**African American Culture**
- What are some characteristic foods of the African American community?
- Discuss the significance of religion/spirituality important in the lives of African Americans.
- Discuss a musical genre (hip hop, jazz, blues, gospel, etc.) and explain its importance to African American culture.
- Compare two musical genres and explain their differing impact on African American culture.
- Discuss the significance of oral history in preserving the African American experience.
- Choose a personality from the Harlem Renaissance and examine his/her works.

**Aging/Longevity**
- What characteristics do Centenarians have in common? What challenges do they share?
- What role do genes play in longevity? What can you do to increase your longevity?
- What is dementia? Can people decrease their risks of developing Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias?

**Animals**
- Is it ethical to use animals for entertainment?
- Compare an aspect of factory farms to traditional farms, (e.g. welfare of animals, environmental impact).
- Who were the “black cowboys”? Discuss their culture and lifestyle.

**Civil Rights**
- What was the most important event in the modern Civil Rights movement and why?
- What was religion’s influence on Civil Rights?
- Has the Civil Rights movement succeeded?
- Discuss a Civil Rights personality & his/her impact on American history, (e.g. Eleanor Roosevelt, James Farmer, Medgar Evers).
- Discuss a Civil Rights group & its impact on American history, (e.g. NAACP, C.O.R.E.).

**Defining Events of the 20th Century**
- Co author, Richard Glaubman selected newspaper articles of major 20th Century headlines to share with George Dawson. Mr. Dawson responded with reflection, and his personal reaction at the time of these events. Select a newspaper headline from your lifetime, and describe its personal impact then, and today.

**Families/Parenting**
- What influence does religion have on families?
- How do social issues (gender gap, single parent families, poverty, etc) impact families?
- What values are the most important for parents to teach children? Why?

**Flu Pandemic**
- Discuss the factors that made the 1918 Flu Pandemic so prevalent and deadly.
- Could a pandemic like the 1918 Flu Pandemic happen again? Why or why not?
- Discuss emergency planning and preparedness necessary to prevent/control a pandemic.

**Gangsters**
- Discuss the impact the Great Depression and Prohibition had on gangster and other illegal activities.
- Discuss a gang or gangster (e.g. John Dillinger, Bonnie and Clyde, Al Capone) from the depression era and explain who they were, what they did, and their lasting impact.

**Great Depression**
- Was the New Deal an effective answer to the Great Depression?
- Who was most impacted by the Depression? Who was least impacted?
- Compare the Great Depression to current economic conditions.
Great Migration
- What were some forces that prompted the exodus from the southern United States?
- Describe how the Migration shaped the social, economic, or political landscapes in American history.
- Discuss difficulties/successes African Americans had in adapting to their new “homelands.”

Literacy and Education
- Discuss the significance of Brown vs. The Board of Education.
- In the electronic age, are books necessary? Are books relevant?

Philosophy of Life
- What is your Philosophy of Life?
- What are the characteristics necessary to overcome adversity?

Presidents and politics
- In light of present unemployment, should President Obama copy more of FDR’s New Deal Programs such as WPA and CCC?
- Discuss an aspect of the Kennedy assassination and its impact on American history.
- Discuss the impact Watergate had on President Nixon’s legacy.

Prohibition
- What was/were the objective(s) behind the Prohibition movement?
- Who profited from Prohibition?
- Compare the repeal of Prohibition to the movement to legalize drugs (e.g. marijuana) today.

Race Relations
- What is lynching and why has it been done in the past and present?
- Who were the KKK? How did they affect life in America?
- Compare the histories, philosophies, etc. of different hate groups, (e.g. Nazis vs. KKK).
- Discuss racial views during different time periods (1900’s to present).
- Explain the development or the dismantling of the Jim Crow laws.
- Do we still have racism in the United States? Give examples.

Railroads
- Discuss the impact of railroads on the U.S. economy.
- Who were the train porters? Are labor unions necessary?
- Who were hobos? Discuss the hobos’ culture and lifestyle.

Science and technology
- Discuss a scientific invention, discovery, or technology from the 20th century & its impact.
- Discuss a medical development, breakthrough, or technology from the 20th century & its impact.
- What are levees and what are they used for?

Soldiers (African American)
- Describe the difficulties African American soldiers had in returning to life under Jim Crow laws.
- Discuss the segregation/integration of America’s armed forces.

Sports
- Discuss segregated baseball. How & why did Jackie Robinson break “the color barrier”?
- Discuss the economic & social impacts the Negro Leagues had on their communities.
- Who was Satchel Paige? Who was Branch Rickey?
- Compare the baseball career and life of a white player vs. a black player shortly after integration, (e.g. Mickey Mantle vs. Hank Aaron).
- Discuss color barriers in other sports and the difficulties African American athletes faced.

Work
- What industry(s) (e.g. cotton industry, manual labor) profited most from minority labor?
- What is/was sharecropping and was it successful?
- Discuss work conditions for people in any time period (1900 to present).
- What were vagrancy laws and who did they affect?