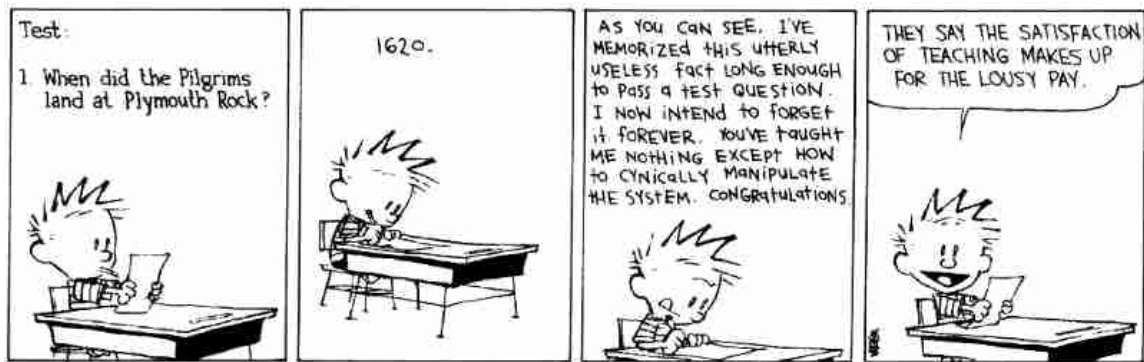


## AMERICA AND THE WORLD WE LIVE IN

### I. The Missing Question

A. What does history have to do with real life?

1. The normal view of history is that it is “the study of the past.” If that’s all it is, and we live in the *present*, then what does history have to do with “real life”?
2. The feeling people have about history not helping us with real life is captured by a great *Calvin and Hobbes* comic strip:



3. This comic strip is about four questions: *who*, *what*, *where*, and *when*.
4. *Who*—the Pilgrims, *did what*—landed, *where*—at Plymouth Rock, *when*—1620.
5. It’s all about the past. Not real life!
6. Even if we ask, “*Why* did the Pilgrims land a Plymouth rock?” we are still only talking about the *past*.
7. To have a better version of history we need to ask: *WDISUATWWLI*? “wuh-diz-oo-h-wat-willy”?!
8. “WDISUATWWLI” stands for *What Does It Show Us About The World We Live In?*
9. So the Pilgrims came to America in 1620. *What does that show us about the world we live in?*
10. If we learn history properly an event like the landing of the Pilgrims can help us understand *the world we live in*. (As we will learn, America would not be the country that it is unless they had come!)
11. That is what we will be working towards in History At Our House. I hope that sounds good to you!