

## **The Twentieth Century**



**Who was the most important person of the 20<sup>th</sup> century?**

**Who is the most overrated person of the century?**

**Who is the most underrated person of the century?**

**What development had the greatest impact on the 20<sup>th</sup> century?**



## The Twentieth Century

### What Were the Ten Worst Predictions of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century?

1. Charles Duell, Director of the U.S. Patent Office: "Everything that can be invented, has been invented." (1898)
2. Harper's Weekly: "The actual building of roads devoted to motor cars is not for the near future, in spite of rumors to that effect." (1902)
3. Simon Newcomb, U.S. astronomer: "The construction of an aerial vehicle which could carry even a single man from place to place at pleasure requires the discovery of some new metal or some new force." 1903
4. "A Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor is a strategic impossibility." American Mercury, 1938
5. Thomas Watson, CEO of IBM: "I think there is a world market for maybe five computers." (1943)
6. Admiral William Leahy to President Truman: "This is the biggest fool thing we have ever done....The bomb will never go off, and I speak as an expert in explosives." 1945.
7. Movie mogul Darryl Zanuck: "People will soon get tired of staring at a plywood box every night." (1946)
8. Nikita Krushchev: "Whether you like it or not, history is on our side. We will bury you. Your grandchildren will live under Communism."
9. President Lyndon B. Johnson: "We are not about to send American boys 9,000 or 10,000 miles away from home to do what Asian boys ought to be doing for themselves." October 21, 1964.
10. Paul Ehrlich: "It seems certain that before 1985, mankind will enter a genuine age of scarcity." (1974)

### Who Was the Most Important Person of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century?

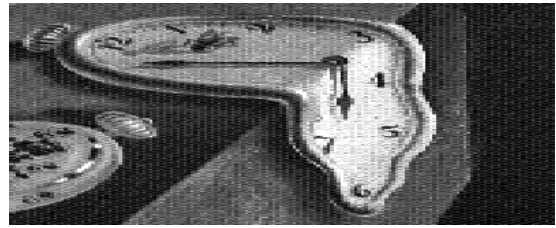
#### My List:

1. Gavrilo Princip
2. Margaret Sanger
3. Emmeline Pankhurst
4. Henry Ford
5. Leo Baekeland
6. Alexander Fleming

#### Media Consensus:

1. Albert Einstein
2. Adolph Hitler
3. Franklin Roosevelt
4. Mahatma Gandhi
5. Winston Churchill
6. Martin Luther King

- |                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 7. D.W. Griffith       | 7. Richard Nixon    |
| 8. Adolph Hitler       | 8. Marilyn Monroe   |
| 9. Vladimir Lenin      | 9. Elvis Presley    |
| 10. Franklin Roosevelt | 10. Nelson Mandella |



## Top 10 News Stories of the Twentieth Century:

### My List

1. WWI erupts
2. Russian Revolution
3. Chinese Revolution
4. Indian Independence
5. Moon landing
6. Birth control
7. Stock market crash
8. Collapse of Communism
9. Black migration from South
10. End of WWII

### Journalists:

1. U.S. drops atomic bombs (1945)
2. Armstrong walks on Moon (1969)
3. Japan bombs Pearl Harbor (1941)
4. Wright bros. 1st airplane flight (1903)
5. Women win vote (1920)
6. JFK assassinated (1963)
7. Nazi death camps exposed (1945)
8. WWI begins in Europe (1914)
9. Brown v. Board of Education (1954)
10. Stock market crash (1929)

## The 5 Most Overrated People and Events of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century

### My List:

1. Charles Lindbergh
2. Cuban Missile Crisis
3. Every U.S. President except Roosevelt, Truman, and Johnson
4. Iranian Hostage Crisis
5. Marilyn Monroe

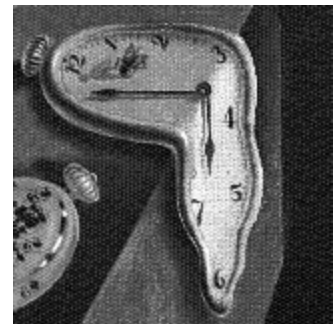
## The 10 Most Underrated People and Events of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century

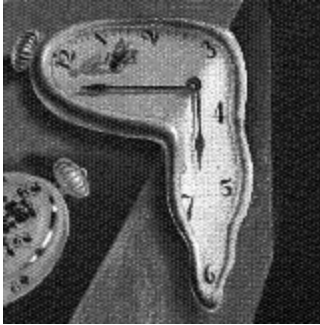
### My List:

- |                       |                              |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Margaret Sanger    | 6. John D. Rockefeller       |
| 2. Emmeline Pankhurst | 7. Thurgood Marshall         |
| 3. Philo Farnsworth   | 8. Any Supreme Court Justice |
| 4. Willis Carrier     | 9. Leo Baekeland             |
| 5. J.P. Morgan        | 10. Alexander Fleming        |

## American Life in 1900

- 1 in 7 homes had a bathtub
- 1 in 13 homes had a telephone
- 8,000 automobiles in the United States
- Standard & Poors 500 Index: 6.2 (1998: 1,085)
- Percentage of Americans dying
  - without any property: 939 per 100,000
  - Lynchings: 106 African Americans, 9 others



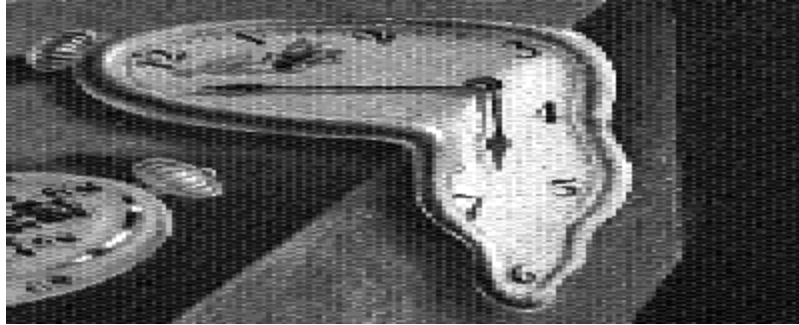


## Mass Deaths

55 million	WWII including Sino Japanese War	1937-45
48 million	China under Mao	1949-76
20 million	Stalin	1924-53
15 million	WWI	1914-18
15 million	Russian Civil War	1918-21
4 million	Chinese Civil War	1945-49
4 million	China Warlord and Nationalist Era	1917-37
3 million	Korean War	1950-53
2.4 million	Vietnam War	1965-73
2.1 million	Germans expelled from E. Europe	1945-47
2 million	Congo	1900-08

## Comparisons

	1900	2000
<b>Demography</b>		
World Population:	1.6 billion	6 billion
Life Expectancy (US)	47	76
Median Age (US)	23	35
<b>Cities</b>		
Largest Cities	London: 6 million New York: 3.4 million	Tokyo: 27 million Mexico City: 17 million
Tallest Building	Eiffel Tower: 984 ft.	Petronas Towers (Thai.) 1,484 ft.
<b>Economy</b>		
Cars sold worldwide	4,000	54 million
Work week (US)	52 hours	37.9
Md Women Working	759,000	34 million
Oil production	150 million barrels	24 billion barrels
Weekly Wage (US)	\$9.70	\$435
Farms (US)	5.7 million	2 million
<b>Energy Supply</b>		
	Coal: 74%	Oil: 40%
	Wood: 23%	Gas: 24%
	Oil: 3%	Coal: 21%
		Nuclear: 7
<b>Family</b>		
Age <sup>1st</sup> Marriage (US)	men: 26 Women: 22	men: 26 women: 24
Divorces (US)	55,751	1.2 million
Infant Mortality (US)	140 per 100,000	6.3 per 100,000
<b>Government</b>		
Taxes	\$567 million	\$1.7 trillion
Govt Spending/GDP	U.S.: 1.8 percent	34 percent



## Famous Firsts

1900	Quantum physics	1910	Neon light
	Kodak Brownie camera	1912	Cellophane
	Escalator	1913	Gas station
	Hamburger		Crossword puzzle
1901	Blood groups discovered		Zipper
	First trans-Atlantic radio signals	1914	1 <sup>st</sup> movie star: Florence Lawrence
	Instant coffee	1928	Penicillin
1902	Chromosomal theory of heredity	1929	Sliced bread
	Air conditioner	1929	Frozen food
	Vacuum cleaner	1936	Loafers
1903	Safety razor	1938	Nuclear fission
	Ice cream cone	1943	Photocopy
1905	First pizzeria in U.S.	1943	Ballpoint pen
1906	Permanent wave	1949	Carbon 14 dating
1907	Plastic.	1953	Structure of DNA decoded
1908	Concrete pavement	1974	VCR

## 20th Century Words

Allergy	1906	Jazz	1909
Collage	1919	Phony	1900
Concentration Camp	1900	Psychedelic	1956
Electronics	1910	Psychoanalysis	1906
Feminism	1910	Teenager	1943
Gigolo	1922	White Collar	1920
Highbrow, Lowbrow	1906	Wimp	1920

