ACTIVITY 1B: STUDENT HANDOUT

HISTORICAL CONTEXT—1900s

Before beginning the interview of their Older Friend, students need to familiarize themselves with national events, trends, and presidents of the 1900s. Teachers may want to develop a more extensive outline with their classes to include state or world events.

Important Events:

- **1900–1920**
  - Development of big business
  - Development of transportation
  - Panama Canal
  - Airplane invented
  - One room schools
  - First automobiles
  - World War I in Europe
  - U. S. entry into World War I
  - Flu epidemic
  - Armistice Day

- **1920–1930**
  - Women vote
  - Prohibition
  - Flappers
  - Progressive Era
  - Stock Market Crash

- **1930–1940**
  - Great Depression
  - New Deal
  - Radio popular

- **1940–1950**
  - Pearl Harbor
  - Draft and World War II
  - Atomic bomb
  - V-E Day and V-J Day
  - Cold war and anti-communism

- **1950–1960**
  - Sputnik
  - Fear of nuclear war
  - TV becomes common appliance
  - Elvis Presley popular
1960–1970
Vietnam
Civil rights
Great Society Programs
John F. Kennedy assassinated
Robert Kennedy assassinated
Martin Luther King assassinated
Neil Armstrong first man on moon (Apollo missions)
Beatles popular

1970–1980
Arab oil embargo
Inflation
Gas shortage
Drug use more widespread
Computers become more common
Watergate
Richard M. Nixon resigns as President

1980–1990
John Lennon shot and killed
Bell telephone system divided into smaller companies
Sally Ride—first female astronaut
Space shuttle Challenger explodes
AIDS virus
Ruptured Exxon tanker spills oil
Texas elects first woman Governor since Reconstruction

1990–
Nelson Mandella—apartheid ends in South Africa
Persian Gulf crisis
East and West Germany reunited—Berlin wall taken down
Soviet Union dissolved
San Antonio named “All-American City”

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<th>U.S. Presidents</th>
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<td>William McKinley</td>
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<td>Bill Clinton</td>
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