

How to Use This Book

Welcome to A Look Back at Modern History! This book is divided into two five-year units, which together cover an entire decade. Each unit includes five quizzes that require students to put events of each individual year in chronological order. Following those quizzes is a quiz that requires students to sort a list of events into the proper year.

At the end of the second unit, there is a notebooking page for each year of the decade. Students can use these pages to record interesting facts they find, topics they'd like to learn more about, observations they make, etc. They could also use the page to research one specific topic that they find intriguing from the year. The final page is called, "What Do You Think?" This page provides your student a place to record his or her thoughts on the decade as a whole. What was life like? Was the mood hopeful, discouraged, angry, etc.? What stands out about the decade to your student?

There are many ways to use this pack in your studies:

- It is perfect for review after students have studied a time period in history or social studies.
- Parents and teachers can use the pack to help create a list of ideas or areas you wish to explore as you plan your study.
- Students can use the book as a starting point for independent study. Have students take the quizzes to the library or use them at the computer to search for the answers to the questions. Allow plenty of time for rabbit trails so students can investigate facts and stories they discover as they complete their pack.
- It can also be used as a tool to help students practice and sharpen research and notetaking skills. Have students record where they find the answers to each question as they would if they were doing research for a paper or presentation. You can also use this record of sources to help them dig deeper into the topics that interest them.

However you use the pack in your curriculum, I hope you find many forgotten or unknown moments in history to discuss with your students!

A Look Back at Modern History

Unit 1: 1950—1954

Which Came First?

For this puzzle, you have five lists of events, one list for each year in this unit. Your job is to put the events for each year in chronological order, with 1 being the first event from the list that happened that year and 10 being the last.

To solve this puzzle, you may need to guess some of the answers using your knowledge and reasoning skills. Then research online or at the library to check your answers. There is an answer key in the back if you get stuck.

1950

_____ An amendment raising the legal minimum wage to 75 cents per hour goes into effect.

_____ President Truman rejects a proposal that the United Nations be reorganized to not include participation by the Communist nations.

_____ The Canadian Prime Minister announces plans to enlist units to serve in Korea.

_____ Discovery of the element "californium" is reported by the University of California, Berkeley.

_____ A U.S. delegate tells the United Nations Security Council that a bomber with a red star has been shot down by U.S. naval forces and the body of a Soviet air force officer has been found near the wreckage in Korean waters.

_____ North Korean Communist forces attack South Korea.

_____ Chinese Premier Chou En-lai states that China will support North Korea if it is invaded.

_____ Martial law is lifted in Greece by order of the Greek government.

_____ President Truman says he won't use the atomic bomb to end the Korean War.

_____ A nationwide strike by the employees of the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. is indefinitely postponed.

A Look Back at Modern History

Unit 2: 1955—1959

Which Came First?

For this puzzle, you have five lists of events, one list for each year in this unit. Your job is to put the events for each year in chronological order, with 1 being the first event from the list that happened that year and 10 being the last.

To solve this puzzle, you may need to guess some of the answers using your knowledge and reasoning skills. Then research online or at the library to check your answers. There is an answer key in the back if you get stuck.

1955

- _____ It is announced that U.S. jet fighters had shot down two Communist jets after the U.S. jets were attacked over international waters off North Korea.
- _____ Turkey announces the beginning of construction of the Demirkopru Dam near Izmir, its first hydroelectric project.
- _____ Britain confirms that two officials, Donald MacLean and Guy Burgess, had spied for the U.S.S.R. before disappearing in 1951.
- _____ The U.S. Air Force Academy opens at its temporary site.
- _____ For the first time, President Eisenhower's press conference is filmed for television and news reels.
- _____ The American Federation of Labor (AFL) and the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) are formally merged.
- _____ Sir Winston Churchill resigns as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.
- _____ The Brooklyn Dodgers win their first World Series.
- _____ It is announced that a U.S. Navy patrol aircraft has been shot down by Soviet planes over international waters in the area of the Bering Strait.
- _____ The U.S. Senate consents to the ratification of the mutual defense treaty with Nationalist China.

The 1950s
What Do You Think?

Lined writing area with decorative borders.