

Name _____

Test: Major Dates in World History since 1850

Fill in the blanks with the decade – or quarter-century (1800s-3 / 1800s-4) – in which the event took place

- _____ Communist North Korea invades "democratic" South Korea beginning the Korean War
- _____ Carter gains the White House with a new "morality" for America
- _____ The "Great War" ends with no true winners – only vengeful and exhausted losers
- _____ ISIS is crushed when its capital at Raqqa is taken by pro-American forces
- _____ 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
- _____ A bloody civil war which erupts in Spain becomes a proxy war for others
- _____ The publication of Darwin's *Origin of Species* and *Descent of Man* stirs up the idea of the necessity of the strong to rule over the weak – in the West and in the world
- _____ Clinton undertakes reforms which explode in his face
- _____ Hitler's attempt to defeat England (Battle of Britain) fails in the air
- _____ Carter's "new morality" undermines the regime of a major American ally: The Shah of Iran
- _____ Eisenhower warns the nation about the dangers of a huge "military-industrial complex"
- _____ Democrats try to bring down another Republican presidency around the "Iran-Contra" scandal
- _____ The entire West is collapsed into a state of deep poverty and joblessness
- _____ Russia takes control of Eastern Europe, placing Stalinists in command
- _____ A rural-urban conflict in America is symbolized by Prohibition and the Speakeasy
- _____ Mao introduces his "Great Leap Forward" ... starving millions of Chinese in the process
- _____ 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
- _____ Nixon is uncovered as a "conspiring, power-hungry, evil genius" (The Watergate scandal),
- _____ Seeing blemishes at home, ML King, Kennedy and Johnson back a Civil Rights movement
- _____ Horrible living conditions in Central America send hundreds of thousands of Latinos north to America
- _____ Osama bin Laden is finally killed by Navy SEALs in Pakistan
- _____ A Democrat-controlled Congress rams through Obama's national health program

- _____ The world is thrilled as America lands a man on the moon
- _____ Fearing French and English weakness, Stalin signs a secret treaty with Hitler
- _____ The war in Vietnam drags on inconclusively and the Civil Rights movement turns nasty
- _____ Cavour, Mazzini and Garibaldi birth the nation-state of Italy
- _____ America shores up the Western democracies against Russian-directed Communism with economic assistance (Marshall Plan) and military assistance (NATO)
- _____ 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
- _____ A "Power-is-evil" mentality in Congress abruptly ends all support of the South Vietnam Government - which quickly falls to the North Vietnamese Communists
- _____ Secular (and dictatorial) governments in the Middle East topple during the "Arab Spring"
- _____ American youth join Kennedy's Peace Corps to bring the world to American-style democracy
- _____ America's rural-urban conflict is symbolized by the Evolution issue (Scopes Monkey Trial)
- _____ Late in the decade, Stalin grabs total control of Russia – and institutes a regime of terror
- _____ A fierce conflict between Yankee and Southern nationalisms erupts in America
- _____ Obama is elected American President on the basis of a very vague call for "change."
- _____ A near financial meltdown of major American banks pushes the international financial world to the brink of collapse ... requiring a US government "bailout"
- _____ Americans watch helplessly as the Soviets crush freedom uprisings in Germany + Hungary
- _____ The nation-state of Germany is founded by Bismarck
- _____ 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.
- _____ Jihadists announce the creation of an Islamic state/caliphate in Iraq and Syria - ISIS
- _____ 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
- _____ Karl Marx demonstrates "scientifically" that a workers' revolution would inevitably bring about a state-less, property-less society – *Communist Manifesto* and *Capital*