Modern History Notebooks by the Decade
American History: 1930s

Getting Started

Welcome to Modern History Notebooks by the Decade. This unit can stand alone or be used with other titles in this series. When used with other titles in the series, it can form the core of a history curriculum or be used alongside another curriculum to offer opportunities to explore topics in depth and add topics to the course of study.

To get started, the student needs to select the events in the unit to explore deeper (or the parent or teacher can select them). How many need to be completed is completely customizable based on the course needs and the units used. Here are some examples.

- If using this unit alone, the parent, teacher, or student can simply select the number of events to explore based on the size project to be completed. There are forty events included to choose from.
- If using this unit as part of a full-year modern history course to cover 180 days, choose 180 facts from the units used (five or more decade units will provide more than 180 events to choose from).

These units explore a wide range of events including major historic events as well as lesser-known events. Events from the world of politics, sports, natural disasters, science and technology, and more are included. A blank set of pages is included at the end of the unit so the student can add additional events of interest if desired.

Any available research materials can be used to complete the assignments. Room is provided to record the sources used. Students should explore not only what happened but, as much as possible, why it happened and what impact it had on future events. They should be challenged to think critically as they learn about more of the many pieces that together form the big picture of modern history.

Upon completion of a unit, the student may also write a short summary of their thoughts on the decade and the events they have studied.

SAMPLE

The first planetarium in the United States, the Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum, opens in Chicago, IL

When did this event occur? _____

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Where did this event occur? _____

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Who were some of the key people involved in this event? _____

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What, if any, events led to this event? _____

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What were some of the ways this event impacted future events? _____

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SAMPLE

What other details concerning this event stand out to you? _____

Do you think this event was historically significant? Why or why not? _____

What additional thoughts do you have concerning this event? _____

Sources: _____

SAMPLE

President Herbert Hoover signs the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act (United States Tariff Act of 1930)

When did this event occur? _____

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Where did this event occur? _____

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Who were some of the key people involved in this event? _____

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What, if any, events led to this event? _____

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What were some of the ways this event impacted future events? _____

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SAMPLE

What other details concerning this event stand out to you? _____

Do you think this event was historically significant? Why or why not? _____

What additional thoughts do you have concerning this event? _____

Sources: _____

SAMPLE

Transparent adhesive tape is invented by the 3M company

When did this event occur? _____

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Where did this event occur? _____

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Who were some of the key people involved in this event? _____

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What, if any, events led to this event? _____

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What were some of the ways this event impacted future events? _____

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SAMPLE

What other details concerning this event stand out to you? _____

Do you think this event was historically significant? Why or why not? _____

What additional thoughts do you have concerning this event? _____

Sources: _____

SAMPLE

By an act of Congress, the "Star Spangled Banner" is officially adopted as the national anthem

When did this event occur? _____

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Where did this event occur? _____

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Who were some of the key people involved in this event? _____

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What, if any, events led to this event? _____

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What were some of the ways this event impacted future events? _____

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SAMPLE

What other details concerning this event stand out to you? _____

Do you think this event was historically significant? Why or why not? _____

What additional thoughts do you have concerning this event? _____

Sources: _____

SAMPLE