

Level: Intermediate (B1)

Age: Teenagers

Time: This lesson can be divided up in various ways to suit the time you have with your students. Below are two options which you can choose from depending on the length of your class.

90 minutes – full lesson plan

60 minutes – if you omit the optional activity

Summary: This lesson has one section: The 20th century quiz. In the lesson, students will:

1. identify some of the most important names of the 20th century;
2. write a role-play set in a previous decade.

Key skills: history, past tenses, passives

Materials: one copy of the worksheet, with the cards cut up; one piece of blank paper per student group

PROCEDURE

1. Read out the following clue. Tell students they have to guess who it refers to:

The first black president of the United States.

Answer: Barack Obama

2. Now, ask students to think of someone who is currently in the public eye. They should think of a short clue, similar to the one above. Ask for a few volunteers to tell the class their clue. Can the class guess who the famous person is?

3. Tell students that they are going to do a quiz about the 20th century, in which they have to identify some of the most important names from the century and try to place them in the right decade.

4. Divide the class into groups and then divide the 40 clue cards equally amongst the groups. Tell the groups that they must read the clues and try to identify the names. One student from each group then writes the numbers one to 40 on a piece of paper, and, next to the relevant number, they should write the name and the decade usually associated with the name (or the decade when that person first came to prominence).

5. After sufficient time has passed, tell the groups to pass their cards on to the next group. Continue until all the groups have had an opportunity to see all 40 cards and write their guesses down.

6. Check through the answers and award points to the groups. Which group correctly identified the most names? Which group correctly identified the most decades? Which group got the highest overall score? As a bonus activity, ask students to try to divide the people and events into the different decades of the 20th century.

Key:

1900–1909: Orville and Wilbur Wright (3); Pablo Picasso (40)

1910–1919: Albert Einstein (10); Archduke Franz Ferdinand (29); Charlie Chaplin (28); the Titanic (15); Vladimir Lenin (8)

1920–1929: Alexander Fleming (5); Emperor Hirohito (34); Johnny Weissmuller (33); Rudolph Valentino (22); Tutankhamun (4)

1930–1939: Clark Gable (19); General Franco (17); Jesse Owens (20); John Logie Baird (24); Mahatma Gandhi (26)

1940–1949: Adolf Hitler (11); Enola Gay (31); Frank Sinatra (14)

1950–1959: Edmund Hillary (21); Elvis Presley (23); Marilyn Monroe (1); Roger Bannister (2)

1960–1969: Concorde (12); Martin Luther King, Jr. (27); Cassius Clay/Muhammad Ali (7); The Beatles (35)

1970–1979: Margaret Thatcher (37); Pelé (30); Sex Pistols (9)

1980–1989: Arnold Schwarzenegger (13); Berlin Wall (38); Chernobyl (6); Michael Jackson (18); Mikhail Gorbachev (39); Tiananmen Square (32)

1990–1999: Diana, Princess of Wales (16); Miguel Indurain (36); Nelson Mandela (25)



OPTIONAL ACTIVITY

Divide the class into new groups and secretly give each group one of the decades. Now, tell the groups that you want them to imagine that they are the same age as they are now but living in the decade they have been given. You want them to think about how life would have been different and prepare a short role-play set in that decade, making reference to the world events and culture of the time. The groups then perform their role-plays. Can the rest of the class tell in which decade the scene is set? What were the clues that helped them decide?

HOMEWORK TASK

Students interview someone from their parents' or grandparents' generation, asking them what life was like for them when they were their age. Encourage them to ask specific questions on topics that interest them: for example, music, fashion, going out, school, hobbies. In the next class, students present their findings and discuss the ways in which life was different for previous generations.



HISTORY: THE 20TH CENTURY QUIZ



1 the most popular actress of all time, who starred in films such as <i>Some Like It Hot</i>	2 the first person to run a mile in under four minutes	3 the two brothers who managed to make the first powered flight	4 the king whose tomb was discovered by Howard Carter	5 the man who discovered penicillin
6 the place where the worst nuclear accident took place	7 the most famous boxer of all time who converted to Islam and changed his name	8 the founder of the Communist Party in Russia, he became the first leader of the USSR	9 the punk band whose members included Sid Vicious and Johnny Rotten	10 the man famous for his theory of relativity
11 the German dictator who was responsible for the extermination of millions of Jews	12 the first supersonic passenger airliner	13 the film star who won the Mr Universe title and became a politician	14 one of the greatest singers of all time, he was known as 'the Voice' and 'Old Blue Eyes'	15 the ship that they said was unsinkable, which hit an iceberg and sank
16 the princess who had a fairy-tale wedding and public divorce then later died in a car crash	17 the military dictator who took power in Spain during the country's civil war	18 the artist whose album <i>Thriller</i> became the most successful album of all time	19 the actor most famous for his role as Rhett Butler in the epic <i>Gone with the Wind</i>	20 the athlete who once broke six world records in one day! He won four Olympic gold medals in Berlin
21 the first man to reach the top of Mount Everest	22 the world's greatest lover was the first superstar of the movies	23 the first rock 'n' roll star, whose hits included 'Heartbreak Hotel' and 'Love Me Tender'	24 the man responsible for the first television pictures	25 the leader of the ANC, he became South Africa's first black prime minister
26 the man who led the fight to free India from British rule without resorting to violence	27 the man who won the Nobel Peace Prize for his civil rights work and was later assassinated	28 the biggest star of silent movies, famous for his bowler hat and cane	29 the man whose assassination led to the start of World War I	30 the Brazilian footballer who played in his first World Cup when he was only 17
31 the plane that dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima	32 the square in China where student protesters were killed	33 the first to swim 100 metres in under a minute, he won five Olympic medals, then became a film star	34 the emperor of Japan for over six decades	35 the four boys from Liverpool who quickly became the most famous musicians on the planet
36 the Spanish cyclist who managed to win the Tour de France five times running	37 the first woman to become prime minister of Britain	38 the wall whose destruction allowed people from the east and west of the same city to move freely	39 the man responsible for <i>perestroika</i> , he won the Nobel Peace Prize for his contribution to ending the Cold War	40 the artist born in Málaga, Spain, who became one of the most famous and controversial artists in the world

