for and captured the island of Iwo Jima from the Japanese Empire. The American invasion had the goal of capturing the entire island, including its three airfields, to provide a staging area for attacks on the Japanese main islands. This month-long battle included some of the fiercest and bloodiest fighting of the War in the Pacific of World War II.



**The Atomic Bomb (1945)** | Powerful weapon dropped on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Harry Truman made the decision to drop the bomb in an effort to reduce American casualties. WWII ended as a result.



## THE WAR IN EUROPE

Germany occupied and controlled most of Europe prior to the Allied invasion on D-Day.

**The Holocaust** | The mass murder of 6 million Jews and others in Nazi concentration camps.

**Two-front War** | Germany was forced to fight British and American troops from the West and Russian from the East. This divided Germany's army in two and helped the Allies gain the advantage in Europe.

**Invasion of Normandy (D-Day, June 6<sup>th</sup> 1944)** | General Dwight D. Eisenhower led the Allied invasion of Axis-controlled France across the English Channel. The landings, were part of the Allied invasion of Normandy, in Operation Overlord, during World War II and the largest seaborne invasion in history.



**Battle of the Bulge (December, 1945)** | Was the last major German offensive in Europe. German forces in a surprise attack pushed past U.S. forces through the forested Ardennes mountain region of Wallonia in Belgium, and France and Luxembourg on the Western Front.

**Soviets Occupy Berlin (1945)** | The Soviets captured Berlin, German in Spring 1945. Hitler committed suicide rather than face capture and WWII ended in Europe. Many senior Nazis were convicted in the **Nuremberg Trials** of crimes against humanity for the holocaust and executed.

## THE HOME FRONT

Entering WWII helped the U.S. end the Great Depression through massive wartime production. Many new opportunities were created for women and minorities to enter the work force.

- ✚ **Rationing** | restricting the supply of items used by the public during wartime
- ✚ **Internment of Japanese Americans** | Over 100,000 Japanese Americans were forced to relocate to crowded prison camps where they were detained during WWII.
- ✚ **"Double V Campaign"** | African-Americans continued to face discrimination at home and pledged to fight for victory over Hitler in Europe and an end to racism.



## 14. Post-War America (1945-1974)

### LIFE UNDER HARRY TRUMAN (1945 – 1952)

GI Bill | A 1944 law that gave military veterans financial and education benefits.

Taft-Hartley Act | Law passed in 1947 that struck a blow to the power of the labor unions. The bill overturned many rights won by unions under the New Deal. Among other things, it outlawed closed shops which were contractual agreements that required an employer to hire only labor union members and put restrictions on strikes.

Suburbanization | Many people moved to communities built on the outskirts of major cities known as suburbs. Levittown, New York was the first suburb community.

The Baby Boom | The period from the end of WWII through mid-1960s was marked by unusually high birth rates.



### LIFE UNDER DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (1953 - 1960)



Interstate Highway Act (1956) | Authorized the building of a national highway system. The new roads encouraged the development of suburbs away from the city.

Roc k N' Ro ll | A form of music that became popular in the 1950s – sometimes seen as rebellion against the conformity of the decade.

### LIFE UNDER JOHN F. KENNEDY (1961 – 1963)

**First Televised Presidential Debate** | Kennedy and Richard Nixon were involved in the first televised debate during the Election of 1960.

Peace Corps | Kennedy's program that addressed social and international concerns.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) | The United States' space agency that sent Americans into outer space. In 1969, the U.S. landed the first man on the moon.



Kennedy Assassination (November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1963) | JFK was assassinated in Dallas, Texas.



## LIFE UNDER [LYNDON B. JOHNSON](#) (1963 – 1968)

[Great Society](#) | LBJ's program that addressed America's social problems including health care, civil rights, and urban decay.



[The War on Poverty](#) | LBJ's agenda designed to help poor American's. This included the Head Start program and Job Corps Training.

[Medicare \(1965\)](#) | Federal program that provides health insurance to American's over the age of 65.

[Medicaid \(1965\)](#) | Program that provides health insurance for people on welfare.

[Housing and Urban Development \(HUD\)](#) | The federal department responsible for the major housing programs in the U.S.

**Johnson's Civil Rights Record** | Civil rights was a focal point during the Johnson administration and many laws were passed during his Presidency including:

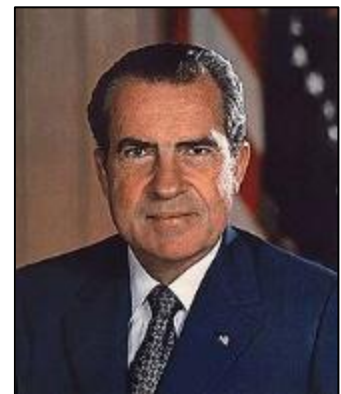
- ✦ [The Civil Rights Act of 1964](#) | Made discrimination based on race, religion, or national origin in public places illegal
- ✦ [The Voting Rights Act of 1965](#) | Eliminated literacy tests for voters
- ✦ [24<sup>th</sup> Amendment](#) | Abolished the poll tax
- ✦ [The Civil Rights Act of 1968](#) | Prohibited discrimination in the sale or rental of housing

## LIFE UNDER [RICHARD NIXON](#) (1969 – 1974)

[26<sup>th</sup> Amendment](#) | Gave voting rights to Americans 18 years and older, largely due to the fact that 18 year-olds were eligible for the draft during the Vietnam War.

[Ni xon 's Trip to Chi na](#) | In 1972, Nixon visited China, a Communist nation, to open up diplomatic and economic relations. Many Americans saw the trip as successful.

[Watergate](#) | The Watergate scandal was a political scandal that occurred in the United States in the 1970s as a result of the June 1972 break-in at the Democratic National Committee headquarters at the Watergate office complex in Washington, D.C., and the Nixon administration's attempted cover-up of its involvement. The scandal eventually led to the resignation of Richard Nixon, the President of the United States, on August 9, 1974, the only resignation of a U.S. President. The scandal also resulted in the indictment, trial, conviction and incarceration of 43 people, including dozens of Nixon's top administration officials. The investigative reporting of [Bob Woodward](#) and Carl Bernstein for the Washington Post in 1972 opened up the scandal. Watergate and the Teapot Dome scandal were the worst corruption scandals in U.S. Presidential history.



# 15. The Cold War Era (1945-1975)

## IMPORTANT TERMS AND EVENTS

**The Cold War** | Often dated from 1947 to 1991, was a sustained state of political and military tension between powers in the Western Bloc, dominated by the United States with NATO among its allies, and powers in the Eastern Bloc, dominated by the Soviet Union along with the Warsaw Pact. This began after the success of their temporary wartime alliance against Nazi Germany, leaving the USSR and the US as two superpowers with profound economic and political differences. The Cold War was so named because the two major powers—each possessing nuclear weapons and thereby threatened with mutual assured destruction—never met in direct military combat. Instead, in their struggle for global influence they engaged in ongoing psychological warfare and in regular indirect confrontations through proxy wars. Cycles of relative calm would be followed by high tension, which could have led to world war. The tensest times were during:



- ✦ [Berlin Blockade \(1948–1949\)](#)
- ✦ [Korean War \(1950–1953\)](#)
- ✦ [Suez Crisis \(1956\)](#)
- ✦ [Berlin Crisis of 1961](#)
- ✦ [Cuban Missile Crisis \(1962\)](#)
- ✦ [Vietnam War \(1959–1975\)](#)
- ✦ [Yom Kippur War \(1973\)](#)
- ✦ [Soviet war in Afghanistan \(1979–1989\)](#)

## SOVIET UNION (U.S.S.R) AND COMMUNISM

**Communism** | Is a revolutionary socialist movement to create a classless, moneyless and stateless social order structured upon common ownership of the means of production, as well as a social, political and economic ideology that aims at the establishment of this social order. This movement, in its Marxist–Leninist interpretations, significantly influenced the history of the 20th century, which saw intense rivalry between the "socialist world" (socialist states ruled by communist parties) and the "western world" (countries with capitalist economies).



- ✦ Government owns all property
- ✦ One political party
- ✦ Government controls the economy and wealth is distributed equally

**Command Economy** | An economy in which economic decisions (supply, prices, etc.) are made by the government rather than by market forces (Cuba, Soviet Union)

## UNITED STATES AND FREE ENTERPRISE ECONOMY

**Capitalism** | Is an economic system based on the private ownership of capital goods and the means of production, with the creation of goods and services for profit. Elements central to capitalism include capital accumulation, competitive markets, and a price system.



**Free Enterprise** | A system by which people can conduct business free of government control except for reasonable regulations made for the public good. Free enterprise advocates believe that the economy can regulate itself in a freely competitive market through the relationship of supply and demand with a minimum of governmental intervention.



**Containment** | The policy that the U.S. should prevent the Communism from spreading to other nations

**United Nations (1945)** | International organization formed after WWII to serve as a peacekeeper in world conflicts. The U.S. and Soviet Union used the U.N. to promote their beliefs during the Cold War.

**Truman Doctrine (1947)** | U.S. policy that gave military and economic aid to countries threatened by communism.

**Marshall Plan (1948)** | Program proposed by General George Marshall to help European countries rebuild after WWII. The U.S. offered economic aid to the war-torn countries.

**North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) (1959)** | A military alliance formed between the U.S., Canada, and ten western European countries.

**Warsaw Pact (1955 – 1991)** | As a mutual defense treaty between eight communist states of Central and Eastern Europe in existence during the Cold War. It was a response to NATO.



**Berlin Airlift (June 1948 – May 1949)** | U.S. operation that flew food and supplies into West Berlin after the Soviet Union set up a blockade in 1948.

**Korean War (1950 – 1953)** | The Korean War was between the Republic of Korea (South Korea), supported by the United Nations, and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea), supported by the People's Republic of China. It was primarily the result of the political division of Korea by an agreement of the victorious Allies at the conclusion of the Pacific War at the end of World War II. The Korean Peninsula was ruled by the Empire of Japan from 1910 until the end of World War II. Following the surrender of the Empire of Japan in September 1945, American administrators divided the peninsula along the 38th parallel, with U.S. military forces occupying the southern half and Soviet military forces occupying the northern half.

The failure to hold free elections throughout the Korean Peninsula in 1948 deepened the division between the two sides; the North established a communist government, while the South established a democratic government. The 38th parallel increasingly became a political border between the two Korean states. Although reunification negotiations continued in the months preceding the war, tension intensified. Cross-border skirmishes and raids at the 38th Parallel persisted. The situation escalated into open warfare when North Korean forces invaded South Korea on 25 June 1950. In 1950, the Soviet Union boycotted the United Nations Security Council, in protest at representation of China by the Kuomintang/Republic of China government, which had taken refuge in Taiwan following defeat in the Chinese Civil War. In the absence of a dissenting voice from the Soviet Union, who could have vetoed it, the United States and other countries passed a Security Council resolution authorizing military intervention in Korea.



The United States of America provided 88% of the 341,000 international soldiers which aided South Korean forces in repelling the invasion, with twenty other countries of the United Nations offering assistance. Suffering severe casualties within the first two months, the defenders were pushed back to a small area in the south of the Korean Peninsula, known as the Pusan perimeter. A rapid U.N. counter-offensive then drove the North Koreans past the 38th Parallel and almost to the Yalu River, when the People's Republic of China (PRC) entered the war on the side of North Korea. Chinese intervention forced the Southern-allied forces to retreat behind the 38th Parallel. While not directly committing forces to the conflict, the Soviet Union provided material aid to both the North Korean and Chinese armies. The fighting ended on 27 July 1953, when the armistice agreement was signed. The agreement restored the border between the Koreas near the 38th Parallel and created the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), a 2.5-mile (4.0 km)-wide fortified buffer zone between the two Korean nations. Minor incidents continue to the present day.

**The Rosenberg's (1951)** | Were an American couple who were accused of Communism and helping the Soviet Union obtain information about the atomic bomb. They were found guilty and sentenced to death.

**Nuclear Weapons** | In 1952, the U.S. successfully detonated the first H-Bomb (Hydrogen), a more powerful type of nuclear weapon than dropped on Japan. The Soviet Union exploded a nuclear weapon in 1953. The arms race followed as both countries amassed more nuclear weapons.

**Nuclear Arms Race** | The nuclear arms race was a competition for supremacy in nuclear warfare between the United States, the Soviet Union, and their allies during the Cold War.

**Mutually Assured Destruction** | Doctrine that the use of nuclear weapons would result in the complete destruction of both sides (attacker and defender).

**Joseph McCarthy** | Senator from Wisconsin who became famous by accusing people of being Communists without providing evidence.

**McCarthyism (1954)** | McCarthyism is the practice of making accusations of disloyalty, subversion, or treason without proper regard for evidence. It also means "the practice of making unfair allegations or using unfair investigative techniques, especially in order to restrict dissent or political criticism. It was named after Joseph McCarthy.



**Sputnik (1957)** | The first man-made satellite to be launched into outer space. Sputnik was a success for the Soviet Union and a symbolic success for Communism. This caused the U.S. to increase interest in its space program and a space race developed between the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

**Space Race** | was a mid-to-late 20th century competition between the Soviet Union (USSR) and the United States (USA) for supremacy in space exploration. Between 1957 and 1975, the Cold War rivalry between the two nations focused on attaining firsts in space exploration, which were seen as necessary for national security and symbolic of technological and ideological superiority.

**U-2 Incident (1960)** | A U-2 spy plane was shot down over the Soviet Union and the pilot, Francis Gary Powers, was captured. This increased tension between the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.

**Berlin Wall** | A wall built by the Soviets to separate East and West Berlin. The wall stood until 1989 when Communism collapsed.

**Bay of Pigs (1964)** | A failed invasion of Cuba planned by the U.S. government. The U.S. used Cuban exiles to invade Cuba but they were soundly defeated by the Cuban military.

**Cuban Missile Crisis (1962)** | A standoff between the U.S. and the Soviet Union when it was discovered that the Soviets were installing nuclear missiles pointed at the U.S. In May 1962 Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev proposed the idea of placing Soviet nuclear missiles on Cuba to deter any future invasion attempts like the Bay of Pigs. After a tense 13-day standoff, the U.S. pledged not to invade Cuba when the Soviet Union removed the missiles.

**Vietnam War (1954 – 1975)** | The Vietnam War was a Cold War-era military conflict that occurred in Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia from 1 November 1955 to the fall of Saigon on 30 April 1975. At home, the American public was deeply divided over U.S. involvement in the war. This war was fought between North Vietnam, supported by its communist allies, and the government of South Vietnam, supported by the United States and other anti-communist countries. The Viet Cong, a lightly armed South Vietnamese communist common front directed by the North, largely fought a guerrilla war against anti-communist forces in the region. The Vietnam People's Army (North Vietnamese Army) engaged in a more conventional war, at times committing large units into battle. U.S. and South Vietnamese forces relied on air superiority and overwhelming firepower to conduct search and destroy operations, involving ground forces, artillery, and airstrikes.



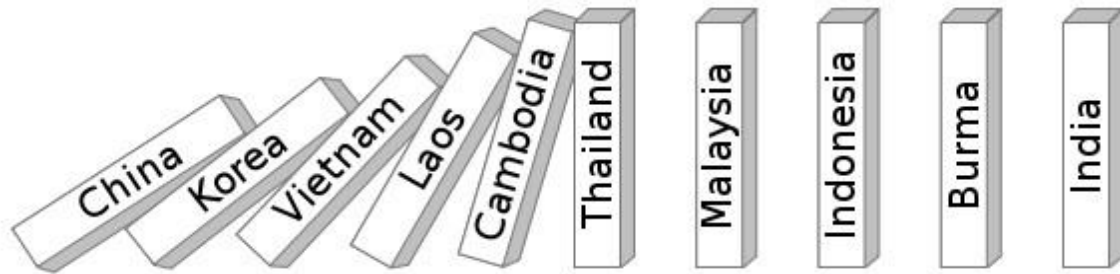
The U.S. government viewed involvement in the war as a way to prevent a communist takeover of South Vietnam as part of their wider strategy of containment. The North Vietnamese government and Viet Cong viewed the conflict as a colonial war, fought initially against France, backed by the U.S., and later against South Vietnam, which it regarded as a U.S. puppet state. American military advisors arrived in what was then French Indochina beginning in 1950. U.S. involvement escalated in the early 1960s, with troop levels tripling in 1961 and tripling again in 1962. U.S. combat units were deployed beginning in 1965. Operations spanned international borders, with Laos and Cambodia heavily bombed. American involvement in the war peaked in 1968, at the time of the Tet Offensive. After this, U.S. ground forces were gradually withdrawn as part of a policy known as Vietnamization. Despite the Paris Peace Accords, signed by all parties in January 1973, fighting continued.

U.S. military involvement ended on 15 August 1973 as a result of the Case–Church Amendment passed by the U.S. Congress. The capture of Saigon by the Vietnam People's Army in April 1975 marked the end of the war, and North and South Vietnam were reunified the following year. The war exacted a huge human cost in terms of fatalities. Approximately 1,000,000 Vietnamese soldiers and civilians were killed. Some 200,000–300,000 Cambodians, 20,000–200,000 Laotians, and 58,220 U.S. service members were killed in the conflict.

**Tonkin Gulf Resolution (1964)** | Congressional approval that gave LBJ the power to escalate the war in Vietnam.

**The Tet Offensive (1968)** | Was a military campaign during the Vietnam War that was launched on January 30, 1968 by forces of the Viet Cong and North Vietnam against South Vietnam, the United States, and their allies. It was a campaign of surprise attacks that were launched against military and civilian command and control centers throughout South Vietnam, during a period when no attacks were supposed to take place. It caught the U.S. by surprise and when the American public learned about it on television, it challenged the belief that the U.S. was winning the war.

**Domino Theory** | The belief that if a nearby nation became communist, then surrounding nations would do the same.



**Flexible Response** | Was a defense strategy implemented by John F. Kennedy in 1961 to provide the U.S. alternatives to the policy of Massive Retaliation. Flexible response called for mutual deterrence at strategic, tactical, and conventional levels, giving the United States the capability to respond to aggression across the spectrum of warfare, not limited only to nuclear arms.



**Kent State Shooting (May 4<sup>th</sup> 1970)** | Was a shooting that occurred at Kent State University in the U.S. city of Kent, Ohio, and involved the shooting of unarmed college students protesting the Vietnam War by the Ohio National Guard on Monday, May 4, 1970. The guardsmen fired 67 rounds over a period of 13 seconds, killing four students and wounding nine others

**“Hawks”** | Supporters of the Vietnam War who believed the U.S should increase military force in order to win the war.

**“Doves”** | Critics of the Vietnam War who believed the U.S. should withdraw.

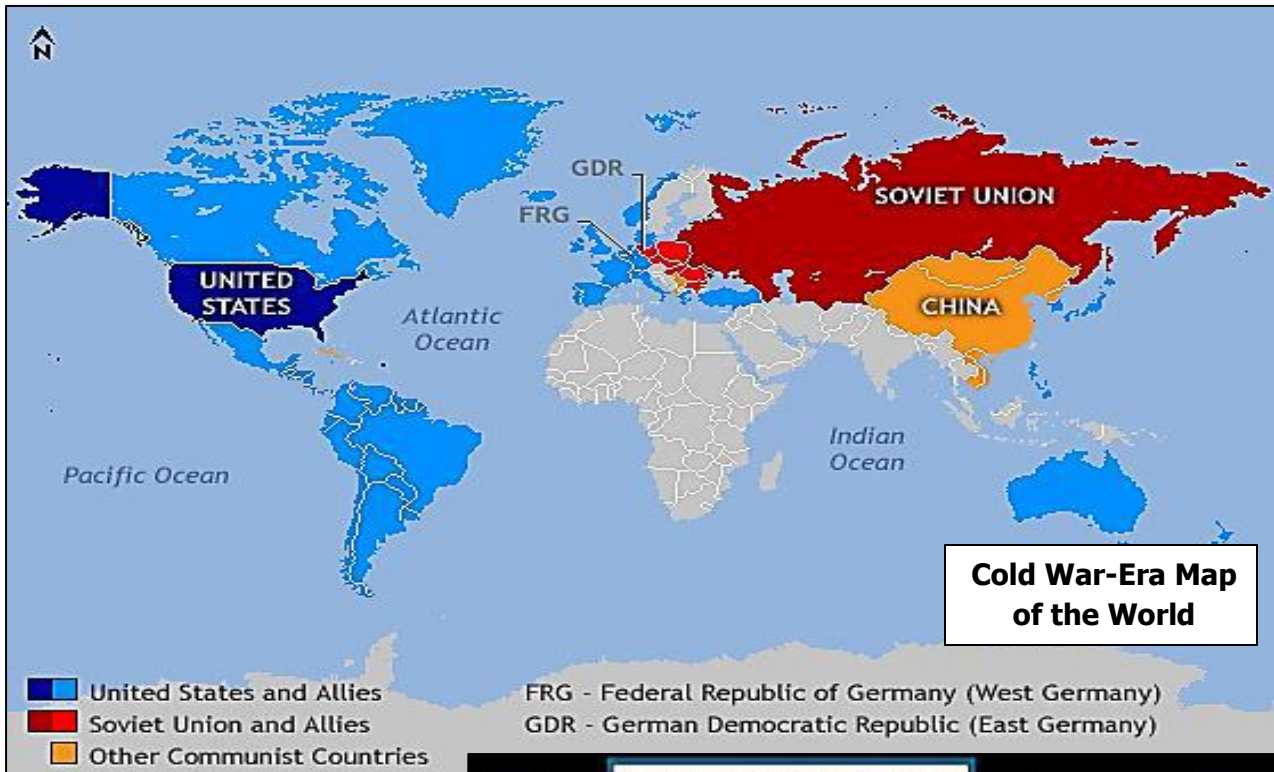
**The Draft** | During 1969 through 1972, the Selective Service used a lottery system to determine the order in which to draft men for service in Vietnam. Many who received a low number were drafted or chose to enlist. Others went to any extreme to avoid being sent to fight in the unpopular war. People who avoided the draft were called “Draft Dodgers.” During the early years of the war, men could avoid being drafted by enrolling in college.

**Pentagon Papers (1971)** | The Pentagon Papers were a classified United States Department of Defense history of the United States' political-military involvement in Vietnam from 1945 to 1967. The papers were first brought to the attention of the public on the front page of The New York Times in 1971. The papers among other things, demonstrated that a series of U.S. Presidents including the LBJ Administration had systematically lied, not only to the public but also to Congress, about the Vietnam War – especially that the U.S. was winning.

**Escalation** | Term used to describe the growing U.S. presence in Vietnam, including build-up of U.S. troops.

**War Powers Resolution of 1973** | A law passed in 1973 that limited the President’s right to send troops into battle without Congressional approval.





Master Sergeant Raul (Roy) Perez Benavidez (August 5, 1935 – November 29, 1998) was one of the Vietnam War's most decorated soldiers. He received the Medal of Honor for his actions in combat near Lộc Ninh, South Vietnam on May 2, 1968. He was born in Lindenau near Cuero, Texas.



# 16. The Civil Rights Movement

## THE STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM

**Slavery** | Bound in servitude as the property of another person. The slave trade brought slaves from Africa to the colonies and the United States.

**Abolition Movement** | The movement to end slavery. Famous abolitionists included Frederick Douglass, William Lloyd Garrison, and John Brown.

**Emancipation Proclamation (1863)** | During the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln freed all slaves in the Confederate States. Slave states loyal to the Union were allowed to keep their slaves.

## CIVIL WAR/RECONSTRUCTION AMENDMENTS

- ✚ **13<sup>th</sup> Amendment** | Abolished slavery and involuntary servitude except for a crime
- ✚ **14<sup>th</sup> Amendment** | Made former slaves citizens, gave equal protection under the law for all citizens
- ✚ **15<sup>th</sup> Amendment** | African-American males were given the right to vote

## EARLY STRUGGLE FOR EQUALITY

**Segregation** | The separation of races.

**Jim Crow Laws** | Southern race laws that encouraged segregation and discrimination against African-Americans. They were state and local laws in the United States enacted between 1876 and 1965. They mandated de jure (by law) racial segregation in all public facilities in Southern states of the former Confederacy, with, starting in 1890, a "separate but equal" status for African Americans. The separation in practice led to conditions for African Americans that tended to be inferior to those provided for white Americans, systematizing a number of economic, educational and social disadvantages. De jure segregation mainly applied to the Southern United States. Northern segregation was generally de facto (by fact), with patterns of segregation in housing enforced by covenants, bank lending practices, and job discrimination, including discriminatory union practices for decades.



**Plessy v. Ferguson (1896)** | Supreme Court decision that upheld segregation and said that "separate but equal" facilities were legal.

## TECHNIQUES USES TO PREVENT VOTING

- ✚ Poll taxes
- ✚ Literacy tests
- ✚ The Grandfather clause | Laws in southern states stated that all descendants of men who were voters before 1867 did not have to meet the educational, property, or tax requirements for voting then in existence
- ✚ Racial violence with the Ku Klux Klan and others

## EARLY AFRICAN AMERICAN LEADERS

**W.E.B. Du Bois (February 23, 1868 – August 27, 1963)** | Early civil rights leader and co-founder of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in 1909. After graduating from Harvard, where he was the first African American to earn a doctorate, he became a professor of history, sociology and economics at Atlanta University. He demanded equality for African Americans.



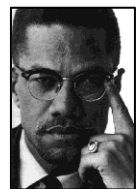
**Booker T. Washington (April 5, 1856 – November 14, 1915)** | was an African-American educator, author, orator, and advisor to Republican presidents. He was the dominant leader in the African-American community in the United States from 1890 to 1915. He believed African-Americans should achieve economic independence before social equality.

## IMPORTANT PEOPLE

**Rosa Parks (February 4, 1913 – October 24, 2005)** | Refused to give up her seat to a white passenger. After she was jailed, the Montgomery bus boycott was organized.

**Shirley Chisholm (November 30, 1924 – January 1, 2005)** | The first African-American women elected to the U.S. house of representatives for New York in 1969.

**Malcolm X (May 19, 1925 – February 21, 1965)** | Black Muslim leader who argued for separation, not integration, and influenced the Black Power movement. He later changed his views, but was assassinated in 1965.



**Martin Luther King Jr. (January 15, 1929 – April 4, 1968)** | Civil Rights leader from the 1950s – 1960s who helped organize the Montgomery bus boycott to protest segregation. He organized the March on Washington where he delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech. He was assassinated in 1968. King advocated peaceful protest and passive resistance.

**Cesar Chavez (March 31, 1927 – April 23, 1993)** | Was an American farm worker, labor leader and civil rights activist, who, with Dolores Huerta, co-founded the National Farm Workers Association (later the United Farm Workers union, UFW). He pushed for greater rights for migrant farm workers.





## IMPORTANT TERMS

**Brown v. Board of Education (1954)** | Was a landmark Supreme Court decision that overturned Plessy v. Ferguson (1896) in which the Court declared state laws establishing separate public schools for black and white students were unconstitutional.

**The Little Rock Nine (1957)** | A group of nine African-American students that were integrated into an all-white school in 1957 by order of President Eisenhower despite the resistance of Arkansas Governor Orval Faubus.



**Civil Rights Act of 1964** | Made discrimination based on race, religion, or national origin in public places illegal and required employers to hire on an equal opportunity basis.

**Reynolds v. Sims (1964)** | Supreme Court ruling that state legislature districts had to be roughly equal in population.

**Affirmative Action** | Sometimes known as positive discrimination, refers to policies that take factors including race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or national origin into consideration in order to benefit an underrepresented group in areas of employment, education, and business. The term "affirmative action" was first used in the United States in Executive Order 10925 and was signed by President John F. Kennedy on 6 March 1961; it was used to promote actions that achieve non-discrimination. In 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson enacted Executive Order 11246 which required government employers to take "affirmative action" to hire without regard to race, religion and national origin.

## Civil Rights Protesters in the 1960s





# 17. Science & Technology in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries

## TRANSPORTATION

**Transcontinental Railroad** | Completed in 1869, it helped connect the West and East coasts. It made transportation of people and goods faster and helped jumpstart industry.

**Automobile** | The automobile transformed the American landscape. It made the biggest impact on the economy from the 1920s until the 1970s.

**Airplane** | In 1903, the Wright Brothers conducted the first successful flight of an airplane. Since then, the airplane has been used for military purposes and the transportation of people and goods.



**Space Exploration** | In 1961, the Soviets put the first man in space. In 1969, the Americans put the first man on the moon. Today, astronauts travel to the International Space Station on spacecraft. Several private companies are working towards flying astronauts to space on private space craft.

## COMMUNICATION AND ENTERTAINMENT

**Telegraph (1844)** | Invented by Samuel Morse, the telegraph was the first machine to enable long-distance communications with electricity. The telegraph used the Morse code to translate codes.

**Telephone (1876)** | Invented by Alexander Graham Bell, the telephone allowed people to transmit spoken messages from long distances.



**Radio** | Radio is the wireless transmission of signals through free space by electromagnetic radiation. It allowed communication through wireless sound waves making voice transmission possible. By the 1930s, the radio was major source of entertainment, news, and advertising.

**Television** | The television became popular in the 1950s. By 1960, 90% of American households had a television. The television became the main source of entertainment, news, and advertising.

**Computer** | Computers were developed in the late 1940s and are the most important invention of the last half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. Computers have transformed life at home, at the workplace, and militarily.

**Internet** | The Internet is a global system of interconnected computer networks that use the standard Internet protocol suite (TCP/IP) to serve billions of users worldwide. It is a network of networks that consists of millions of private, public, academic, business, and government networks, of local to global scope, that are linked by a broad array of electronic, wireless and optical networking technologies. The Internet carries an extensive range of information resources and services, such as the inter-linked hypertext documents of the World Wide Web (WWW) and the infrastructure to support email. Most traditional communications media including print, telephone, music, film, and television are being reshaped or redefined by the Internet. Newspaper, book and other print publishing are adapting to Web site technology, or are reshaped into blogging and web feeds. The Internet has enabled and accelerated new forms of human interactions through instant messaging, Internet forums, and social networking. Online shopping has boomed.

**Penicillin (1928)** | Penicillin is an antibiotic used to cure or stop the spread of certain infections. The development helped people survive infections that would normally kill.

**Polio Vaccine (1955)** | In the early 1950s, Jonas Salk invented the vaccine for polio, a crippling disease. The most famous person affected by polio was President FDR.

**Barbed Wire** | Used to fence in land on the Great Plains, eventually leading to the end of the open frontier.

**Windpump** | Allowed dry arming by bringing up underground water to irrigate crops on the Great Plains. They are often called windmills.

**Steel Plow** | It was a farm machine perfected by John Deer that allowed the plains settlers to break up the tough plains soils for agriculture.

**Steel** | Steel is a light, flexible and rust-resistant metal that helped in the development of structures such as bridges, cars, and skyscrapers.

**Bessemer Steel Process** | The technique used to convert iron-ore into steel.

**Electricity** | In 1880, [Thomas Edison](#) invented and patented the first light bulb. This helped change business. In the 1920s, electricity was widespread in American homes and businesses, and household appliances made life easier.

**Petroleum-based products** | These products are used in everyday life and include gasoline, oil, plastics, and asphalt.

