

Name: _____ Date: _____

A Change in the Air: Modern US History Quiz for 8th Grade

Examine 10 pivotal shifts from the Camp David Accords to the Space Shuttle era, moving beyond basic dates to identify turning points in American life.

1. In 1978, President Jimmy Carter helped negotiate the Camp David Accords. Which two nations signed this historic peace agreement?

- A. The United States and the Soviet Union
- B. Egypt and Israel
- C. North and South Vietnam
- D. Iraq and Kuwait

2. True or False: The 'Challenger' disaster in 1986 was a major setback for the NASA Space Shuttle program.

- A. True
- B. False

3. In 1981, Sandra Day O'Connor made history when she was appointed as the first female ____.

- A. Vice President
- B. Secretary of State
- C. Supreme Court Justice
- D. Speaker of the House

4. What major symbolic event in 1989 represented the beginning of the end of the Cold War in Europe?

- A. The signing of the NAFTA agreement
- B. The fall of the Berlin Wall
- C. The launch of the Hubble Space Telescope
- D. The end of the Iran-Hostage Crisis

5. True or False: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 prohibited discrimination against people with disabilities in public life.

- A. True
- B. False

6. The 1990s saw a massive shift in communication thanks to the creation of the World Wide Web by ____.

- A. Steve Jobs
- B. Tim Berners-Lee
- C. Mark Zuckerberg
- D. Jeff Bezos

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7. Following the attacks on September 11, 2001, which new Cabinet-level department was created to protect the U.S. from future threats?

- A. The Department of Energy
- B. The Department of Homeland Security
- C. The Central Intelligence Agency
- D. The Department of Defense

8. In 2005, the federal government faced heavy criticism for its slow response to _____, which flooded much of New Orleans.

- A. Hurricane Sandy
- B. Hurricane Andrew
- C. Hurricane Katrina
- D. Hurricane Maria

9. True or False: The 2008 election was significant because it resulted in the first Hispanic president in United States history.

- A. True
- B. False

10. Which 21st-century movement focused on raising awareness about climate change and environmental protection through global protests?

- A. The Tea Party Movement
- B. The Digital Revolution
- C. The Fridays for Future/Climate Strike Movement
- D. The Great Migration