

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Wrangle the Digital Frontier: A 5th Grade Modern US History Quiz

Synthesize 10 complex challenges regarding space exploration, diplomatic shifts, and grass-roots movements from the 1970s to today.

1. In 1977, the Voyager 1 and 2 probes launched to study the outer planets. Which of these items was included on the probes to communicate with possible extraterrestrial life, showing the US's hope for global connection?

Answer: B) A Golden Record with sounds and images of Earth

The Golden Record was a 12-inch gold-plated copper disk designed to carry the story of our world into deep space.

2. Sally Ride became the first American woman in space in 1983, breaking gender barriers in the STEM fields during the late 20th century.

Answer: A) True

Sally Ride's mission on the Space Shuttle Challenger was a landmark moment for women in American history and science.

3. In 1978, President Jimmy Carter hosted the _____ Accords, a historic peace treaty signed between the leaders of Egypt and Israel at a presidential retreat.

Answer: B) Camp David

The Camp David Accords are considered a major diplomatic achievement of the 1970s, aiming for peace in the Middle East.

4. The 1980 'Miracle on Ice' was a famous Olympic hockey game where the US defeated the Soviet Union. Why was this sports event so significant to US History beyond the game itself?

Answer: C) It boosted American morale during a time of high Cold War tensions

During the Cold War, sports victories often became symbols of national strength and unity during difficult political times.

5. In 1990, the Americans with _____ Act (ADA) was signed into law, ensuring that people with physical or mental challenges have equal rights in public spaces.

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Answer: B) Disabilities

The ADA was a monumental civil rights law that required 'reasonable accommodations' like ramps and elevators in public buildings.

6. The Mars Pathfinder mission in 1997 deployed the first robotic rover to explore the surface of another planet. What was the name of this small, six-wheeled rover?

Answer: C) Sojourner

Sojourner was the first rover to operate on Mars, named after the African American abolitionist Sojourner Truth.

7. The 'Great Recession' that began in late 2007 was caused in part by a collapse in the United States housing market.

Answer: A) True

The burst of the housing bubble led to a major financial crisis that affected the entire global economy.

8. In 2012, the rover ____ landed on Mars inside Gale Crater, using a complex system involving a 'sky crane' to study if Mars ever had life.

Answer: D) Curiosity

Curiosity is a car-sized rover that significantly advanced our knowledge of the geology and climate of Mars.

9. The 'Human Genome Project,' completed in 2003, was a massive international effort to do what?

Answer: B) Identify and map all human genes

This project allowed scientists to understand the 'blueprint' of a human being, leading to new medical discoveries.

10. The 19th Amendment was the first time in modern US history that technology and social media were used to organize a protest.

Answer: B) False

The 19th Amendment (women's suffrage) was ratified in 1920, long before social media or modern digital technology existed.