

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: 1980—1984

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.

1980

_____ Princess Beatrix becomes queen of the Netherlands.

_____ New Hebrides Islands becomes the independent nation of Vanuatu.

_____ Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas dies.

_____ The armed forces of Turkey take over the country, disband the parliament, and suspend the Constitution.

_____ The U.S. Supreme Court rules that biological organisms can be patented.

_____ Gunnar Thoroddsen becomes prime minister of Iceland.

_____ U.S. banks raise the prime rate to 21.5%.

_____ Two Canadian newspapers, the *Ottawa Journal* and the *Winnipeg Tribune*, permanently shut down.

_____ In order to try to stem food shortages, Poland stops almost all of its food exports.

_____ Mount St. Helens experiences the most serious eruption of the year, blowing away more than 1,000 feet of the mountaintop.

A Look Back at Modern History

Unit 2: 1985—1989

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.

1985

- _____ New Zealand does not allow a U.S. warship to dock unless assurances are given that there are no nuclear weapons on board.
- _____ GM announces it will build the world's largest automobile plant near Spring Hill, Tennessee.
- _____ The Coca-Cola Company announces a change in the formula for Coke to give it a new taste.
- _____ The Los Angeles Lakers win the National Basketball Association championship.
- _____ The Italian cruise ship *Achille Lauro* is hijacked by four Palestinian guerrillas.
- _____ Daniel Ortega takes office as the president of Nicaragua.
- _____ The U.S. Congress approves legislation that orders a balanced federal budget by 1991.
- _____ The Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant in California begins operations despite resistance because of its location near a major earthquake fault.
- _____ A Soviet guard in East Germany shoots and kills a U.S. Army major who is on a reconnaissance mission.
- _____ The wreck of the ocean liner *Titanic* is found by a joint U.S.-French expedition.



The 1980s

What Do You Think?

Handwriting practice lines for the text "What Do You Think?". Each line is flanked by a stylized leaf icon on the left and a swirl icon on the right. The page contains 10 sets of these lines, providing ample space for writing.

