

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Test: Major Dates in 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Century History**  
**(Fill in the blanks with the decade – 1920s, 1960s, etc. – in which the event took place)**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Carter’s “new morality” undermines the regime of a major American ally: The Shah of Iran
- \_\_\_\_\_ Putin comes to power in Russia to put the country back on a more traditional authoritarian political course – to the distress of America
- \_\_\_\_\_ Nixon, a voice of the 'Establishment,' is elected president - horrifying Boomers and intellectuals
- \_\_\_\_\_ The entire West is collapsed into a state of deep poverty and joblessness
- \_\_\_\_\_ The *new* material offerings of cars, radios, home appliances, etc. make urban life dazzling
- \_\_\_\_\_ Fearing French and English weakness, Stalin signs a secret treaty with Hitler
- \_\_\_\_\_ The American federal debt reaches nearly \$20 trillion by the end of the Obama Presidency
- \_\_\_\_\_ America’s rural-urban conflict is symbolized by the Evolution issue (Scopes Monkey Trial)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Muslim terrorists destroy the World Trade Center (9-11)
- \_\_\_\_\_ The West is proud of its world empires – though Germany’s Wilhelm is hungry for more
- \_\_\_\_\_ Obama delivers a speech in Egypt affirming America’s new support for the Islamic world
- \_\_\_\_\_ Seeing blemishes at home, ML King, Kennedy and Johnson back a Civil Rights movement
- \_\_\_\_\_ Wilson brings America into the War in order to make it a “Crusade for Democracy”
- \_\_\_\_\_ Boomers, now teenagers, protest that mankind’s real enemy are the “gods” of their parents: the “Establishment” (Big Government, Corporate Industry, Mainline Religion)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Confirmation hearings of Supreme Court appointee Kavanaugh turn ugly as Democrats bring out claims of a sexually aggressive event during his high school years ... stirring ‘Me Too’ feminist wrath when he is confirmed
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mao tries to. bring ‘Cultural Revolution’ to China – disrupting China completely in the process
- \_\_\_\_\_ Hitler’s attempt to defeat England (Battle of Britain) fails in the air
- \_\_\_\_\_ The 'Third World' nations begin moving toward independence from former colonial powers
- \_\_\_\_\_ Gingrich upstages an unfocused Clinton with his very focused “Contract for America”
- \_\_\_\_\_ A tragedy in Serbia sets off a chain of reactions as Austria declares war on Serbia, Russia declares war on Austria, Germany on Russia, France on Germany, etc.
- \_\_\_\_\_ A youthful Kennedy inspires a political-cultural idealism in America and abroad
- \_\_\_\_\_ Communist North Korea invades “democratic” South Korea beginning the Korean War

- \_\_\_\_\_ Carter gains the White House with a new “morality” for America
- \_\_\_\_\_ Obama threatens Assad with US counteraction if he does not stop his repression
- \_\_\_\_\_ The war in Vietnam drags on inconclusively and the Civil Rights movement turns nasty
- \_\_\_\_\_ A rural-urban conflict in America is symbolized by Prohibition and the Speakeasy
- \_\_\_\_\_ Late in the decade, Stalin grabs total control of Russia – and institutes a regime of terror
- \_\_\_\_\_ The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor (Dec 7) brings America into the war
- \_\_\_\_\_ Bush (Junior) orders the invasion of Iraq in order to topple the Saddam Hussein Government
- \_\_\_\_\_ The ‘Great War’ ends with no true winners – only vengeful and exhausted losers
- \_\_\_\_\_ China claims ownership of the South China Sea by building naval air bases on dredged islands
- \_\_\_\_\_ Ethnic strife in Bosnia and Kosovo refine America’s role as world policeman
- \_\_\_\_\_ Gorbachev tries to reform the Russian Communist system – but merely collapses it instead
- \_\_\_\_\_ Russia takes control of Eastern Europe, placing Stalinists in command
- \_\_\_\_\_ Nixon backs America away from its Cold War stance (*Détente* or a “backing-down”)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Morally “flexible” Clinton gets caught in a sex scandal – but manages to survive politically
- \_\_\_\_\_ American fears of global Communist ambitions are turned by Joe McCarthy into a witch hunt
- \_\_\_\_\_ Yeltsin’s Russia struggles with corruption to find stability as a “democracy”
- \_\_\_\_\_ The end of World War II leaves Russia and America now facing each other in deep distrust
- \_\_\_\_\_ Vietnam’s fall to Communism drags down neighboring Cambodia into a orgy of Communist slaughter (the Killing Fields) in which hundreds of thousands of Cambodians are slaughtered
- \_\_\_\_\_ Vet parents teach their Boomer children to resist all appeals of authoritarian Communism by challenging all authority and listening only to their own inner voices
- \_\_\_\_\_ To America’s great shock Mao’s Communists take control in China
- \_\_\_\_\_ Bush (Senior)’s victory against Iraq in the Gulf War puts Vietnam defeatism behind America restoring a sense of America’s rightful place as a sole superpower leading the world
- \_\_\_\_\_ Democrats try to bring down another Republican presidency around the ‘Iran-Contra’ scandal
- \_\_\_\_\_ Super-rich American capitalists enjoy kingly wealth – despite the trust-busting of Roosevelt and Taft
- \_\_\_\_\_ Secular (and dictatorial) governments in the Middle East topple during the ‘Arab Spring’