

The Century: Peter Jennings
Then and Now: 1990s and Beyond

1. Describe the idea of a “global village” and how is the internet a part of this idea?

In the idea of a village everyone would know what was going on and what was going to happen. In the idea of a “global village” people could now use modern technology stay updated. This brought forth an internet craze because now people could look up anything they wanted whenever and wherever they wanted to do it.

2. Why does the Gulf War start? How does the U.S. and the rest of the world respond?

The Gulf War began as a result of Iraqi dictator, Saddam Husein, ordering the invasion of the oil rich nation of Kuwait. The rest of the earth was shocked that the Middle Eastern Nations continued to ignore the events of the past and went forward into their own wars. To prevent a massive war from erupting the US and two dozen other nations sent half a million men and four million tons of equipment around the earth.

3. Compare and contrast America in WWI and America in the Gulf War!

In WW1 and the Gulf War American’s believed they were sending troops to fight for Democracy and freedom for another nation. However, in WW1 the American military was very under equipped with only 50 planes and enough bombs for only nine hours of bombing with a very small army. In the Gulf war America was the most powerful military strength on the planet.

4. What are the differences and similarities between bombs of WWI and the Gulf War?

In WW1 men in wood frame airplanes would drop simple explosives on civilian populations. In the Gulf War the US used a new technology called smart bombs that could be guided by a computer. The purpose

of bombs never changed but the technology and how destructive they were had.

5. How does Saddam Hussein react to the allied ground offensive? What was the result of the war?

After weeks of allied bombing on Hussein's forces in Kuwait the allied forces sent in ground troops to push out the Iraqi forces. Though Hussein could see that he could not hold back his enemies he decided to set fire to Kuwait's oil wells because if he could not have them then no one could. After the invasion the allied forces steamrolled Iraq's army which was now disorganized and weak. Iraq was then forced to surrender.

6. How was the Gulf War seen in the United States? What is our place in the world?

The Gulf War was greatly celebrated after it ended because we had struck the enemy hard and we barely suffered any losses. The US continued to be the only super power of the earth and that was how Americans liked it.

7. What happened on Oklahoma City in 1995? Describe what you see! On April 19, 1995 a bomb was detonated inside the Oklahoma Water Resources building. It was a domestic terrorist attack carried out by two anti-government extremists, Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols. When people saw the destruction and chaos it was overwhelming the blast had killed 168 people, nine of them children under five, and wounded more than 680 others. It was shocking that an American was willing to kill other Americans including civilians just to prove a point.

8. Why did McVeigh and Nichols perpetrate this tragedy? What impact did Waco have on their mindset?

The two men felt that the federal government had too much power over the lives of the American people and they believed that they were helping the public in their own little way. The Waco Siege which occurred two years before the bombing helped feed their desire to bring down the government because they felt that this event reflected

how they thought the government would try to stomp out anyone that didn't do what they wanted.

9. Explain how the role of the Federal government had changed in the 20th Century!

At the beginning of the century the federal government was little more than a simple police force that made rather basic laws but by the end the end of the century the government was more powerful and influential than ever before. It was because of this change that many people felt that the government was trying to take away their freedom.

10. When does government involvement in society reach its pinnacle? When Ronald Reagan became president he stated that the US government had become far too powerful and that it needed to back off before it tries to control everyone's lives.

11. Who benefits and who suffers from large government programs? The lower class would often benefit from help from the government programs that would let them attend plays and go on vacation and still pay for the expenses. The middle class was the part of society that was troubled by these events because the money that payed for the programs came from them.

12. What has been the defining problems throughout American history? Describe how Stone Mountain, Georgia is viewed by different groups of people.

Perhaps the greatest problem in American history is defining the American Civil War and the South. As a result of the civil war there has much controversy between blacks and whites in the South. At Stone Mountain, Georgia, every year before labor day the Ku Klux Klan would hold a rally to celebrate white supremacy. It is likely that as long as America exists the two sides may never put aside their differences.

13. What were the goals of the "Million Man March"?

The Million Man March took place on October 16, 1995 and the event brought in more than 400,000 African American males. It was largely focused on bringing better economic and social support for African Americans. It was hoped that the rally would encourage African Americans to make their communities better places to live with more pleasant people. Sadly, the past few years since the rally has led to an increase in African American arrests for murder, drug dealing, rape, and robbery.

14. What types of progress has been made in race relations in America? Give examples!

A major boost for race relations in America happened in 1997 when African American, Chuck Burris, was elected mayor of Stone Mountain, Georgia which is a major boost in relations between whites and blacks and helping to redefine the South.

15. How is the Lewinsky scandal synonymous with America's fascination for pop culture?

The Lewinsky Scandal was a huge event for pop culture fanatics. It was believed the White House intern, Monica Lewinsky, "slept" with President Bill Clinton. The American people had always loved to hear what was going on in the personal lives of the top dogs of America and everyone going crazy when someone found some dirt on the president.

16. How are the Lindberg and Simpson trials similar? How do they show America's fascination with celebrity?

Lindberg and Simpson were both very popular men of their time and everyone wanted to know what was going on when they came to court. Lindberg went to court against man that kidnapped and murdered his son; the kidnapper was sentenced to death. Simpson was put on trial for being accused of the murder of his ex-wife and waiter; he was proved innocent. These events showed how American people loved to hear about the lives of people like this they wanted to know what happened right when it happened.

17. What did Warhol mean when he said everybody will have “15 minutes of fame”?

Perhaps he meant this from how so many people wanted to be famous that one day everyone will be competing to be the next big thing and soon even if someone reached that point it would only be a matter of time before someone else took it.

18. What is history? How was the 20th Century different from the ones that preceded it?

History is not just big men, wars, and political events. Its about the entire human experience leading up to now speaking about the good and bad times with success and failure. The 20th Century was certainly a time not tone forgotten in just a hundred years the earth was changed more than all other events in history combined. It is hopeful that future generations will learn from the mistakes of the past so that they will not repeat them.