

Dates Tell Stories

Use timeline ranges to identify American history periods.

SS.5.A.1.2 "Utilize timelines to identify and discuss American History time periods."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the first mention of each of the three period names, circle each period's start and end year, and write 1, 2, or 3 beside the names to show their order.

Reading a History Timeline

- ① A timeline is more than a list of dates. It groups events into periods, or stretches of time with important shared ideas or changes. On an American history timeline, the Colonial Period can begin in 1607, when the English founded Jamestown, and end in 1763, after Britain won the French and Indian War. Dates at the ends help readers place events.
- ② After 1763, conflict grew between Britain and many colonists. The Revolutionary Period, from 1763 to 1789, includes protests, the American Revolution, and the writing of the Constitution. A timeline shows that this period covers years when colonists fought for independence and then decided how to organize a new government. The year 1789 marks a new starting point.
- ③ The Early Republic Period is often dated from 1789 to 1820. During these years, the new nation tested its Constitution, elected leaders, and expanded westward. When students compare periods on a timeline, they can discuss change. The Colonial Period centers on British colonies, while the Early Republic centers on a United States government. Timeline dates support that comparison.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 An event happened in 1750. Which period would include it? Use the period's date range in your answer.

2 Which period ends in 1763, and which period begins in 1763? What does this shared date show?

3 A timeline lists an event from 1776. In which period would you place it? Explain with dates from the passage.

4 How does comparing the Colonial Period with the Early Republic Period show a change in American history?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Complete the table with three American history events not named in the passage. Choose one event from each period, include its year, and explain how the year fits the period's timeline range.

EVENT AND YEAR	HISTORY PERIOD	WHY THE DATE FITS

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the first mention of each of the three period names, circle each period's start and end year, and write 1, 2, or 3 beside the names to show their order. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	An event happened in 1750. Which period would include it? Use the period's date range in your answer.	The Colonial Period, because 1750 falls between 1607 and 1763.
2	Which period ends in 1763, and which period begins in 1763? What does this shared date show?	The Colonial Period ends in 1763, and the Revolutionary Period begins in 1763. The date marks a change from one period to the next.
3	A timeline lists an event from 1776. In which period would you place it? Explain with dates from the passage.	The Revolutionary Period, because 1776 is between 1763 and 1789.
4	How does comparing the Colonial Period with the Early Republic Period show a change in American history?	The Colonial Period centers on British colonies, while the Early Republic centers on a United States government.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

EVENT AND YEAR	HISTORY PERIOD	WHY THE DATE FITS
House of Burgesses meets in Virginia, 1619	Colonial Period	1619 falls between 1607 and 1763.
Declaration of Independence adopted, 1776	Revolutionary Period	1776 falls between 1763 and 1789.
Louisiana Purchase, 1803	Early Republic Period	1803 falls between 1789 and 1820.

Accept accurate events not named in the passage when each date falls within the stated period range. Students may use the shared boundary years 1763 and 1789 if they correctly explain the transition between periods.