

Learning Target: I can critically think about how scale and perspective can shape how we learn about and view historical events.

## SCALE & PERSPECTIVE

Agenda:

1. Scale and Perspective

Notes

2. “David & Goliath”

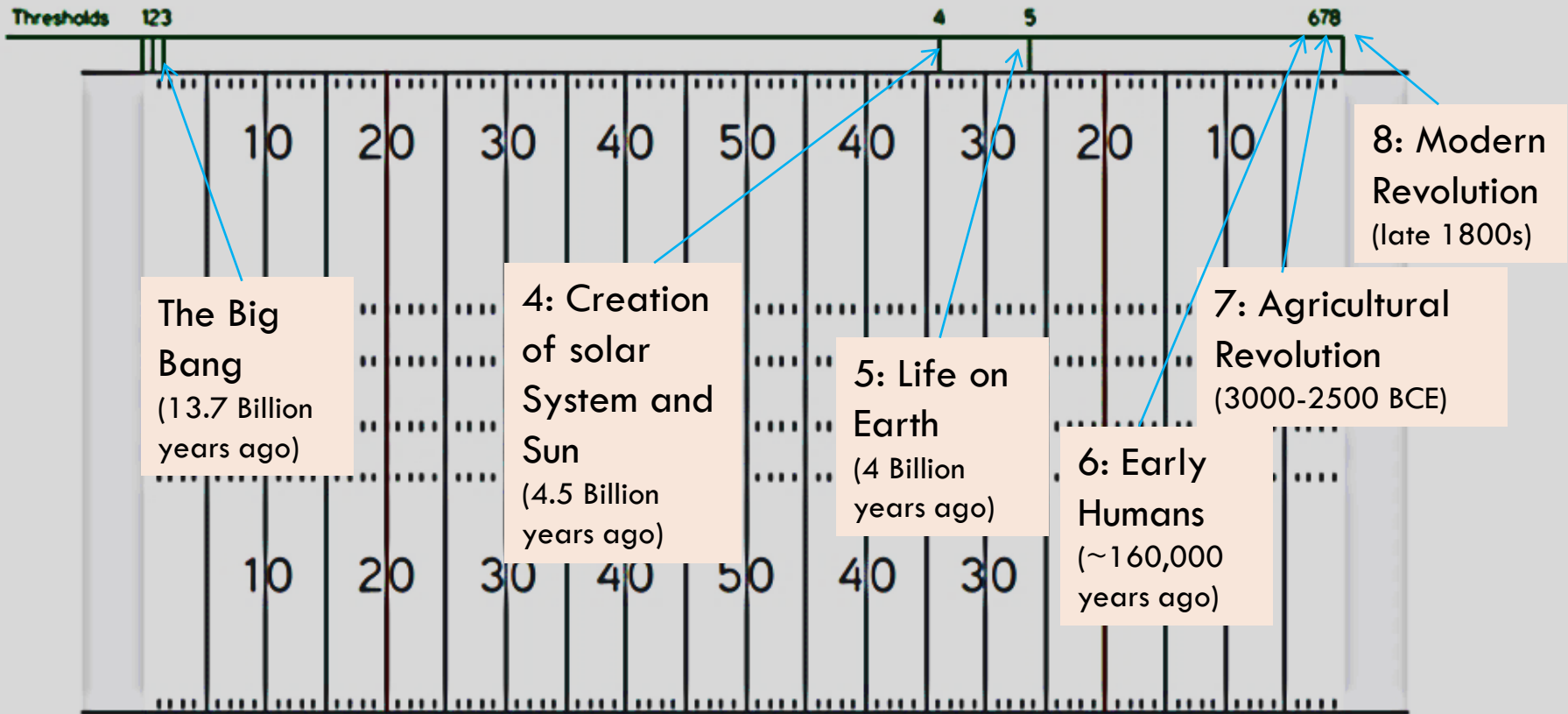
3. Enduring Understandings

# Reminders...

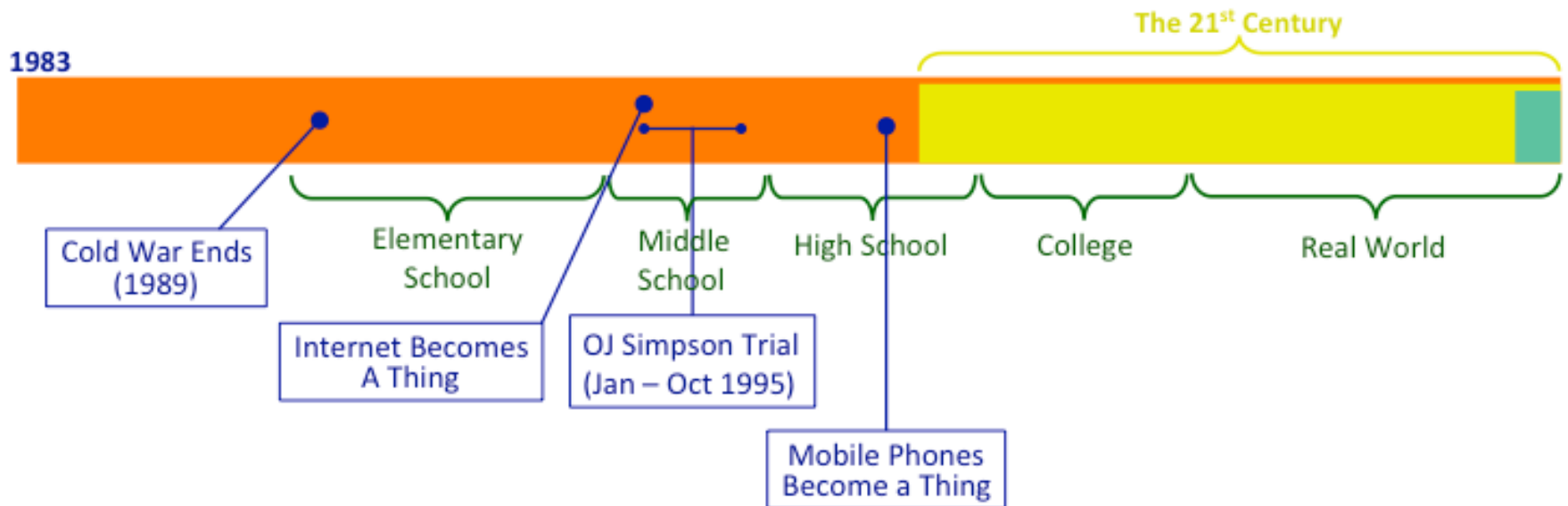
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- Unit 1 Quiz on Historical Foundations Monday!
  - Fact vs. Opinion
  - Danger of a Single Story
  - Perspectives
  - “David and Goliath”
  - Map Projections

# Scale: Zooming in and Zooming out of History



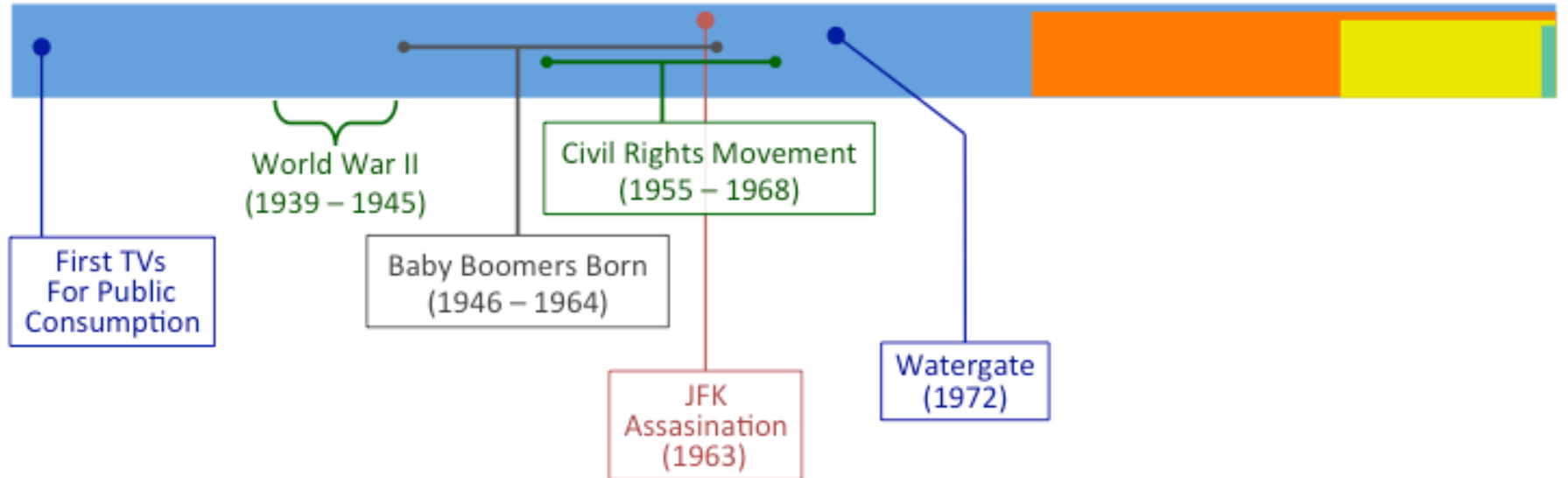
# An American 30-Year-Old's Life So Far



# A Long Human Life (90 Years)

1923

A 30-Year-Old's Life So Far



# Post Civil War Era

1865 - Present

A 90-Year Human Life

1865



Lincoln Shot

First Car (1886)

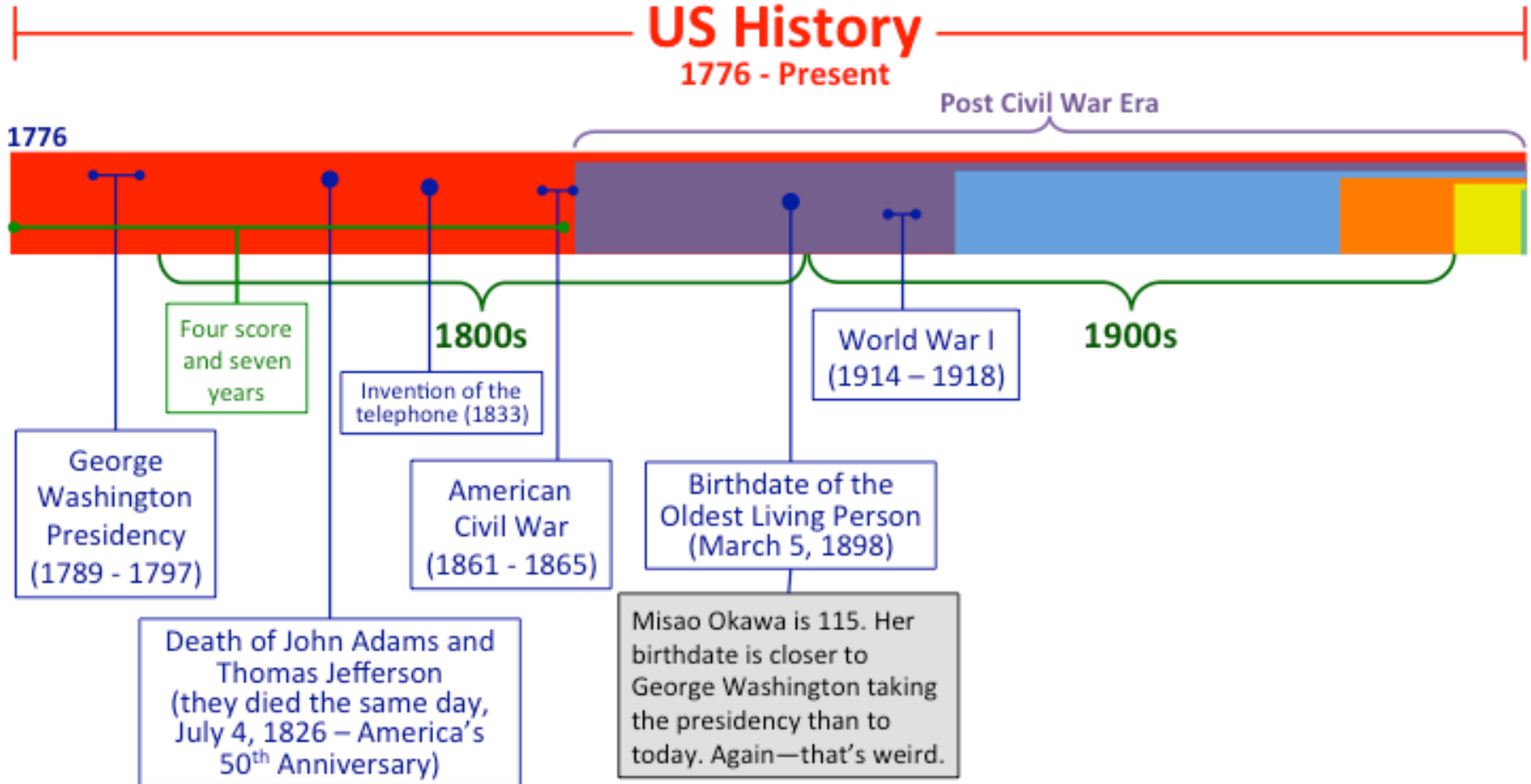
Basketball Invented by James Naismith in 1891 (for the purpose of keeping his football team in shape during the off-season)

First Commercial Flight (1914)

One thing that surprises me is how much closer a current 90-year-old's birth is to Lincoln's assassination than it is to the current day. To me, Lincoln's presidency seems *ancient*, but it's not actually that long ago.

# US History

1776 - Present



# European Colonization of the Americas

1492 - Present

US History

1492

Columbus Makes His First Voyage to the New World, Landing in the Bahamas

Jamestown marks the first British settlement (1609) and The Mayflower Arrives in Plymouth (1620)

French and Indian War (1754 - 1763)

American Revolution (1775 - 1783)

The most interesting takeaway here is that a *lot* of time passed between the first British settlers arriving in Jamestown and the American Revolution—169 years, to be exact. That means that the beginning of the British colonies seemed as ancient to the forefathers as 1844 seems to us today.



# Common Era (AD)

1 AD - Present

Year 1

European Colonization of the Americas



Early Middle Ages  
(400 – 1000 AD)

High Middle Ages  
(1000 – 1300)

Late Middle Ages  
(1300 – 1500)

Birth of Christianity

Birth of Islam

The Renaissance

# Scale

- There are both positives and negatives from taking a super close look , at 1 day of history, as well as +/- for looking at 100 years in 5 minutes.



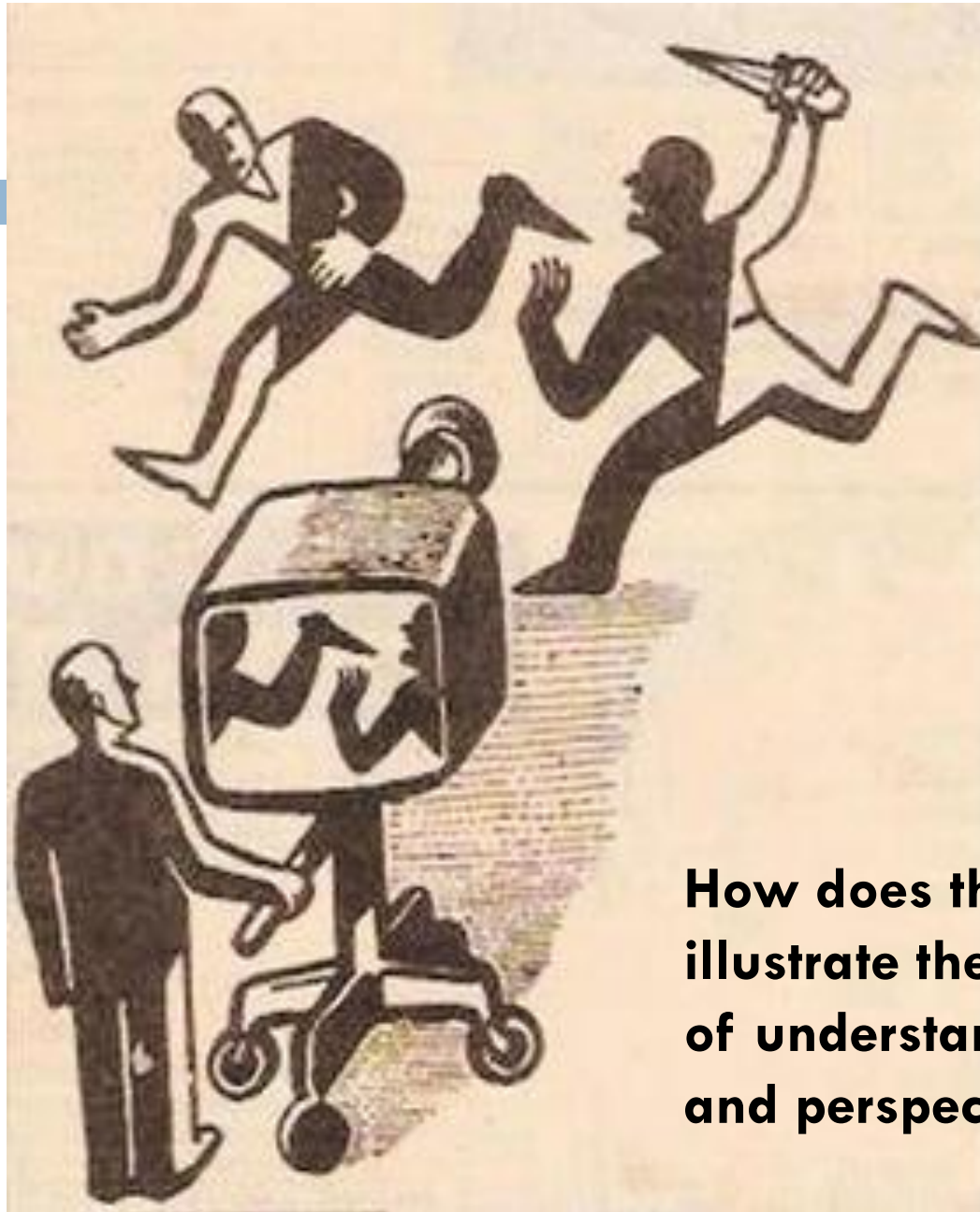
**CRIMINAL OR HERO?**

# Importance of Perspective

- History is always told from a unique perspective
- Perspective and bias are inevitable, so it is critical that we understand our own biases and recognize that how they may alter our view of history
  - ▣ “History is written by the victors”
  - ▣ Are we only getting one side of the story?

# A Unique Perspective on David & Goliath

- Who knows the story of David & Goliath?
  - ▣ The quintessential “underdog” story
- Malcom Gladwell asks us to consider if the story we tell is actually what happened...
  - ▣ David vs. Goliath
  
- As you watch:
  - ▣ What is Gladwell’s Argument?
  - ▣ What evidence does he use to support his argument?
  - ▣ Does he convince you or not? Why or why not?



**How does this cartoon illustrate the importance of understanding scale and perspective?**

- The media, our textbooks, etc. can chose to focus or “zoom in” on certain details and this will shape what we learn and how we perceive a subject or event.
- World History is thousands of years of history, we wont be able to cover everything.
  - ▣ Some things we will have to “zoom out” for or even “zoom by”.

# Enduring Understandings

- Write me 2-3 well thought out, developed sentences about the importance of understanding scale and perspective when studying history
- These will be “enduring” understandings meaning you should keep them in mind throughout the year