

A Look Back at Modern History

Unit 3: 1975—1979

Which Came First?

For this puzzle, you have five lists of events, one list for each year in this unit. Your job is to put the events for each year in chronological order, with 1 being the first event from the list that happened that year and 10 being the last.

To solve this puzzle, you may need to guess some of the answers using your knowledge and reasoning skills. Then research online or at the library to check your answers. There is an answer key in the back if you get stuck.

1975

- _____ Official beginning of the American Revolution Bicentennial observance occurs.
- _____ The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency puts forth major reductions in the maximum radiation allowed from nuclear power plants.
- _____ A \$16 billion tax cut is included in the U.S. economic recovery plan the president gives to Congress.
- _____ People's Republic of Mozambique declares independence.
- _____ A strike of about 2,000 northern California physicians occurs due to higher malpractice insurance costs.
- _____ Assassination attempt is made on President Ford in Sacramento, California.
- _____ It is announced that unemployment hit 8.2% in January (a 33-year high).
- _____ Postal workers in Canada strike.
- _____ Egypt reopens the Suez Canal.
- _____ Richard J. Daley is reelected to a sixth consecutive term as mayor of Chicago.

1976

- _____The Teton River Dam in Idaho bursts, causing major flooding.
- _____The U.S. Supreme Court refuses to block federal funds for certain types of abortion.
- _____The U.S. Senate confirms George H.W. Bush as director of the CIA.
- _____A Russian pilot asks for U.S. asylum after landing a MIG-25 jet in Japan.
- _____Major earthquake strikes Guatemala.
- _____Field Marshal Bernard L. Montgomery dies.
- _____The Cincinnati Reds win their second consecutive World Series.
- _____The Summer Olympic Games begin in Montreal, Canada.
- _____The U.S. Congress overrides the president's veto of new regulations concerning the leasing of federal land with coal reserves.
- _____The British-French jetliner Concorde begins preliminary service to Dulles International Airport.

1977

- _____Marin County, California, starts rationing water after a major drought in the western U.S.
- _____Blackout lasting up to 25 hours paralyzes New York City.
- _____The U.S. Coast Guard captures a Russian fishing boat for violating the U.S. 200 nautical mile fishing zone.
- _____Quebec adopts law making French the primary language.
- _____Indiana is the 35th state to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment.
- _____Singer Bing Crosby dies.
- _____The 25th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II as monarch of Great Britain is celebrated.
- _____Bill to raise the minimum wage to \$3.35 per hour by 1981 is signed.
- _____The U.S. Food & Drug Administration says it plans to ban the use of saccharin.
- _____U.S. president signs legislation creating the Energy Department.

1978

- _____ Mandatory U.S. retirement age is raised from 65 to 70.
- _____ Astronomer James W. Christy discovers Pluto's moon.
- _____ Major uranium deposit is discovered in Saskatchewan, Canada.
- _____ The Dallas Cowboys win the Super Bowl.
- _____ 56 million acres of Alaskan wilderness is placed in the National Park System.
- _____ General Lucius D. Clay dies.
- _____ U.S. first class postage rates are raised to 15 cents per ounce.
- _____ Norman Rockwell dies.
- _____ U.S. president states plans to reform the civil service system.
- _____ The first transatlantic balloon crossing is completed by three Americans.

1979

- _____ Montreal Canadians win the Stanley Cup for the fourth consecutive year.
- _____ Circus clown Emmett Kelly dies.
- _____ A Russian ballet dancer, Alexander Godunov, defects to the U.S.
- _____ Five nuclear power plants on the East Coast are closed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission because it is not certain they have adequate earthquake protection.
- _____ The U.S. space station *Skylab* crashes to earth.
- _____ Bill Rodgers wins his second consecutive Boston Marathon.
- _____ U.S. president signs bill creating the Department of Education.
- _____ U.S. formally begins diplomatic ties with Communist China and ends ties with the Chinese Nationalist government in Taiwan.
- _____ California begins a gas rationing program.
- _____ Great Britain and France agree to halt production of Concorde airliners.

Sort It Out

Put the number of the event in the box under the correct year in the chart below. When you are finished, check your answers by doing research. There is an answer key in the back if you get stuck.

1. Innsbruck, Austria, hosts the 12th Winter Olympic Games.
2. U.S. Coast Guard reports that ice is clogging the Great Lakes for the first time in known history.
3. J. Paul Getty dies.
4. Indira Gandhi resigns as prime minister of India.
5. Nuclear power plant near Athens Alabama, is threatened by a fire.
6. Accident occurs at Three Mile Island nuclear power plant in Pennsylvania.
7. The *Chicago Daily News* stops publication.
8. The U.S. space shuttle *Enterprise* takes its first test flight on a Boeing 747.
9. For the first time, U.S. and Russian spacecraft link in space.
10. Two Russian cosmonauts break the space flight endurance record.
11. First copyright revision since 1909 is made law.
12. Golda Meir dies.
13. South Vietnam falls to Viet Cong and Communist forces.
14. *Voyager 1* comes close to Jupiter and begins sending back photographs.
15. Spain legalizes the Communist Party.
16. The Panama Canal Neutrality Treaty is ratified by the U.S. Senate.
17. Sir James Tudor Thomas dies.
18. Postage rates rise from 10 cents to 13 cents for first class letters.
19. Margaret Thatcher becomes prime minister of Great Britain.
20. For the first time, a Canadian head of state speaks to a joint session of the U.S. Congress.

1975	1976	1977	1978	1979

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Answer Key

1975

- ___3___ Official beginning of the American Revolution Bicentennial observance occurs. (March 1, 1975)
- ___6___ The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency puts forth major reductions in the maximum radiation allowed from nuclear power plants. (May 23, 1975)
- ___1___ A \$16 billion tax cut is included in the U.S. economic recovery plan the president gives to Congress. (January 15, 1975)
- ___8___ People's Republic of Mozambique declares independence. (June 25, 1975)
- ___5___ A strike of about 2,000 northern California physicians occurs due to higher malpractice insurance costs. (May 1, 1975)
- ___9___ Assassination attempt is made on President Ford in Sacramento, California. (September 5, 1975)
- ___2___ It is announced that unemployment hit 8.2% in January (a 33-year high). (February 7, 1975)
- ___10___ Postal workers in Canada strike. (October 21, 1975)
- ___7___ Egypt reopens the Suez Canal. (June 5, 1975)
- ___4___ Richard J. Daley is reelected to a sixth consecutive term as mayor of Chicago. (April 1, 1975)

1976

- ___5___ The Teton River Dam in Idaho bursts, causing major flooding. (June 5, 1976)
- ___10___ The U.S. Supreme Court refuses to block federal funds for certain types of abortion. (November 8, 1976)
- ___1___ The U.S. Senate confirms George H.W. Bush as director of the CIA. (January 27, 1976)
- ___8___ A Russian pilot asks for U.S. asylum after landing a MIG-25 jet in Japan. (September 6, 1976)
- ___2___ Major earthquake strikes Guatemala. (February 4, 1976)
- ___3___ Field Marshal Bernard L. Montgomery dies. (March 24, 1976)
- ___9___ The Cincinnati Reds win their second consecutive World Series. (October 21, 1976)
- ___6___ The Summer Olympic Games begin in Montreal, Canada. (July 17, 1976)
- ___7___ The U.S. Congress overrides the president's veto of new regulations concerning the leasing of federal land with coal reserves. (August 3—4, 1976)
- ___4___ The British-French jetliner Concorde begins preliminary service to Dulles International Airport. (May 24, 1976)

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Answer Key

1977

- ___2___ Marin County, California, starts rationing water after a major drought in the western U.S. (February 1, 1977)
- ___6___ Blackout lasting up to 25 hours paralyzes New York City. (July 13, 1977)
- ___4___ The U.S. Coast Guard captures a Russian fishing boat for violating the U.S. 200 nautical mile fishing zone. (April 9, 1977)
- ___8___ Quebec adopts law making French the primary language. (August 26, 1977)
- ___1___ Indiana is the 35th state to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. (January 18, 1977)
- ___9___ Singer Bing Crosby dies. (October 14, 1977)
- ___5___ The 25th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II as monarch of Great Britain is celebrated. (June 5—11, 1977)
- ___10___ Bill to raise the minimum wage to \$3.35 per hour by 1981 is signed. (November 1, 1977)
- ___3___ The U.S. Food & Drug Administration says it plans to ban the use of saccharin. (March 9, 1977)
- ___7___ U.S. president signs legislation creating the Energy Department. (August 4, 1977)

1978

- ___3___ Mandatory U.S. retirement age is raised from 65 to 70. (April 6, 1978)
- ___6___ Astronomer James W. Christy discovers Pluto's moon. (June 22, 1978)
- ___8___ Major uranium deposit is discovered in Saskatchewan, Canada. (September 13, 1978)
- ___1___ The Dallas Cowboys win the Super Bowl. (January 15, 1978)
- ___10___ 56 million acres of Alaskan wilderness is placed in the National Park System. (December 1, 1978)
- ___4___ General Lucius D. Clay dies. (April 16, 1978)
- ___5___ U.S. first class postage rates are raised to 15 cents per ounce. (May 19, 1978)
- ___9___ Norman Rockwell dies. (November 8, 1978)
- ___2___ U.S. president states plans to reform the civil service system. (March 2, 1978)
- ___7___ The first transatlantic balloon crossing is completed by three Americans. (August 17, 1978)

1979

- __6__ Montreal Canadians win the Stanley Cup for the fourth consecutive year. (May 21, 1979)
- __3__ Circus clown Emmett Kelly dies. (March 28, 1979)
- __8__ A Russian ballet dancer, Alexander Godunov, defects to the U.S. (August 23, 1979)
- __2__ Five nuclear power plants on the East Coast are closed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission because it is not certain they have adequate earthquake protection. (March 13, 1979)
- __7__ The U.S. space station *Skylab* crashes to earth. (July 11, 1979)
- __4__ Bill Rodgers wins his second consecutive Boston Marathon. (April 16, 1979)
- __10__ U.S. president signs bill creating the Department of Education. (October 17, 1979)
- __1__ U.S. formally begins diplomatic ties with Communist China and ends ties with the Chinese Nationalist government in Taiwan. (January 1, 1979)
- __5__ California begins a gas rationing program. (May 9, 1979)
- __9__ Great Britain and France agree to halt production of *Concorde* airliners. (September 21, 1979)

Sort It Out

1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
5	1	4	7	2
9	3	8	10	6
13	11	15	12	14
18	17	20	16	19