

Wars Timeline

Major Wars:

1775-81: American Revolution *
 1789-95: French Revolution **
 1812-15: War of 1812
 1846-48: Mexican-American War
 1861-65: U.S. Civil War
 1898: Spanish-American War
 1914-18: WWI
 1939-45: WWII
 1959-75: Vietnam War (U.S. ground war: 1965)
 2002-current: Afghanistan/ War on Terror
 2003-11: Iraq War (Iraqi Insurgency: 2003-2006)

* American Revolution timeline:

- 1765-1775: Colonial agitation
- 1775-1781: War
- 1783: Treaty of Paris formally ends War

Other:

1803-1815: Napoleonic Wars
 1812-1815: War of 1812
 1904-1905: Russo-Japanese War
 1910-1920: Mexican Revolution
 1917: Russian Revolution
 1931-32: Japanese Invasion of Manchuria
 1950-53: Korean War
 1990-91: Gulf War

** French Revolution timeline:

- 1789-91: Estates General
- 1792-93: Overthrow and execution of King Louis XV
- 1793-94: Jacobin Rule and Reign of Terror
- 1795-1799: The Directory
- 1799: Napoleon seizes power

Themes & Events Timeline

1600s:

- Early British colonial settlements:
 - Roanoke / Virginia Company
 - Mass Bay Colony / Pilgrims / Puritans
 - New England small farms/ townships
- 1676: Bacon's Rebellion = Virginia planters v. settlers moving westward

1700s General:

- Enlightenment / Age of Reason
- Americas colonization
- European economic / political expansion/ colonization/ slavery
- U.S. colonial westward expansion
- U.S. Independence / French Revolution

1750s: French Indian War (America) / Seven Years War (Europe) – end of salutary neglect
 1760s: British colonial rule, including
 - trade restrictions
 - taxes

- representation in Parliament

1775-81 American Revolution
 1776: Declaration of Independence
 1787: US Constitution (ratified 1789)
 1789 US Gov operates under constitution
 1789-95: French Revolution
 1793: French Rev: Reign of Terror
 1799: Napoleon Bonaparte seizes power

1800s general:

- US western expansion (new states)
- Social and economic change/ progress
- Rising middle and professional class
- Industrialization
- Disruption of aristocratic order/ less importance
- Democracy / expanding rights and freedoms

1803-1815 Napoleonic Wars
 1812-1815 War of 1812 (US v Britain)
 1815-25: Era of Good Feelings

1820s: European monarchies restoration / UK industrialization / railroads / telegraph
 1848: revolutions in Europe (unsuccessful)
 1848-49: California gold rush
 1840s-50s: Karl Marx / Irish potato famine / direct British rule in India / Charles Darwin

1820s-1850s Antebellum US
 - Alexander de Tocqueville's "Democracy in America" (study of America by French diplomat)
 - sectional conflict & compromises: slavery/ tariff/ National Bank
 - Nat Turner's Rebellion (1831)
 - Indian wars 1830s (also 1870s)
 - religious movements / Second Great Awakening/
 - Thoreau/ Emerson/ Transcendentalism, individualism, individual morality, nature
 - temperance movement
 - women's suffrage (voting) & rights / franchise / disenfranchisement
 - Seneca Falls/ Declaration of Sentiments (1848)
 - slavery/ abolition movement / Frederick Douglass / Underground Railroad / Uncle Tom's Cabin

1820s-40s US: railroads/ canals / telegraph
 1830s-50s: Manifest Destiny / western expansion
 1848: Mexican-American War (ends compromise of 1820 due to new states/ territories; leads to North-South division)

1861-1865: Civil War
 - slavery / states' rights / union
 - Lincoln / Gettysburg Address / Emancipation Proclamation

1865-1877: Reconstruction
 - 13th, 14th, 15th amendments to Constitution (ending slavery, protecting civil rights, & suffrage, i.e.)
 - occupation of South by northern troops

- carpetbaggers
 - end of Reconstruction = rise of Jim Crow and segregation / rights abuses of blacks
 1870s-1890s US
 - industrialization / "Gilded Age" / Robber Barons (industry)
 - railroads
 - urbanization
 - labor / industry
 1896: Spanish-American War: U.S. expansion / colonialization (Puerto Rico, Cuba, Hawaii, Philippines)

1870s-1890s other
 - opening of Japan (Mathew Perry, 1854), Japanese industrialization
 - German unification & industrialization
 - European imperialism & colonialism / "Scramble for Africa" / Berlin Conference / interventions in China / Opium Wars

1900s General

- world wars
- economic growth/ middle class
- automobiles & industry
- social, class & labor conflict
- racial & ethnic awareness, feminism, civil rights and equality
- communism / Cold War

1890s-1910s: Progressive Era
 - US: reform / urban conditions / labor / immigration
 - UK: suffragette movement (voting, elected office)

1914-1918: WWI
 - nationalization / eventual collapse of Europ. Monarchies by WWII)
 - US entry: 1917-1918
 - 1919: Women right to vote in US

1920s: Roaring 20s

- consumerism / rise of middle class
- prohibition

- Jazz Age / Harlem Renaissance

1930s

- Great Depression / New Deal/ government Intervention in economy, jobs, etc.
- German militarism, invasion of Poland, 1939
- Japan militarism/ expansionism / (Invasion of Manchuria, 1931 / Pearl Harbor, 1941
- U.S. war mobilization

1945-1950s post-War

- United Nations / Declaration of Human Rights
- 50's middle class / suburbs / television / autos & highways / pop culture
- Civil Rights / Brown v. Board of Edu / protests
- Korean War (1950-53) / Cold War
- Brown v. Board of Education (desegregation)

1960s

- Civil Rights movement/ MLK / March on Washington
- Vietnam War / protests / youth movements / hippies / popular culture / rock-n-roll

- MLK assassination/ urban riots

1970s

- inflation
- economic decline ("stagflation")
- feminism
- Détente (US – USSR) / missile treaties

1980s

- Ronald Reagan
- economic growth
- banking / Wall Street scandals
- 1989: collapse of Soviet Union

1990s/ 2000s General

- digital & medical technologies
- the internet / social media
- globalization
- global warming
- War on Terror / Afghan & Iraq wars / Patriot Act / "surveillance state"

General Topics & Themes

SAT reading selections are usually aimed at the following topics:

- global warming / climate/ environmental sustainability
- social and political change, especially in historical pieces pertaining to social transitions from aristocratic or elitist to modern societies
- rise of middle or professional classes
- democratization & race and gender equality
- industrialization, urbanization and impact of technological change
- DNA, biodiversity, space technology, animal behavior
- social media and other technological challenges to modern society
- libraries, academics, and information technology

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