

1. What was America like after the war?		
1	Why was there a boom after WW2?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Consumer goods were mass produced in the same efficient way that wartime goods were There was a big demand for consumer goods that had been rare in wartime Advertising and 'buy now, pay later' schemes persuaded people to spend money Shopping malls were built where people could buy all their goods Large suburbs were built out of the cities The GI Bill established hospitals, made cheap home loans and offered education grants to ex soldiers
2	What was the impact of the boom?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> By 1956 there were 75 million vehicles on the America's roads By the end of the 50s, 90% of US households had a TV By the end of the 50s, 80% of US households had a car and phone By 1952, America was supplying 65% of the worlds manufactured goods Between 1944-1049 9 million veterans received around \$4 billion in aid
3	What was Truman's Fair Deal?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> President Truman came into power in 1945 after Roosevelt's death He wanted the government to help Americans in need and create a fair society He raised the minimum wage from 40 cents to 75 cents per hour He cleared large slums to make way for affordable housing Tried to introduce a national health service but this was blocked by Republicans He also tried to improve the rights of African Americans but Southern politicians blocked it
4	What did Eisenhower do for the economy?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In 1952 the Republican Eisenhower was elected as president He brought lots of business people into the government to keep the economy booming
5	Was the American Dream a reality?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In the 1950s many people might have said they were living the American Dream However, 25% of Americans were still living in poverty There was no free basic health care system The elderly also failed to benefit from the booming economy. IN 190, 68% of people over 65 had an income of less than \$1000 compared to the \$4000 average

2. Popular Culture		
1	What was life like for young people before WW2?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Young men leaving school would be expected to find a job or join the armed services Young women would be expected to get a traditionally female job and then get married soon after Young people had limited freedom and little influence in society
2	How did life change for young people after WW2?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Families didn't have to insist that children went to find jobs to help support their family now they had more money Many families began to insist their children completed high school and even go to college Parents also had more money to provide teenagers with spending money In 1957, the average teenager spent between \$10-\$15 per week compared to \$1-2 in the 40s Teenagers were spending \$25 billion per year in 1959
3	How did teenagers act?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Teenagers spent their money on music, cars, fashion and alcohol Teenagers developed a reputation for being independent and rebellious Their culture differed hugely to their parents generation Figures like James Dean and Marlon Brandon became symbols of teenage rebellion.
3	How did popular culture change?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Rock and Roll became the new popular genre of music Its lyrics often contained sexual references and immoral behaviour. It became unpopular with the older generation It's bad reputation made it even more popular with teenagers 82% of Americans watched Elvis Presley's TV performance in 1956

3. McCarthyism		
1	What was the background to McCarthyism?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Immediately after WW2 the Cold War began between the world's two big superpowers: the USA and USSR America was worried about the increasing power of the USSR and the spread of Communism in Europe Both countries had nuclear weapons, which increased fear of the impact of war. Neither country would risk starting war because the other country could retaliate with their nuclear weapons
2	How did this impact America?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Cold war created panic and fear of nuclear war – it was common for schools to have bomb raids and homes to have bunkers In 1948 a government official, Alger Hiss was accused of spying for the USSR Following the Hiss case, the HUAC was set up to search for communists working for the government, in work places and the movie industry In 1953, the Rosenbergs were accused of spying and executed Truman introduced a Loyalty Programme that allowed the FBI to investigate all government employees and sack any security risks Between 1947 and 1950 millions of Americans were investigated by HUAC and the Loyalty Programme The Hollywood ten – a group of ten film makers were investigated by HUAC. They refused to answer questions which led to a 1 year jail sentence and most of them couldn't find work again.
3	Who was McCarthy?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In 1950 a politician called Joseph McCarthy wanted to advance his political career He claimed he has a list of over 200 communist working in the government. This started a string of investigations looking for communists over the next 5 years. People who spoke out against him risked looking like a communist supporter. Charlie Chaplin was a famous victim – accused and forced to leave America to find work
3	How did he lose popularity?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> When McCarthy accused 45 army officers he began to lose popularity He was asked to provide evidence and couldn't, while led to him using public support

Key word	Definition
American Dream	The belief in the idea that anyone can work their way up to achieve the perfect life.
Cold War	A period of tension between two countries when no fighting took place for fear of mutually assured destruction
HUAC	House of Un-American Activities Committee - An Organisation set up to search for communists
Loyalty Programme	A US government group set up to look for current or former members of the Communist Party
Mutually Assured Destruction	The idea that because both superpowers had nuclear weapons using them against each other would destroy both countries.
Superpower	A very powerful and rich country. (USA and USSR)
Teenager	A new term used to describe the young people in America

4. Desegregating Education

1	What was the Brown vs Board Case?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In 1951, the father of a black girl took the local education authority to court in Topeka Kansas. HE was unhappy that the nearest black school for his daughter was 2 miles away He was helped by the NAACP, but they lost the case He took the case to the Supreme Court In 1954, they declared that segregation in schools had to end
2	What was the impact of the case?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Within weeks many cities and towns began to desegregate their schools Some states refused. In 1956, there were no African American students attending schools with white students in 6 Southern States
3	What was the Little Rock Case?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In September 1957, 9 African American pupils tried to attend a high school in Little Rock Arkansas The governor of Arkansas sent National Guard soldiers to prevent the children from entering the school and a large hostile crowd greeted the students The African Americans took the governor to court and won The soldiers were forced to leave and President Eisenhower sent federal troops to protect the students
4	What was the impact of the case?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> By 1960 there were still only 2500 out of 2 million black students at integrated schools And by 1962 there were still no black children attending white schools in Alabama, South Carolina or Mississippi

5. Desegregating transport

1	Who was Rosa Parks?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In 1955, Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat for a white passenger. She was arrested and jailed for her actions
2	What was the Montgomery Bus Boycott?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Rosa Parks was the secretary of the local NAACP and news of her arrest spread fast The next day the NAACP called a boycott of all city buses – Martin Luther King was chosen to lead it
3	What was the impact of the boycott?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The boycott lasted 381 days As African Americans provided 75% of the bus company's business so it was soon in financial difficulty Protesters were attacked and threatened After almost a year, the Supreme Court ruled that segregated buses were illegal
3	What was the lasting impact?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Martin Luther King and his supporters continued to organise marches and boycotts. They organised freedom rides where campaigners travelled around Southern states sitting in 'white only' sections – they faced violent resistance They also organised sit ins in white only sections of cafes or restaurants – in 1960 over 70,000 people staged sit ins

6. Voting and work

1	Back-ground	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In 1957, Eisenhower passed a Civil Rights Act to ensure all African Americans could vote It banned anyone from interfering with any other person's right to vote In practice, little was done to enforce the act but it was symbolically important
2	What happened at Birmingham?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In May 1963, King organised a non-violent march in Birmingham, Alabama. 30,000 people took part in the march Under the orders of the police chief 'Bull' Connor, the police attacked the protesters with dogs, water cannons and batons and arrested hundreds of people This was shown on TV, which sparked further protest President Kennedy sent Federal troops to restore order & ordered the city council to put an end to segregation.
3	What was the March on Washington?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In August 1963, King organised a march on Washington to protest for equality in employment and life Over 200,000 people gathered around the Lincoln Memorial – both black and white followers This was televised and supported by famous musicians and celebrities.
4	What happened at Selma?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> King organised a march from Selma to Birmingham in March 1965 for voting equality The marchers were attacked by state troopers and local police. Finally, when they got to Birmingham, King gave a speech to a gathered crowd of 25,000

7. Black Power Movement

1	Where did it come from?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Many African Americans were angry and frustrated with the slow progress of peaceful movement Between 1965 and 1968 there were riots in most of America's major cities – these came from frustration over their living conditions and lack of protection from the police
2	Who were the Nation of Islam?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> They argued for separatism. It said white society was racist and corrupt. Their most famous member was Malcolm X
3	Who were the Black Panthers?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Set up by Stokely Carmichael who had been a member of the SNCC They had around 5000 members by 1968 They were an extreme militant group that rejected King's non-violent methods It argued that African-Americans needed to protect themselves by violence if necessary
4	Achievements?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Black Panthers secured the 'Free Breakfast for Children' programme in California The Panthers provided clothes and drug rehab The Panthers constantly struggled against the police

Key word	Definition
Boycott	When you refuse to use a product or service in protest
Desegregate	To remove segregation between black and white people
Integrated	When black and white people can use the same service at the same time
Militant	Extreme, radical, prepared to use force
NAACP	The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People – group that worked for equality for African Americans
Segregation	When black and white people were kept separate in public spaces
Sit in	Where black students, sometimes with white students, would take a seat in the 'whites' only sections in protest
SNCC	The Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee – a group formed to represent younger African Americans

8. Changes in Law

Civil Rights Act 1964	Made segregation and discrimination illegal
Civil Rights Act of 1968	Provided equal housing opportunity regardless of race, religion or national origin.
Voting Rights Act 1965	Prevented the use of literacy tests as a voting requirement. Allowed federal examiners to review voter qualifications

Key Dates

1963	Kennedy assassinated
1965	Malcolm X assassinated – 3 members of the Nation of Islam convicted for his murder
April 1968	Martin Luther King assassination causing riots and Johnson announced a national day of mourning

9. The Feminist Movement

1	What was life like for women after WW2?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Women were expected to go back to their traditional domestic roles By 1950 the average age a woman was getting married was 20 – lowest it had been since 1890 Other women were unwilling to give up their freedom and more went out to work
2	What did the Status Commission find?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In 1960, Kennedy set up the Status Commission to report on women in the workplace. It published its findings in 1963 Women earned 60% less for the same job 95% managers were men In some jobs women could be legally dismissed if they married
3	What was the Feminine Mystique?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In 1963, Betty Friedan published her book <i>The Feminine Mystique</i> It explained that women should be able to have the same rights and opportunities as men She had interviewed hundreds of college graduates who said they felt unfulfilled The book became a best seller
4	What was the Equal Pay Act?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In June 1963 The Equal Pay Act was passed IT was made law that women and men had to receive equal pay for the same job
5	What was NOW?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> After the Equal Pay Act and the Civil Rights Act, many women felt that there was still widespread discrimination In 1966, Friedan and others set up NOW Within a few years NOW had 30,000 members They wrote to politicians, organised demonstrations and took companies to court
6	How did other women's groups develop?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> A number of other women's groups emerged after NOW e.g. the Women's Campaign Fund Because NOW was mostly middle-ages and middle-class women, other groups of younger more extreme women used different methods – these were the Women's Liberation Movement
7	What was the Roe vs Wade Case?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Roe vs Wade was a famous case where lawyers argued a 21 year old had the right to have an abortion In 1973 the Supreme court ruled that women had the right to safe and legal abortion – overrode many anti-abortion state laws
8	Who opposed the movement?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Some women didn't agree with the movement and wanted to maintain women's traditional roles Phyllis Schlafly ran the Stop ERA campaign. In 1972, the Equal Rights Amendment was passed saying equality wouldn't be denied based on sex Schlafly argued that ERA would lead to women in combat, abortion rates rising, unisex bathrooms and same sex marriage Her campaign was successful and ERA failed to pass

10 Success of the Feminist Movement

1	What were the achievements of the Movement?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1965 – Law to state that all married couples should be allowed to use contraception 1969 – California became the first state to adopt a 'no fault divorce' 1972 – Education Amendment Act banned sexual discrimination in education – girls to study the same subjects 1973 – Supreme court ruling on safe and legal abortions
2	Was the movement successful?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Despite changes in the law, women's average pay still remained lower than men's Widespread sex discrimination was still common In 1985 there were still only 24/535 female politicians in Congress

10. Kennedy's New Frontier

1	What was the New Frontier?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> When Kennedy was elected he promised to make America a better and fairer place by eliminating poverty and inequality He wanted to improve education and fight unemployment
2	How did it help Civil Rights?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> JFK gave more important government jobs to African-Americans He created the DEEO to ensure all people employed with the federal government had equal opportunities He confronted Southern Politicians who failed to defend civil rights BUT he seemed too concerned with keeping the support of Southern politicians and voters The CEEO only helped those who already had a government job and didn't help the millions of unemployed African Americans
3	How did it help the economy?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> JFK cut taxes to give people more disposable income He made \$900 million available to businesses to create new jobs and gave them money for new high-tech equipment He increased government spending on the armed forces, creating jobs BUT the new equipment sometimes meant fewer workers were needed By 1963, 4.5 million people were still unemployed – only 1 million less than 1960
4	How did it help healthcare & poverty?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> JFK increased minimum hourly wage from \$1 to \$1.25 He made \$4.9 billion available for loans to improve housing and build roads and phone lines He established training schemes for the unemployed His Social Security Act increased benefits for the elderly and unemployed BUT minimum wage was only helpful to those in work The US congress blocked his plans for Medicare – free health insurance for the elderly
5	How did it help education?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> JFK established the Peace Corps to send volunteers abroad to assist in poorer countries BUT his plans to provide federal funds to schools were denied by Congress

Key word	Definition
Great Society	Johnson's project to improve the lives of Americans
New Frontier	Kennedy's project to create a fairer and richer society
NOW	The National Organisation for Women - a group that fought for women's equality

11. The Great Society

1	What was the Great Society?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> When JFK was assassinated, his vice president Johnson took over In 1964, Johnson won his own election promising his Great Society Project aiming to end poverty and racial injustice
2	Why was he successful?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Johnson had a different approach to dealing with the politicians Kennedy struggled with. He was intimidating and as a Texan he had a good understanding of the South He manipulated the weaknesses of his opponents
3	How did it help Civil Rights?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Kennedy's 1963 Civil Rights Act was became law in Johnson's presidency In 1965, Johnson passed the Voting Rights Act He reduced African American poverty by 26%
4	How did it help the economy?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> He increased minimum wage from \$1.25 to \$1.40 The Job Corps was introduced to help high school leavers get jobs BUT some people criticised him for spending too much on his reforms By the end of his presidency unemployment was on the increase
5	How did it help healthcare & poverty?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> A Housing Act funded low-income housing Medicare was created to fund healthcare for the elderly and low income families Air and Water Quality Acts tightened controls over pollution
6	How did it help education?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Operation Headstart gave money to schools in cities to provide better education for the poor The Elementary and Secondary Education Act provided major funding to schools