

# RECENT AMERICA: DECADE-BY-DECADE

In groups of up to three, choose a decade between the 1950s through the 2000s and research the political, economic, social, cultural, and technological developments of the decade.

- **Political:** Look at any important political developments during your selected decade, consider the following:
  - Presidential elections (who won, who lost)
  - Political scandals
  - Interaction with the rest of the world (wars, alliances, treaties, etc.)
  - State of the economy
- **Pop Culture:** Look at American pop culture during your selected decade and consider the following:
  - Celebrity influence
  - Style (clothing, hair, accessories, etc.)
  - Slang
  - Advertising
- **Leisure:** Look at entertainment during your selected decade and consider **at least three** of the following:
  - Television (stars and shows)
  - Movies (stars and films)
  - Sports (figures, teams, events, etc.)
  - Music (groups, individuals, song, albums, etc.)
- **Technology:** Look at scientific and technological developments during your selected decade and consider the following:
  - Significant inventions and their impact on American society
  - Advancements in medicine

## REQUIREMENTS:

Each group must do each of the following:

- Top five events of the decade with an explanation for why each was selected.
- Top five people of the decade with an explanation for why each was selected – You do not have to pick presidents, pick the people you think had the biggest impact on the decade.
- For pop culture:
  - Top three celebrities with the reason why each was selected.
  - What was the style of the decade?
  - What types of things were being marketed during the decade?
- For leisure, choose three of the following:
  - What were the most popular shows of the decade?
  - What were the most popular movies of the decade?
  - What was the most popular music of the decade?
  - Who were the biggest sports stars? What were the most important events?
- For technology:
  - What were the three most significant inventions of the decade?
  - What was the impact of these decades on American society?
  - What were significant medical advancements of the decade?
- Each group will construct a digital presentation to organize material that is presented on their assigned topic. Information that is placed in the digital presentation should be bulleted. The digital presentation will include:
  - Title Slide
  - Appropriate images
  - Information that answers the provided questions
- Each group will present their assigned topic. Each presentation should be 5 – 7 minutes in length. Every group member needs to have an assigned role in the presentation. This is a formal presentation equivalent to presentations given in college. Therefore, be prepared and be professional. The requirements for the presentation are:
  - Make eye contact
  - Present material without reading off slides
  - 5 – 7 minutes in length
  - Each individual must be responsible for part of the presentation
  - Digital presentation should have several images and not paragraphs of text

