**Historical Thinking Skills Activity**

**AP World History Modern 20-21**

***Periodization*** *is the process of categorizing the past into different segments or eras of time. Just as episodes of a TV series or different seasons in the history of a sports team can be divided up into eras, we can find differences in eras in history to better understand the contexts and causes of events and changes that took place. This process is important to our ability to remember what is going on across so many places in the world at different times.*

***Change and Continuity***  *is the process of describing patterns of continuity and/or change over time. Nota all things change over time, some things remain the same across long periods in time, sometimes lasting into the modern world. Continuity refers to things that stay the same, relatively unchanged, over time.*

*To practice the identification and explanation of eras as well as changes and continuities you are going to examine your own life:*

1. Divide your life into different eras. This could be based on interests, styles, life changes, schools, etc.

1. Select 5-7 events that you consider turning points in the history of your life and place each on a slide in a presentation (Google Slides, PPT, etc.)

1. Using these events, create a timeline that illustrates those turning points – complete with years (or months, days.) **on an introduction slide.**. How the timeline looks or is organized is completely up to you, but it must be clearly organized.

1. For each major event placed on your google slides place a picture/photograph that visually represents the event, along with a few annotations: the year of the major event, a one sentence description of the event, a one sentence explanation of how it began a new era, explain the changes that occurred from your previous event and this one, and the continuities that occurred from your previous event and this one. By creating these time frames and identifying different eras, you have taken part in periodization and change and continuity.

1. Lastly, beneath the timeline or on another page **of the same doc**, respond to the following questions in one well-developed paragraph.  *Imagine how a family member or friend might select different turning points, or use different causes to describe the same event or entire era. How would you convince them that your interpretation was correct?  
     
   Did you have difficulty identifying new eras in your own life? What types of factors signified a new era for you?  
     
   How might the selection of own major events or turning points differ if you were to redo this exercise ten or twenty years from now?   
     
   Now apply this process of periodization to world history, and the things historians have to do in order divide history into eras. How would different interpretations change the way we think about world history?*

1. Finally you are going to write a 2 page (double spaced essay), 6 paragraph essay about your life. Included in your essay you must:
   1. Have an introduction with the last sentence being a thesis statement. Use the format Changes in (name) from (birthday) to (present date) involved (change) and (change) while (continuity) and (continuity) remained the same. Please note your changes and continuities in your thesis statement should NOT be very specific they should be general and in each of your paragraphs you will give the specific details – think SPICE-IT themes.
   2. Each of your body paragraphs (4) will be a change or continuity that you included in your thesis statement. Each paragraph needs to start with a topic sentence. Your topic sentence should be restating your thesis but just with that one topic. For example: Social changes in Mrs. Roser’s life include loosing a brother, getting married and having children.
      1. Throughout the paragraph you can start sentences by saying Loosing a brother was a social change in Mrs. Roser’s life because he died when she was 26 years old. When this happened Mrs. Roser became an only child.
   3. In each body paragraph you need to state the change or continuity (this should be the specific) and then explain why or how this was a change or continuity.
   4. Include a conclusion paragraph. This can be 2 sentences long, restating your thesis in different words than already written in your introduction.