

The Century: Peter Jennings
Happy Daze: 1953-1959

1. What type of America did Eisenhower wish to return to? What does Eisenhower get the U.S. out of?
2. How had the nature of work changed in America? What type of jobs were preferred?
3. What were women's roles in society and in the workplace? What role does marriage play in American society?
4. Where are Americans living in the 1950s? Describe life there!
5. What was driving America's economy in the 1950s? What does the term "keeping up with the Jones's" mean?
6. What impact does television have on American culture? American business?
7. What types of things were threatening the status quo in the 1950s? Why?
8. Why were people attracted to Rock-n-roll? Why did Rock music & Elvis Presley offend many adults?
9. What was the situation for black Americans in the 1950s?

10. How did M.L. King and the blacks of Montgomery react to the arrest of Rosa Parks? What methods of resistance do they use?

11. What was being attempted in Little Rock and why?

12. How do the whites of Little Rock react?

13. How is the desegregation of Central High School achieved? How is it viewed in the black community?

14. How did American's view of the automobile change in the 1950s? What impact does its popularity have on America?

15. How does each side of the Cold War react to the revolt in Hungary in 1956?

16. What weapons was being tested in the 1950s? How? Why?

17. What impact does Sputnik have on America psychologically and practically?

18. How does the word consensus fit the 1950s?