

The Century: Peter Jennings
Approaching the Apocalypse: 1971-1975

1. What did America accomplish in 1969 that JFK had promised at the beginning of the decade? Why were people around the world so interested?
2. Who was elected in 1969? Describe the inauguration! Why were we so divided?
3. What is the “Silent Majority”? Contrast that with the counter-culture!
4. Why did the movie “Easy Rider” symbolize the divide in America?
5. What sparked protests in May of 1970? What happened at Kent State? How did America respond to the demonstrations?
6. Why did the “hard hats” attack the protesters in NYC? How did the country respond?
7. What were the reasons given for the prisoner revolt at Attica prison? Who came to the prisoners’ defense?
8. What was the result of the standoff? How was this symbolic of the divide in America?
9. What were the feelings of American soldiers in Vietnam by the 1970s? Contrast that with the enemy!

10. Why did many Vietnam veterans protest the war?

11. How did Nixon change diplomacy with China and the U.S.S.R? What impact does this have on the Vietnamese?

12. Why did Nixon order the bombing of Hanoi? What was the impact on the city?

13. How was the end of the Vietnam War treated in the U.S.? How did soldiers returning from the war feel?

14. How were the POW's treated when they returned? Why was this a high point in the Nixon presidency?

15. What were some of the things the Nixon Administration was involved in that shocked the American people?

16. What impact did Watergate have on the Nixon Administration? Spiro Agnew?

17. What happened to South Vietnam in 1975?

18. How did the fall of Vietnam symbolize the end of an era in the United States?