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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Century: America's Time "Best Years" (1946-1952)

**Directions:** Answer the questions below while watching the video provided on the Cold War era between America and the Soviet Union.

1. Why had British Prime Minister Winston Churchill traveled to Fulton, Missouri? (President Truman's home town) What famous words did he provide during this speech?
2. How did Joseph Stalin react towards Churchill's speech in Missouri?
3. How had America fared following World War II compared to other areas such as Europe?
4. How had the American government prepared for soldiers to return to civilian life after World War II?
5. What was the driving force behind the booming American economy?
6. Who was William "Bill" Levitt? What American economic system did he use to create a new "American dream"?
7. What was the Baby Boom? What years did this era take place? What did this era do for women?
8. What kind of America did African American veterans return to following WWII? How did President Truman react to the treatment of African Americans?
9. Who was Jackie Robinson? What accomplishment did he complete?
10. How did life in Europe and the Soviet Union differ from that of America following World War II?
11. Discuss the terms of Japan's surrender following World War II? What role did Douglass MacArthur play in Japanese reconstruction?
12. Describe conditions in Germany following World War II? What concern did the U.S. have for areas such as Germany and other parts of Western Europe?
13. How much money did the U.S. ultimately send to Europe through the Marshall Plan?

14. How did the Soviets react to the U.S. and the release of the Marshall Plan in Eastern Europe?
15. In June 1948 how did Stalin attempt to persuade Western allies from leaving Berlin? How long did this attempt last?
16. How did President Truman provide aid to the city of Berlin?
17. What communist victory shocked the nation on October 1<sup>st</sup> 1949?
18. How did the communist threat spread to Korea in June of 1950? How did this effect American families?
19. How did American troops hold up during the Korean conflict against the Chinese? Describe the conditions in which the soldiers endured?
20. Why was the Korean conflict referred to as the “forgotten war”?
21. Who were Ethel and Julius Rosenberg? What effects did their death provide in understanding communism and espionage?
22. How was Hollywood effected by the Red Scare?
23. What was Douglass MacArthur’s plan in attacking the communist threat? How did President Truman react to the plan?
24. Describe the new warfare technology Americans had created in November 1952. What was the “maniac” that accompanied this new technology?
25. Who was Dwight D. Eisenhower? What promises did he provide the American people during the 1952 Presidential election? What medium was he the first to use to his advantage during his campaigning?

Extra: What was so special about “Checkers” anyway?!?