

Part 1: The Anchor Facts of American History

Write a brief description of the key event occurring at the date indicated, and explain how it has shaped the America and/or world we live in *today*.

1. 1914-19

2. 1939-45

3. 1947

4. 1861-65

5. c.3000 BC

Part 2: America Becomes and International Police Power

6. What is a “doctrine”? What doctrine did America follow from 1823 to 1903, and why?

7. What were three reasons America became involved in the Spanish American War (1898)? What was an unexpected result of this war?

8. Who was the the first president to say that America should be an “international police power”? What was his policy called? Finally, what was his reasoning for this apparent change of conduct?

Part 3: The World Wars

9. What was Woodrow Wilson’s initial reaction to World War I? What new idea did he have to lead America into war anyways?

10. What is “normalcy”? Why did Americans want a “return to normalcy” after WWI, and how did they propose to continue with normalcy after the rise of Adolf Hitler’s regime in Germany?

Part 4: The Cold War

11. What would likely have happened if the United States returned to “normalcy” after World War II? (Try to explain the more straightforward reasoning involved.) How did this affect America’s actions to follow?

12. Who did America chose as a temporary ally in World War II? Why did this country become America's greatest enemy after the war?

13. What doctrine was announced against America's new enemy? Why did this doctrine lead to a "cold war"?

Part 5: America and the War on Terror

14. Why did America support the formation of Israel in 1948? What did America's presence as a police power lead to in 1979 despite the great resentment of Israel's neighbors of Israel's presence?

15. What is terrorism? What is the most important event of 1979 that made terrorism a tactic of choice against the United States?

16. What are the two main forms of Islamic culture today? What has America done to encourage the first, and discourage the other?

Part 6: Bonus Questions

17. What American ship was sunk before America's entry into World War I?

18. What American ship was sunk before America's entry into the Spanish-American War?

19. What American base was attacked in 1941, bringing America into World War II?

20. What Japanese cities did America destroy with atomic bombs in World War II?
