

TIME TRAVELLING

So, our task was to explain in which period of world history would we like to return. Because we have different tastes and answers we split our presentations on two parts.

We hope you will enjoy our presentation and while we are speaking please do your handouts.

1920s

I chose 20th century. If I am more specific I chose 1920s. 1920s are also referred to as the Roaring Twenties or the Jazz Age when speaking about US, Canada or UK. In Europe the decade is referred to as the "Golden Twenties" because of the economic boom following World War I. So in this decade a lot of interesting things happened, but I will mostly talk about things that interest me.

The popular image of the 1920s, as a decade of prosperity and riotous living and of bootleggers and gangsters, flappers and hot jazz, flapper sitters, and marathon dancers, is indelibly etched in the American psyche.

Economics:

In economics I have to mention economic boom ended by Black Tuesday when the stock market crashes leading to the Great Depression.

Technology:

So when I ask people what was invented in 1920s I mostly get an answer TV, Jukebox or first Warner Brothers movie. And yes, all of the answers are correct but there is much more. Record Companies introduced an electrical recording process on their photograph records, resulting in a more lifelike sound. In 1920s Clarence Birdseye invented the process for frozen food. In 20s Charles Lindbergh becomes the first person to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean, nonstop from New York to Paris.

Film:

Many full-length films were produced during the decade of the 1920s. The transition to sound-on-film technology occurred in this decade with the talkies developed. With sound, the concept of the musical appeared immediately, as in *The Jazz Singer* of 1927, because silent films had been accompanied by music for years when projected in theaters. Also, in 1927, the International Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences was formed. Later, "International" was removed from the name. Today, The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences is most famous for its annual presentation of The Academy Awards, also known as the Oscars.

Music:

Firstly I have to say that Jazz started to interest me few years ago when I got a gift from my friend. It really comforts me and it reminds me of Tom and Jerry. The jazz and jazz-influenced dance music became widely popular throughout the decade. **Jazz** is a musical style that originated at the beginning of the 20th century in African American communities in the Southern United States. It was born out of a mix of African and European music traditions. From its early development until the present, jazz has incorporated music from 19th and 20th century American popular music.

First commercial radio stations in the U.S. in Detroit and in Pittsburgh go on the air on August 27, 1920.

Arts:

- Beginning of surrealist movement.
- Beginning of the Art Deco movement.
- The Group of Seven (artists).
- The Museum of Modern Art opens in Manhattan, nine days after the Wall Street Crash.
- Pablo Picasso paints *Three Musicians* in 1921.
- René Magritte paints *The Treachery of Images*.

Trends:

So I mentioned some trends at the beginning but now I will present them to you.

So firstly there was a youth culture of The Lost Generation. Women were called flappers. It was a term applied to a "new breed" of young Western women who wore short skirts, bobbed their hair, listened to jazz, and flaunted their disdain for what was then considered acceptable behavior. Flappers were seen as brash for wearing excessive makeup, drinking, treating sex in a casual manner, smoking, driving cars and otherwise flouting social and sexual norms.

Then there was The Charleston. It is a dance named for the harbor city of Charleston in South Carolina. The rhythm was popularized in mainstream dance music in US by the tune called The Charleston by composer James Johnson.

In this era fads such as marathon dancing, mah-jong, Yahtzee, crossword puzzles and pole-sitting are popular.

The clip joint was very popular back then. It represented a strip club or entertainment bar, typically one claiming to offer adult entertainment or bottle service, in which customers are tricked into paying money and receive poor goods or services, or none, in return.

In this decade also Charlie Chaplin was very popular. He was a comic actor best known for his work during the silent film era.

Fashion:

The **1920s** is the decade in which **fashion** entered the modern era. It was the decade in which women first liberated themselves from constricting fashions and began to wear more comfortable clothes (such as short skirts or trousers). Men likewise abandoned overly formal clothes and began to wear sport clothes for the first time. The suits men wear today are still based, for the most part, on those men wore in the late 1920s. Their hats were somewhat different. The 1920s are characterized by two distinct periods of fashion. In the early 1920s change progressed slowly, as many were reluctant to adopt new styles. From 1925, the public passionately embraced the styles associated with the Roaring Twenties. These styles continue to characterize fashion until early in 1932.

I hope you learned something new and you know a little more about my favorite era. If I could travel anywhere in the past I would travel to 1920s, because of the Jazz, very beautiful fashion and all the spirit.

1940s

So now we are moving to the next time period – the 1940s. I chose this era because at that time world was going through a lot of changes, a lot of important events occurred and some people had major influence on history. But most of all I love this time period because of fashion, way of life, art, television and music.

World War II marked the first half of the decade. War had an enormous effect on most countries and people in Asia, Europe ... Many people moved to the United States from Holocaust and Hitler (in Europe) and had a new beginning in America. Many artists and intellectuals brought new ideas that were based on disappointment, depression, expatriations. And also the 1940s had a new viewpoint on women, because they had to replace their men who had gone to war, by going from home to the workplace. After the war, women had to give up their jobs, but they had tasted independence. No longer was the family farm an ideal and African-Americans had more and more equal rights as white people.

Tehnology & Science

Tehnology:

- ⊗ *The RH factor of blood* is discovered,
- ⊗ Television CBS demonstrates the first *color television* in New York City,
- ⊗ The first electronic digital computing device was built by John Vincent Atanasoff and Clifford Berry; *the Atanasoff-Berry computer*, during 1937-1942 in America,
- ⊗ *Colossus computer*, was used by British codebreakers to read German messages during World War II,
- ⊗ *Z3*, fully automatic computing machine,
- ⊗ The first test for an atomic weapon is made; *Trinity test*,
- ⊗ the development:
 - of *Radar*,
 - of *Ballistic missiles*,
 - of *Jet aircraft*,
 - of *Jeep*,
 - of *Commercial Television*,
 - of the *Slinky*,
 - of the *Microwave oven*,
 - of *Velcro*,
 - of *Tupperware*,
 - of the *Frisbee*.

Science:

- ⊗ the development of:
 - PHYSICS: of *quantum theory and nuclear physics*,
 - MATHEMATICS: of *game theory and cryptography*,
 - ARCHAEOLOGY: Willard Libby developed *Radiocarbon dating*,
 - *modern evolutionary synthesis*,

Literature:

In the 40s a lot of important books came out, but here a few that are still present in world today and especially in our generation:

- ⌘ A. DE SAINT-EXUPÉRY – The Little Prince (1943),
- ⌘ A. LINDGREN – Pippi Longstocking (1945),
- ⌘ A. FRANK – the Diary of Anne Frank (1947),

Sports:

During 1940s Sport events were changed and disrupted by the events that shaped the entire world. In 1940 and 1944 Olympic games were cancelled because of World War II. Many stars and performers from baseball, boxing and other sports served in forces until the end of war. And the two main sports in the 1940s were baseball and boxing.

⌘ Baseball:

After war many players returned to their teams, while the major event in the 1940s was signing Jackie Robinson to a Brooklyn Dodgers. Signing Robinson opened the door to the intergration of Major League Baseball finally putting an end to the discrimination that had influenced sport since the 19th century.

- Joe Dimaggio,
- Jackie Robinson,
- Buck Leonard,
- Bill Dickey,
- Bob Feller,
- Josh Gibson,
- Hank Greenberg...

Note: (read some of them)

⌘ Boxing:

In the 1930s and in the 1940s Joe Louis was an enormously popular heavyweight boxer. In 1936 he lost a match to the German boxer Max Schmelling and he wanted to meet Schmelling once again in the ring. Their fights also became an international symbol of the struggle between USA against Nazism and Fascism. On June 22, 1938 Louis knocked Schmelling out in the first seconds of the first round during their rematch. Of course his comeback was sensational and the entire nation loved him.

In 1942 Louis enlisted/entered in U.S Army. Joe Louis was the first African American to achieve the status of a national hero in the US.

- Buddy Baer,
- Ezzard Charles,
- Billy Conn,
- Rocky Graziano,
- Joe Louis,
- Sugar Ray Robinson,
- Max Schmelling.

Note: (Read some of them)

Popular culture:

🔗 Films:

Hollywood produced dozens of classic films during the 1940s, some of them were about war and some are listed as the greatest films of all-time. European and Asian cinema survived although the effects of war.

Main entertainers:

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| ▪ Charles Chaplin, | ▪ Clark Gable, |
| ▪ Fred Astaire, | ▪ Ava Gardner, |
| ▪ Lauren Bacall, | ▪ Judy Garland, |
| ▪ Humphrey Bogart, | ▪ Rita Hayworth, |
| ▪ Cab Calloway, | ▪ Katharine Hepburn, |
| ▪ Bette Davis, | ▪ Gene Kelly, |
| ▪ Doris Day, | ▪ Veronica Lake, |
| ▪ Olivia de Havilland, | ▪ Vivien Leigh |
| ▪ Marlene Dietrich, | ▪ Elizabeth Taylor, |
| ▪ Walt Disney, | ▪ Carmen Miranda, |
| ▪ Kirk Douglas, | ▪ Marilyn Monroe, |
| ▪ Irene Dunne, | ▪ John Wayne. |

Note: (read some of them...)

🔗 Fashion:

The problem with fashion in the 1940s was, that because of the war the fashion industries were struggling.

Christian Dior introduced 'the New look' – feminine long dresses with tight waist and low heeled shoes were replaced with high heels. Make-up was socially acceptable and hair was curled high on

head in front and worn to the shoulders in the back. Women dress normally consists a blazer, shirt, long dresses and various hats. Floral prints dominated the early 40s, in the mid 40s were popular geometric patterns. The main colours were normally dark greens, khakis for men and more light and feminine colours; like beige, pink .. for women.

Among men were very popular 'Zoot suit' – high waist, pegged trousers and long coats; and 'drape cut' – suits consists large shoulders, wide trousers and heavily padded chests.

☉ Music:

At the beginning Big Bands dominated. Glenn Miller, Benny Goodman led some of the most famous bands. Later, some singer struck out on their own; like Frank Sinatra, Bing Crosby – called CROONERS. Out of the Big band era grew new styles: Be-Bop and Blues (black sounds); like Ella Fitzgerald, Billy Holiday, Louis Armstrong.

Along with 'crooners', the earliest traces of rock and roll and be-bop were the popular genre. Country music had also a major effect.