



### Q1 prompts

#### **Importance of Infrastructure**

Infrastructure is the general term for the basic physical systems of a business, region, or nation. It ranges from our road system to water waste treatment. Without infrastructure life would be chaotic. Based on The World Economic Forum standards, can you guess the top 5 countries with the highest quality of infrastructure?

1. Singapore
2. the Netherlands
3. Hong Kong
4. Switzerland
5. Japan

Can you guess where the United States ranks? 13<sup>th</sup>

[Global country ranking by quality of infrastructure 2019](#)

#### **Ancient Roads vs. Modern Roads**

The Roman Empire Road System was state of the art for the time of its construction. Construction began in 312 BCE and stretched over 50,000 miles! The main purpose of these roads was promoting trade through the empire, and they were an efficient way to move armies. This road system supported the advancement of civilization in many ways. How did this road system change the Modern World?

- A. Advanced ideas on how to make stronger roads
- B. Exposed the economic benefits of a connected empire
- C. Made travel easier and faster

**D. All of the above**

[Roman Road System](#)



On June 29, 1956, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the Federal Aid Highway Act. This law authorized the construction of 41,000 miles of interstate highways and was the largest public works project in American history at the time. Just like the Roman Empire, the United States needed to advance their infrastructure. Today is no different than 312 BCE or 1956. Infrastructure is still a major aspect of modern day life.

What do you think the most important part of infrastructure is today? Why do you think that?

- A. Water supply
- B. Roads/railways (bridges and tunnels)
- C. Telecommunications (internet and broadband)
- D. Electrical grid

[Congress Approves the Federal-Aid Highway Act](#)

### **Future Dust Bowls?**

Ancient Greeks believed they could change the weather and temperatures. The belief was rain would fall more likely if trees were chopped down and the lands were plowed. The belief of “rain follows the plow” stayed relevant until the 1930’s when the Dust Bowl swept across the United States prairies and triggered the Great Depression. True or false, can we relate the Dust Bowl to modern day Climate Change?

**True.** The summer of 1936 is the hottest summer on record. Research finds that the heat waves that helped the Dust Bowl are now 2.5 times more likely in our modern climate due to another manmade crisis- climate change.

What are some ways we can help curb manmade climate change?

[Climate Change History](#)

### **Recycling History**

The first record of recycling dates to the 9<sup>th</sup> century in Japan. The Japanese quickly adopted recycling after the invention of paper. The United States adopted recycling in 1690 during the production of linen and cotton rags in Philadelphia. In modern times recycling has become an important part of our daily lives. The United States recycled \_\_\_\_\_ in 2018.

**A. 69.1 million tons**



- B. 134 million tons
- C. 15.7 million tons
- D. 1,211 million tons

What is a way you help when it comes to recycling? Is there a way your class or school helps with recycling?

[A Brief History of Recycling](#)

### **Loose Lips Sink.. Democracy?**

The Constitution was constructed in Philadelphia during the Constitutional Convention (May 1787-September 1787). One of the most influential members was banned from attending any party during this time because they loved to gossip, and fellow members were afraid he would spill too many secrets.

Which member do you think was the gossip?

- A. George Washington
- B. James Madison
- C. Benjamin Franklin**
- D. Thomas Jefferson

Benjamin Franklin was one of the most influential members of the Founding Fathers and United States history. What is one way you have learned to keep a secret or prevent the spread of gossip?

Source: I heard this on a podcast, I am having a hard time finding this on the internet as fact. This might just be a fun question between us.

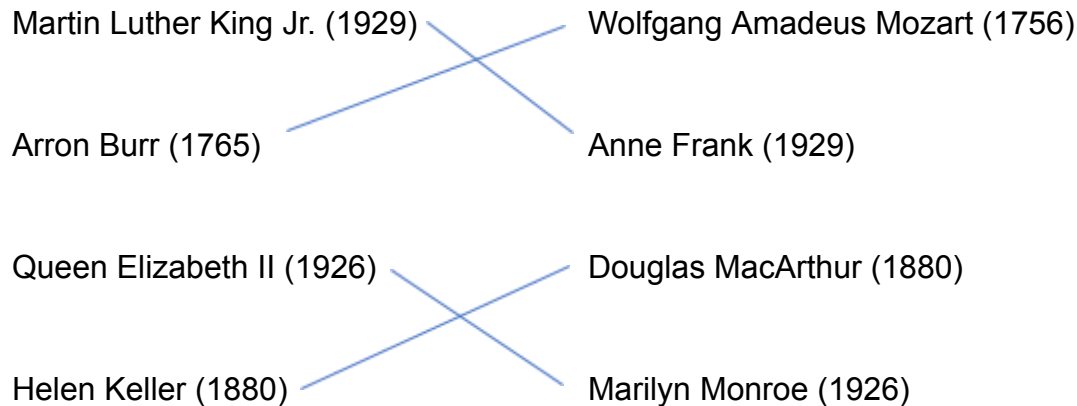
### **Birth Years**

Source: [History of Television](#)

Electronic television was first successfully demonstrated in San Francisco on Sept. 7, 1927. The system was designed by Philo Taylor Farnsworth, a 21-year-old inventor who had lived in a house without electricity until he was 14.



The way we associate different time periods of history can be odd. Match the same year these historical figures were born.



Which shared birth year surprised you the most?

Are there any historical figures that have the same birthdate as you?

[Famous Birthdays](#)

[The first mechanical TV](#)

### Truth Text

**True or false: The telephone was invented in 1876 by Alexander Graham Bell**

False. Alexander Graham Bell in fact did not invent the telephone. An Italian inventor named Antonio Meucci is credited with the invention of the telephone in 1854. Alexander Graham Bell was the first to be given a patent for the telephone in 1876.

Fun fact about Alexander Graham Bell: He was a co-founder of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company in 1885. Also known as AT&T.

Do you think it is fair that Alexander Graham Bell is known as the inventor of the telephone? Why or why not?

If you could improve upon any current invention, what would it be?

[Who is credited with inventing the telephone?](#)



### American Money

Alexander Hamilton was a Founding Father and the first United States Secretary of the Treasury. He is the only United States historical figure to be represented on circulating U.S. currency who was not born in an United States territory. If you got the chance to choose any historical figures to replace the current represented people, who would you pick? Why would you pick these people?

[Alexander Hamilton](#)

### Aviation History

The maiden flight of an aircraft happened in 1903. What made this flight so important than previous flying contraptions before (hot air balloon or gliders) was this flier used its own power and took off using its own propellers. 66 years later after the first flight the first man would walk on the moon. These were both huge achievements of mankind and they both happened in the United States. **What are the names of the two men that first flew the aircraft in 1903? What are the names for the first two men on the moon?** What is so important about these two events? In the next 60 years what are some major advancements you would like to see in aviation?

[Aerospace History Timeline](#)

### Fruits of Our History

Source: The Columbian Exchange

Fact(s): The Columbian Exchange was the name of the transferring process of newly found American crops and animals to Europe after the European colonization of the Americas. Many of the foods we love today originated in our own backyard and were foreign to Europeans until the 15<sup>th</sup> century. Match the crops to their origin.

Introduction: The Columbian Exchange introduced the produce and animals from North America to Europe in the 15th century.



Questions: Were each of the following crops native to the Old World (Europe) or the New World (The Americas)? **A.** Potatoes **B.** Cabbage **C.** Tomatoes **D.** Peanut

Answers: Old: B; New: A, C, D

Follow up Conversation Starters:

- In your opinion, what continent would have the better food before the Columbian Exchange? After?
- What country comes to mind when you think of tomatoes? Potatoes? Why do you think that is?