

SORTING THROUGH THE ERAS OF HISTORY

Objective(s): The student will

1. Identify the defining characteristics of key eras in American/world history.
2. Draw comparisons between key eras in American/world history.

TEKS: US.2A&B; WH.1A-F

Materials Needed: Set of era cards for each group of three or four students

Teaching Instructions:

1. Prepare a set of cards of the eras of history for either world or American history.
2. Divide the class into groups and give each pair a set of cards. They should shuffle the cards and deal them out face up in a 3x3 format.
3. First the teacher asks the students to arrange the cards in the correct chronological order. After they have completed the task, the teacher should have one group share their order for all to check. (Note—the cards are in the correct order.)
4. Secondly, have each group select two era cards. The group should create a sentence that illustrates an important similarity between the eras and share their sentence with the class. (Note—this could be repeated until all eras have been compared at least once.)
5. Thirdly, the students should select two different era cards. This time, they are to create a sentence that illustrates an important difference between the two eras and share their sentences. (Note—this could be repeated until all eras have been contrasted at least once.)
6. Fourth, the group should select one era card. (Note—it might be beneficial to have each era represented to review the entire year of study) They should identify three key personalities and their roles during the era and three key events and their significance to the era. Share with the class.
7. Finally, have the group select their favorite era of history studied this year and explain to the class three reasons for their choice.

KEY

AMERICAN HISTORY ERAS

The Old West

Great Age of Reform—Populism and Progressivism

Roaring Twenties

America as a World Power—World War I

The Great Depression and the New Deal

World War II

The Cold War

Struggle for Equality—The Civil Rights Movement

Vietnam and the Cultural Revolution

WORLD HISTORY ERAS

River Valley Civilizations

Classical Civilizations

Golden Ages Outside of Europe

Middle Ages

Renaissance and Reformation

Age of Absolutism, Exploration, and the Rise of the Nation State

Age of Revolutions—Scientific and Political

Rise of the Isms—Imperialism, Industrialism, and Nationalism

Toward Globalization

The Old West



Great Age of
Reform—Populism
and Progressivism



Roaring Twenties



America as a World
Power—World
War I



The Great Depression
and the New Deal



World War II



The Cold War



Struggle for
Equality—The Civil
Rights Movement



Vietnam and the
Cultural Revolution



River Valley
Civilizations



Classical Civilizations



Golden Ages Outside
of Europe



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Renaissance and
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Age of Absolutism,
Exploration, and the
Rise of the Nation
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Age of Revolutions—
Scientific and Political



Rise of the Isms—
Imperialism,
Industrialism, and
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Toward Globalization

