10004

ERA 10: CONTEMPORARY UNITED STATES (1968 TO THE PRESENT) THEMES: CULTURE, ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATIONS, POLITICS AND CITIZENSHIP

How the Seventies Changed America

Guiding Questions

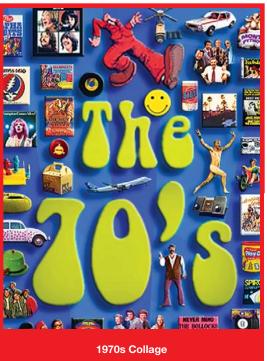
How do historians know when a decade begins and ends?

In what ways have the Seventies shaped America today?

To what extent are the political events of the Seventies overshadowed by the economy?

Question Focus Examples for Task 24

Although often dismissed as a "frivolous" decade, the Seventies helped define America today.



Teacher-to-Teacher

The Lemann article could be used by teachers to unlock the 70's. It's a great stepping stone to the political, economic, and social changes taking place during the decade. Discussions could be generated over topics such as when the Seventies began and ended and how do historians know when a decade begins and ends. Additionally students could debate the changes as being overall more positive or negative. The speeches of Carter and Reagan could also be closely examined in a compare and contrast exercise. Connections could also be made between social and political events, such as the Carter speech and the movie poster or the significance of a hockey game in global context. Students can also consider some events of the 1970s that are missing, including rising environmental concerns/awareness evidenced by the creation of the EPA and the Love Canal evacuation.

Literature Connection: All the President's Men by Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward, Breakfast of Champions by Kurt Vonnegut, Watership Down by Richard Adams

Contents

- How The Seventies Changed America by Nicholas Lemann ARTICLE
- Security Officer's Log of the Watergate Office Building for **June 17, 1972** IMAGE
- "Smoking Gun" Conversation DOCUMENT/AUDIO
- **Resignation of President** Richard Nixon DOCUMENT
- Roe v. Wade DOCUMENT
- October, 1973: The First Energy Crisis IMAGE

- "How to Tell if Your Child is a Potential Hippie" DOCUMENT
- "Crisis of Confidence" Speech DOCUMENT
- Letter from Jimmy Carter to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini DOCUMENT
- Ronald Reagan's **Announcement for Presidential** Candidacy DOCUMENT
- Top Historical Events of the 1970's DOCUMENT

Recommended **Instructional Strategies**

Task 3

Unpack the Points

Task 7

Close Reading: Focus Question

Task 9

Close Reading: Rhetoric Devices

Task 13

Form/Content/Context

Task 23

Identifying Claim and Evidence

Task 24

QFT (Question Focus Technique)

Task 25

Document Sourcing

