

**UNIVERSIDAD TECMILENIO**

**COURSE**

**“CONTEMPORARY WORLD”**

**MODULE 1**

**CRISIS OF THE MODERN STATES**

**TOPIC 1**

**INTRODUCTION TO WORLD HISTORY**

**TOPIC ONE EXERCISE**

**INTERACTIVE PRESENTATION ON EGYPTIAN AND GREEK CULTURE**

**NOTE:** It is very important to be familiar with and understand the ancient cultures which have made a lasting impression on society, affecting our day-to-day lives. Therefore, we will develop an interactive presentation which reflects the cultural and legacy left by these cultures. To show the legacy, we will compare the ancient cultures with our current culture. Then, we will draw some conclusions about the importance of ancient history.

**PRESENTATION:** The Egyptian government was notable for a monarchical style of government, in the person of kings or pharaohs. The Greeks, on the other hand, used a democratic government. And the Romans established various types of rule, such as monarchy, republic, and empire. Our country has had practically all the types of government, arriving finally at the current system of democracy.

The Egyptian economy depended mainly on agriculture, livestock, and trade. The Greeks played an important role in the area of universal culture, and the Romans left us important technological developments, particularly architecture. We should recognize that these contributions made by ancient cultures are still a great inspiration in both the western and eastern world. Their accomplishments were especially surprising in the area of architecture, producing great buildings that seem to defy gravity. One of the great secrets of the ancient world is how they were able to build monumental works such as the Pyramid of Giza (Egyptians), the Parthenon (Greeks), and the Coliseum (Romans), which are still standing today.

Now, to address the population of these cultures: ancient Egyptian and Roman societies were marked by different social classes, more specifically the rich and powerful, and the poor or slaves. In our country today, there is still a clear division between social classes: upper class, middle class, and lower class. In Mexico, we still witness slavery of a kind. Corrupt politicians and monopolizing businessmen play the role of the absolutist monarchy, taking advantage of those living in poverty.

Finally, the great legacies left by these ancient cultures are found, on the one hand, in the Egyptians: their knowledge of astronomy and development of trade. On the other hand, we note the Greeks' lofty place in the world of literature with Homer, in the world of ethics with Socrates. We must also recognize the developments of Aristotle in realism, Herodotus in history, and, of course, Hippocrates and Galen in medicine. Because of these cultural legacies from the ancient world, our world is more highly developed in technology. Unfortunately, our world also has a high level of insecurity and violence.

**CONCLUSION:** The study of ancient history IS IMPORTANT because it helps us to see the lasting impact of ancient societies' development. These examples help us to continue forward, making fewer errors while striving to see universal improvement.

## TOPIC 2

### FROM FEUDALISM TO THE MODERN ERA

#### TOPIC TWO EXERCISE

##### Dialogues from the Period

**Roman Emperor**, what happened on September 4, 476?

**Emperor Romulus Augustulus**: The Roman Empire fell because of Barbarian invasions.

This decline marked the beginning of the Middle Ages.

Time goes by, and a conflict of religions leads to the crusades. In addition, at this time, a new economic system arises called feudalism.

**Servant**: Feudal lord, why do you take away my right to private property?

**Feudal lord**: Because I want to be wealthy and lord it over everyone.

The point is that later the monarchs arrived, gaining more power than the feudal lords and nobles. This transition paved the way for the beginning of the nation-state. Marked by sickness and death, the fifteenth century marks the end of the Middle Ages.

With the invention of the printing press and the arrival of Columbus in America, the Renaissance begins in Europe. This movement was spurred by the scientific revolution, which promoted the scientific method based on observation. This period also promoted the arts.

**Citizen in the Renaissance**: Mr. Da Vinci, why is this period important?

**Leonardo da Vinci**: Because in this historic period, science and the arts lead to change in society and the economy. In France, there were efforts to remove the aristocracy, leading to the establishment of the nation-state.

**French citizen**: King Louis XIV, why did France remove the aristocracy?

**King Louis XIV**: Because a country requires a government, a territory with borders, and a

population with a shared identity. That is, a country needs a culture, religion, and language common to all its people.

Later mercantilism would come. This model was adopted by the Spain of Charles III. From then on, more and more countries established this type of government.

**Spanish citizen:** King Charles III, why was the mercantilist system adopted?

**King Charles III:** Because it is necessary to push forward a new era of social change through trade as an economic source of power.

**Thus, through dialogues and narrative, along with drawings, one can show the factors that brought an end to the Middle Ages and the beginning of the modern age in Europe.**

### TOPIC 3

#### THE ENLIGHTENMENT AND THE LIBERAL REVOLUTIONS

#### TOPIC THREE EXERCISE

I. Timeline of the following events:

Scientific revolution – seventeenth century –

Enlightenment – seventeenth century –

Enlightened absolutism – seventeenth century –

French Revolution – seventeenth century –

July 14, 1789 –

American Revolution – July 4, 1776

II. Description of four scientific contributions of the period:

1. Galileo Galilei (The heliocentric theory)
2. Isaac Newton (Gravity, a constant)
3. Antonio de Lavoisier (The conservation of matter)
4. Rousseau and Montesquieu (The theory of separation of powers in government)

III. 1. Biographical facts about VOLTAIRE (exponent of the Enlightenment) :

Voltaire's real name was Francois Marie Arouet (1694-1778). This European was key in promoting ideas of the Enlightenment. One thing that I found particularly interesting about "Voltaire" is that he became well-known as a great writer of the period, inspiring the French Revolution with his writings. His ideas must have been very powerful to have influenced the politics of his time.

Another interesting point about Voltaire is his condemnation of the faults and injustices of the judicial sentences delivered in the cases of Calas, Sirven, and La Barre. Because of this criticism, he was imprisoned in the Bastille because the leaders of the age claimed he had written against the magistrate (1717). His imprisonment shows, in my opinion, that freedom of thought and expression has been attacked around the world. I consider this limitation absurd. It is, in effect, an attack on democracy.

## 2. Biographical facts about DENIS DIDEROT (exponent of the Enlightenment):

From the time he was young, Denis Diderot (1713-1784) was inspired by philosophy and became a great French writer. History acknowledges him as a key figure in the Enlightenment, which was based on the development of science for the benefit of society. This great Enlightenment figure was imprisoned in Vincennes for the publication of a letter in 1749. This letter "on the blind for the use of those who can see" was censured by the authorities as "intellectual debauchery" for its supposedly skeptical tone.

I find this turn of events instructive. Diderot's imprisonment shows once more how authorities were already limiting the freedom of thought and expression. I believe this is a violation of what we now consider to be human rights.

2. Because they did not permit the people to meddle in or give their opinion on government decisions.

## 3. Images and short biography of three kings who were enlightened despots.

Charles III of Spain:

(1734-1759). This monarch was key in the development of better transportation and communication systems (postal service). He ordered the construction of the first highways of the age. In addition, he established the national anthem and flag of Spain, among many other developments for the benefit of Spain.

Frederick II of Prussia:

(1712-1786). Frederick II of Prussia distinguished himself as a young enthusiast of contemporary literature. Frederick the Great took a stand against the military system and was therefore imprisoned for a time. He was a great exponent of enlightened absolutism.

Joseph II of Austria:

(1741-1790). Joseph II of Austria was very refined and cultured for his time. During his reign, he made great changes in government, granting freedom of religion. He abolished slavery in 1781 and pushed a substantial judicial reform through in 1787 that eliminated torture.

#### 4. Positive and negative actions by monarchs sympathetic to the Enlightenment:

Positive actions:

- a. In politics: they enacted government reform.
- b. In the economy: they aided the extension of trade.
- c. In education: they sanctioned the creation of scientific societies.

Negative actions:

Their main error was to prohibit their subjects from having a say in government policy.

#### 5. Living conditions of the French before the revolution

French men and women definitely suffered more than many pre-revolutionary stories would lead you to believe.

History shows that the French people lived in extreme poverty and misery in many aspects of life. There was very poor hygiene in the workplace before the revolution.

And there was not enough food to satisfy the tremendous needs of the people.

In this time, there was no system to defend workers' rights in France. Tired, exploited workers had no champion. Neither did the peasants, who suffered in hunger and misery. The wealthy, in contrast, paid no taxes and lived in great luxury. This contrast provoked unrest among the lower classes in France.

Unrest eventually led to rebellion against the government. Thus it was that revolution stimulated social reform in France. The people of France now enjoy the results of these reforms as citizens of the world.

6. Contributions of the French Revolution still enjoyed today:

- The Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen
- The right of suffrage
- A new relationship between the state and its people

7. The significance of these French contributions:

- First, the value of human rights in all sectors of society is acknowledged: the right to live, to work, to eat, to enjoy oneself, to improve one's situation, and to be happy.
- Second, these changes in France helped to produce modern democracy, which allows all the people to vote for their rulers.
- Third, new legislation made the relationship between the state and its subjects more balanced.



8. Three situations that favored the independence of the United States:

1. The ideology of the French revolution,
- 2.. The spread of Enlightenment ideas, and
3. The desire to establish a perpetual shared identity as an independent people.

9. Establish the continent where the Enlightenment triumphed and the cause(s) of its triumph:

- The Enlightenment was most definitely successful in Europe. It triumphed because the spirit of the Enlightenment inspired the conversion of scientific knowledge into benefits for the general public, The result was true progress.

**TOPIC 4**  
**INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENTS IN LATIN AMERICA**

**TOPIC FOUR EXERCISE**

1. Brief description of historical events:

The independence of Mexico

As most Mexicans surely know, our Mexican republic was made a Spanish colony for approximately three hundred years. Thus, for many years, this territory was governed by Spanish kings and viceroys who scourged Mexican society and established methods of government that drained the Mexican economy. To free our country, Don Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla and Doña Josefa Ortiz de Domínguez, as well as Captains Ignacio Allende and Juan Aldama met in secret to plot an independence movement propelled by themselves and the people of Mexico.

Thus it was that on the morning of September 16, 1810, the Mexican people rebelled against the Spanish crown, instigating violent uprisings against Spain. After taking the town of Valladolid, they turned toward Mexico City. Eventually, they won their independence from Spain. Because of this victory, we now enjoy freedom as an independent country which slowly developed into a more republican and democratic nation.

The formation of the Central American republics:

History notes that at the end of the eighteenth and beginning of the nineteenth centuries, the Bourbon reign in Spain ended. With the Spanish regime preoccupied with internal problems, the American colonies were able to win their independence and transform the politics and society of their territories to eventually become Central American republics. After the formation of these republics in 1821, new political and social ideas developed, leading to the following events.

In 1825, the first president of Guatemala is elected, Manuel José Arce. Because of the complex political instability in this region, war broke out between the Republic of El Salvador and the Republic of Guatemala, with Costa Rica watching on. There was great disagreement between the liberal and conservative politicians of the time. The liberals fought for the separation of church and state while conservatives favored the collaboration of church and state.

The independence of the South American colonies:

It is important to know the reasons that moved the American colonies to fight for their independence because this movement would influence the social, economic, and political environment of the continent.

The main internal causes for the revolution were the displacement of the Creoles and the mercantilist system used by the Spanish government to monopolize the colonies' economy. Among the external causes were the following: the spread of Enlightenment ideas (among which were the use of science for the benefit of the general public), the example of French independence gained through revolution, and, of course, the example of the American Revolution. Finally, with the capital of the Spanish Empire in crisis in 1820 following the rise of the liberal named de Riego, the colonies took advantage of the situation to rebel against Spain.

## 2. REPORT

Title:

TOWARDS AN INDEPENDENT MEXICO?

Reporter: Hector Benavides

September 17th, 1810. It's approximately ten a.m. On a particularly rainy Monday, we find ourselves in downtown Valladolid, where we can observe (as is seen in the picture) a large number of people. They are mostly people of the working class, carrying various farm tools which now serve them as weapons against Spanish authorities in Mexico. For many years, the Spanish Empire has trampled on the rights of these peasants and workers, but they won't

stand for it any longer. Yesterday the people of Mexico declared their independence from Spain. These are scenes from the history of Mexico.

In this image, we can make out Don Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla, carrying the banner of the Virgin of Guadalupe. We can also observe Captains Ignacio Allende and Juan Aldama, among others, whose enthusiasm is contagious. People draw near, especially the peasants, and join their voices in the rallying cry for independence.

#### INTERVIEW WITH DON MIGUEL HIDALGO Y COSTILLA:

Reporter: Don Miguel, what moved you to become the leader of this uprising?

Don Miguel: I believe we, as Mexicans, are sick and tired of the oppression of the Spanish government. We're tired of their prejudices, their manipulation. We're tired of the careless rule of foreigners. While they are around, we will never prosper. While they are here, we will never benefit from the resources of our own land. That is why I am willing to lead this movement for independence, a movement for Mexico.

Reporter: Don Miguel, what are you expecting to accomplish with this movement?

Don Miguel: I hope that we who have begun to fight for our independence will truly fulfill our ideal of a free and just country. I hope that in the future, Mexicans will look back on this moment as the beginning of a better world. I hope that we will not give our lives in vain.

Reporter: Thank you, Don Miguel. Is there anything else you'd like to add?

Don Miguel: I only ask that Mexico never be subjected to intervention, segregation, and

humiliation again.

Reporter: Thank you, Don Miguel.

#### INTERVIEW WITH CAPTAIN IGNACIO ALLENDE:

Reporter: Just one question, Captain Allende.

Allende: Go ahead.

Reporter: Do you believe your military leadership will prove crucial to the success of this combat?

Allende: This isn't about military strategy. It's about the cause of a people who want to end once and for all the years of abuse and atrocities under Spanish rule.

We cannot continue to accept this oppression. I am more and more convinced that we will gain our independence in a victory by the people, for the people.

Reporter: Thank you, Captain Allende.

#### OPINION OF A RESIDENT OF VALLADOLID:

I've lived here in Valladolid for many years with my family—my wife and three daughters. We all work in the fields. It's hard work, and we're at the mercy of the Creoles. They're always telling us to work harder and harder. But they don't pay us enough to live on. It's a real battle to find enough to eat. We're tired of being treated like dirt. We want the Spanish government to treat us right.

We all agree—my neighbors and I—that it's about time someone came along like Don Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla and the other leaders. It's about time someone did something for the people. That's why I'm so glad they've declared the independence of Mexico. We'll support them all the way.

#### OPINION OF A RESIDENT OF MEXICO CITY

My brothers and I work in construction. We build houses and other buildings for the Spanish leaders. And I have to admit they make great plans for their buildings. They have lots of good ideas on how to make life better for themselves. But how does that help us? They don't do

anything to help the people. That's why we all support this effort. We support the leaders who've given themselves to the cause.

I'm glad they've declared the independence of our land. We've always dreamed of peace and freedom. I'm glad we finally have the chance to be independent.

#### PERSONAL REFLECTION OF THE REPORTER ON THE TOPIC:

As a reporter, I will add my opinion clearly and simply. MAN WAS BORN FREE AND SHOULD BE FREE. That's why I believe, as a reporter, that this great historical event in Mexico should serve as one more example to the world that the world should be free. Mankind should be free. Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla, in my opinion, was not mistaken. He and others may have died in this struggle, but I know their death was not in vain. Mexicans will always remember what they did for us every time we enjoy the fruits of their labor, their legacy of love for a free country!

## TOPIC FIVE EXERCISE

### 1. Biographical facts about Napoleon Bonaparte:

Napoleon Bonaparte was born on August 15, 1769, in Ajaccio, Corsica, into a middle-class family with somewhat limited resources. He entered a Paris military school in 1784. His relationship with his father, Carlo Maria Buonaparte, was exceptionally good for that time period. He also had an excellent relationship with his brothers (Joseph Napoleon, Lucian, Louis, and Jérôme) and his sisters (Elisa, Pauline, and Caroline). Napoleon is well known for Nepotism, showing favoritism to his siblings when he looked for kings to place over the countries he vanquished.

2. Napoleon Bonaparte was an intelligent strategist. He was courageous, obstinate, and determined in fulfilling his vision of the world.
3. Befitting his dynamic, socialist personality, Napoleon courted Josephina. He fell in love with her, incidentally, before he gained power. She was five years older than Napoleon.
4. Napoleon's political ideal consisted in establishing a state that would acknowledge its citizens' rights: the right to choose one's profession, the right to private property, the separation of church and state, and the complete destruction of feudalism.
5. Not only did he receive a military education and repeatedly triumph in battle, but he is admired, even today, as a military genius.

### 6. Battles won by Napoleon Bonaparte:

Lodi in 1796

Arcole in 1797

Rivoli in 1797

Alexandria in 1798

Cairo in 1798

Austerlitz in 1805

Battles lost by Napoleon Bonaparte:

Syria in 1799

Trafalgar in 1805

Leipzig in 1813

7. Napoleon Bonaparte demonstrated Nepotism when he named his siblings as the bearers of crowns in these countries:

JOSEPH BONAPARTE- SPAIN

JÉRÔME BONAPARTE- WESTPHALIA

LOUIS BONAPARTE- HOLLAND

ELISA BONAPARTE- TUSCANY

I think that Nepotism is a monopolizing practice that should be forever abolished.

Nepotism has been and is practiced in governments throughout the world.

Rulers should not be allowed to name their family members in positions of government. This practice leads to distrust and corruption. I propose that legislation abolish this practice of disloyalty to the populace.

8. The political environment aided the American colonies in gaining their independence, including Mexico.

9. When Napoleon died on the island of St Helena, there was a trend of political, economic, and social expansionism in Europe.

10. As Enlightenment ideology spread, reaching as far as America, many changes were made in Europe, including the types of government.

11. One of his most important legacies, besides indirectly aiding the independence movements, was the establishment of the Napoleonic Code. This civil code dealt with the separation of church and state, the right to personal property, the right to choose one's profession, among



other matters. (It was an inspiration to America).

12. Sketched maps (showing the world before and after Napoleon's time):

13. My conclusion about the age of Napoleon:

I believe that Napoleon Bonaparte was one of the great men who inspired the French Revolution. The common people of his time were sick and tired of being oppressed by those in power. They didn't have enough to eat, they were mistreated at work, they had no rights, and so on. I would thus categorize the French Revolution as one of the positive events of the period. I conclude that governments should establish and respect the rights of all their people. Only then can we hope to live better, to progress in peace and harmony.

## MODULE 2. EXERCISE ANSWERS

### WORLD CRISES

#### TOPIC 6

### IMPERIALISM

#### TOPIC SIX EXERCISES

1. - Africa, Asia, and Oceania.

2. - Table comparing the conquered region and the European power.

Aspects	Conquered Region	European Power
Economic activities that the population practiced	Agriculture	Economic exploitation of the resources and political control
Conditions in which the people lived:	They lived meagerly, in wooden or stone huts; they wore outfits made of feathers and painted their bodies.	Once the empire made the region a colony, their customs changed: they began to wear robes or long garments, and the economy improved.
Natural resources	Corn, cocoa bean	Raw materials as well as gold, copper, coal, and diamond deposits.
Form of government	Anarchism	Democratic

3. - The advantage held by the Europeans over the conquered regions was the tremendous size and power of their military, as well as their desire to gain control over a country by military, economic, and political force.

4. - The causes are as follows:

Economic	The search for raw materials required by their industries and desire to develop trade
Demographic	The dispersion of the population
Techno- political	In order to control the greatest possible amount of territory
Ideological	The evangelistic mission of the Christian religion
Social Darwinism	The richest and most modern countries supposedly had a right to continue growing in inferior countries
Scientific interest	The wish to investigate, discover, and analyze new species of plants and animals as well as unknown territories
Pressure groups	Pressure by the military to find new fields of operation

5. - Colonization of the subdued regions

Advantages	Disadvantages
Economic development	Slavery
Discovery of new horizons	Loss of indigenous populations
Education	Loss of South American culture

6. - Rewrite history

It would be difficult for a country to develop a positive relationship with a population who are being exploited for the gain of the wealthier country. Imagine you live from day to day; that is, you eat what you hunt or collect and wear the few things you have. You have no interest in exploring your own territory or country. But suddenly, a country with greater economic and military power forces you to change your way of life. You must work for foreigners who take

advantage of you. You notice that the foreign country is made rich by resources that have always been in the domain of your lands. Furthermore, you must learn to communicate in writing. You would surely resent the foreign power. However, if the foreign power were to offer you fair pay for your work and if your country's resources were bought at a fair price, you would probably learn to appreciate the foreign country and develop a sense of loyalty toward its people.

## TOPIC SEVEN EXERCISES

1. - Yes, I spend time with a group of people I consider to be my friends. Since we are approximately the same age, we have similar tastes and interests, such as a desire to better ourselves, to live better, to get a job, to finish our studies, and to continue developing our minds.

2. - Yes, I have gotten upset with others. Everyone has a different way of thinking about things, and it's hard to agree on everything we do. I've felt a variety of emotions, such as irritation; I don't like to get into arguments with others. I've felt embarrassed when I was wrong. I've felt surprised when I've noticed how a simple disagreement can make people behave differently.

### 3. - Blocs of Leading Countries

Blocs	Countries
Triple Alliance	Austria-Hungary, the German Empire, and the Ottoman Empire
Triple Entente	Russia, Great Britain, and France

### 4. - Circumstances that united the countries

a) Political: In case an international conflict should break out

b) Economic: Continental supremacy and a desire to extend their area of influence and effective control across the continent

5. - The relationship that I find between the two is the conflict resulting from the desire to continue obtaining more land (territory) and thus have more raw material at their disposal for industry and, consequently the increase of trade markets. The ultimate goal of obtaining land and resources for industry and trade was to solve their economic, demographic, and political problems.

6. - Order of the events on a timeline, and the president who was ruling our nation at the time:

Venustiano Carranza, 1914 – 1920.

Year	Date	Event
1914		
	June 28	Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife
	July 28	Austria–Hungary declares war
	August 1 – 3	Germany declares war on Russia and France
	August 4	Germany invades Belgium, a neutral country.  Great Britain declares war on Germany
	August	German offensive against Belgium.  Russian offensive against East Prussia, Hindenburg defeats the Russians from Tannenberg
	September	The French army under the command of Joffre stops German progress at the Marne while the eastern front is stalled in trench warfare
	October	Turkey joins the Central Empires

1915		
	February	Fruitless Allied offensive
	May	Italy joins the Allies and attacks Austria-Hungary
	October	Bulgaria joins the Central Empires.  The Allies land on Salonica
	November	Serbia is utterly defeated on the plains of Kosovo Polje
1916		
	February	German offensive in Verdun
	June	Russia occupies Bukovina and the eastern portion of Galicia but suffers huge losses (2 million men) in the prolonged offensive
	July	French and British forces begin the Battle of the Somme
	August	Romania joins the Allies
	December	Lloyd George becomes the prime minister of Great Britain of coalition
1917		
	January 31	Germany begins submarine warfare against merchant ships
	March	The Russian Revolution begins
	April 6	The United States declares

		war on Germany
	October	Germany aids Austria–Hungary in the war on Italy and is victorious in Caporetto
	November	Russia: October Revolution

7. - By the time they had gained their independence, Mexicans had left behind both their indigenous and colonial appearances. It was during this time that reform legislation was implemented as well as the Catholic religion.

The country began to change through industry and technology, and there were efforts to develop a stronger economy.

8. - Zimmermann Telegram

a) If Mexico accepted an alliance with Germany, entering into war against the United States, the German Empire would provide economic help and weapons to take back Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona by force.

b) Yes, since it provided the possibility of recovering territories taken by the United States of America.

c) Carranza refused the offer.

d) In my opinion, it was a poor decision since the German Empire offered not only financial help and joint war but also a mutual peace treaty. The agreement might allow them to reconquer the territories of Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona, although the telegram made no mention of California. It was a good opportunity to join different countries and thus extend their territorial possessions, as well as improving the economy.

9. - The Treaty of Versailles formally ended World War I.

In this treaty, one of the most important and controversial terms stipulated that Germany and its allies accept all moral and material responsibility for the war. The country had to disarm, concede territory to the victors, and pay economic indemnifications to the victorious states. These requirements implied the loss of some 65,000 km of territory and 7 million inhabitants,



the vanquished countries were also restricted in their war and industrial capacity.

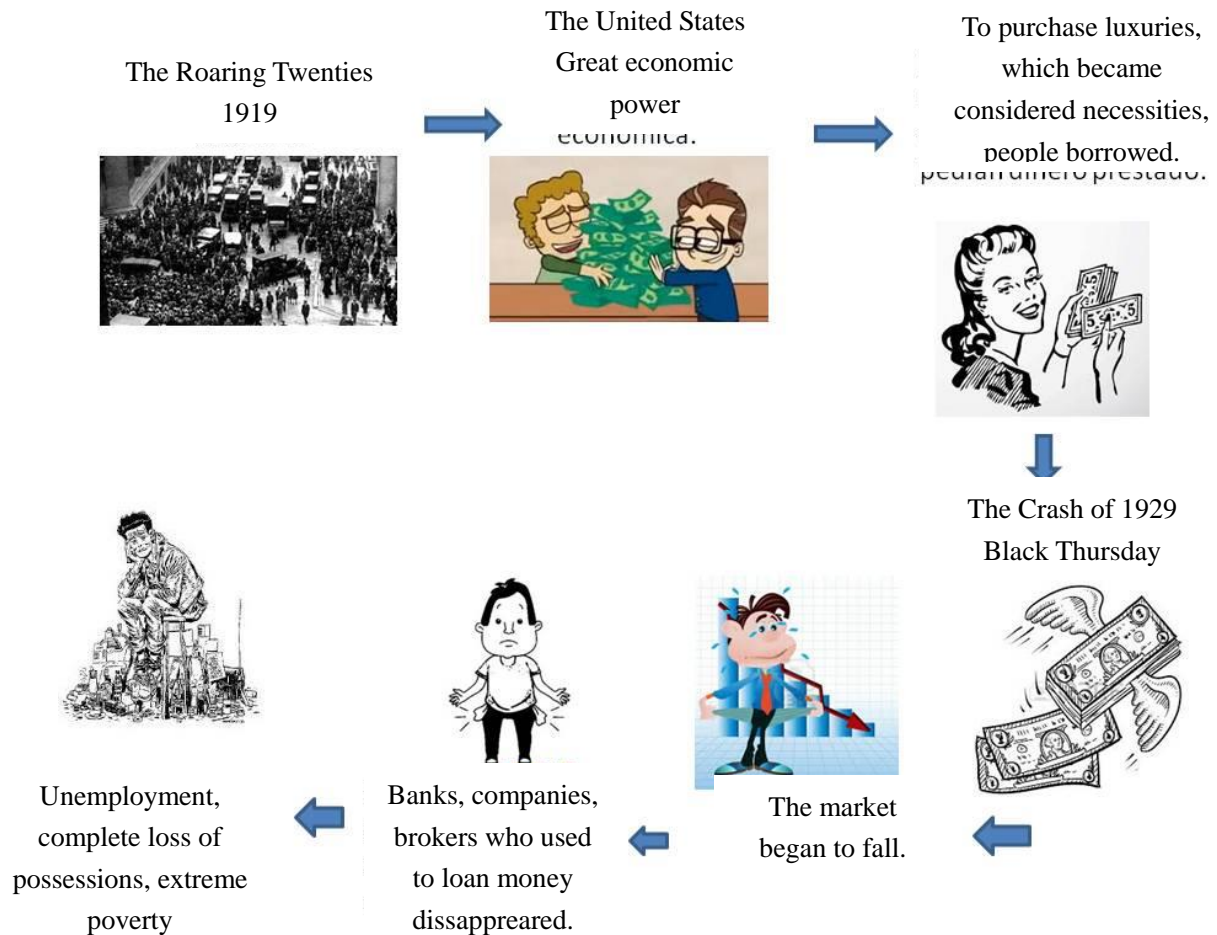
10. - I believe the main cause of war between countries is greed for more money, more territory, and more power. Some countries have more resources to convert into wealth as well as technology in order to take advantage of all their resources. They can therefore be extremely productive and accomplish their main goal of achieving a favorable balance of trade. Since these countries export products or materials that other countries do not have the resources to produce, they are able to obtain greater income. The problem occurs when these countries so rich in production refuse to trade with another country because there is, or was, a disagreement between the two countries.

Some measures to avoid war would be to force the country which can produce some type of material that the other country cannot produce to sell the product, though at a considerable price. There should also be a good relationship between both countries' representatives so that they can dialogue in a calm and civilized manner.

I personally avoid conflict with others by making sure I speak with them appropriately. The key is to listen and to express my thoughts without using a sharp tone of voice which could irritate the person I am talking with. In the case that the other person should raise his or her voice, I would calmly tell him or her that I am speaking calmly and ask that he or she also show me respect.

## THE WORLD BETWEEN WARS

### TOPIC EIGHT EXERCISES



- a) The United States was economically prosperous. There was new technology, such as planes and radio. People acquired luxuries, considering them to be a necessity. People requested greater and greater quantities of money in loans.



b)

- c) Great Britain and its allies were economically drained because of the war.
- d) People optimistically believed that the stock market could rise on its own. Therefore, they borrowed money to invest it.
- e) The result was extreme poverty and loss of jobs.
- f) The effects of the crash extended throughout the world.
- g) The main errors were trusting in investments and getting into debt.

## WORLD WAR II

### TOPIC NINE EXERCISES

1.- The events or situations that were most interesting to me are the following: defeat in World War I, the financial crisis, inflation in the 20s, the rise of both Hitler and Marxism, and consequently, the terrible second world war that would leave Germany in ashes.

2. - After World War I, and the difficult terms of the Treaty of Versailles, Germany's economy suffered a serious crisis, intensified by the effects of the Great Depression. German society reflected terribly high unemployment rates. German politics constantly faced the imposition of postwar reparations. But when Hitler took control of the country before the breakout of World War II, the economy began to recover. Unemployment disappeared; actually, there were more jobs than workers for public works and the development of the military industry (sector industrial military).

3. - Hitler had a very strong personality. He was very sure of himself within his sphere. He could impress people, mesmerize them, and manipulate them with his charismatic personality that enveloped not just a few people but huge crowds.

4. - Hitler's goals:

Germany	Improve the race and take what belonged to Germany.
The world	Recover territory that had been taken away. In addition, he expected to purify the race not just in Germany, but to create a pure Aryan without physical or

	sexual defects.
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5. - An entire nation, as in the case of Germany, was willing to support Hitler's leadership because they wanted to recover the territory they lost in World War I and strengthen their industries.

6. - My opinion on the superiority of the Aryan race is that this way of thinking is unfair for Jewish people. Hitler claimed that to improve the race and avoid physical or sexual "problems," it was necessary to prevent the blending of Jews and Germans because it supposedly polluted the pure race.

7. - He referred to control of all of Europe, where he could then apply his policy of ethnic cleansing, as well as his economic and political ideas.

8. - During most of the conflict, the president was Franklin D. Roosevelt. But he died near the end of the war.

- He was the only person in the history of the US to win four presidential elections.

- When he became the president of the United States, the nation was suffering a great crisis.

- He had the confidence of a fighter.

- He dedicated many hours to the development of the United Nations.

9. - Martin Luther King, Jr.

10.-

Characteristics	Hitler's	Roosevelt's	Positive Leader
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	Leadership	Leadership	
Concept of human rights	Insensitivity, destructive tendencies	Lasting peace	Fought for the human rights of the oppressed
Ideas that promote healthy cooperativeness	Improving the race	Confidence of a fighter	Elimination of racism
Economic proposals for the well-being of a nation (capacity to negotiate)	Recover territories that were taken away	He talked with Stalin to arrive at an agreement to end the war	He promoted his ideas in his "I have a dream" speech.
Demonstration of human values	Servant to the nation	He expected victory to create a context for lasting peace	He received a Nobel Peace Prize.
Legacy (contribution to a nation or to humanity)	Ideal of productive labor	He dedicated much time to the development of the UN.	His body disappeared, but his soul, way of thinking, and example guide the oppressed to the practice of and respect for human rights.

**UNIVERSIDAD TECMILENIO**  
**COURSE**

**CONTEMPORARY WORLD**  
**Solutions to Module 3 Exercises**

**TOPIC 11**

**1. – Basic Concepts**

S o c i a l i s m	a system based on economic and social organization where the means of production form part of a collective patrimony
C a p i t a l i s m	a socioeconomic system in which the means of production and distribution are private property with lucrative means.
T h e C o l d W a r	was the rivalry between two major powers that dominated the world after the second World War.
B i p o l a r i s m	two contradicting systems: capitalism and the Soviet system.

**2.- Motive for Rivalry.**

The Soviet Union wanted to spread its ideology throughout the world, which alarmed the Americans who hated this political system. The acquisition of atomic weapons by the Americans alarmed the Soviets. The American President held a personal disagreement against the Russian President, Josef Stalin.

**3.- Economic and Technological Superiority.**

4.- The stage of the principal conflicts in Central and Eastern Europe established a long series of communist dictators and Germany was divided into two antagonistic States. In the far East, the great giant China was part of the communist band and the Korean War led to the first armed conflict of the Cold War.

**5.- Influential spheres of the Soviets and the Americans.**

6.- The Vietnam War, 1959-1975, between 3 and 5 million deaths; and the Korean War, 1950-1953, between 2 and 4 million deaths.



7.- On account of the Cold War that both countries were engaged in, the Soviet Union prompted uniformity amongst its inhabitants while the United States celebrated diversity and free elections. While the Soviet Union rigidly controlled its economy, the United States promoted a free market and consumerism. The world found itself virtually divided between two very different ways of life.

8.- in the battle fields, more than one million soldiers and four hundred civilians died. It was a war without victors; both sides had lost. To conclude, the battle against communism in Southeast Asia was the greatest political and military error in the history of the United States. Retreating from this defeat, the USA lost some 90,000 men, received back at home thousands of men mutilated in the war, with post-war syndrome and South Vietnam was in the hands of the communists.

9.- Areas reflected in the Cold War.

Art: The atomic bomb that exploded like a giant and poisonous mushroom in the Bikini Atoll in 1946 jilted not only geopolitics but also the arts.



Aeronautics:

Sports: During this period, the Olympic games reflected the fierce competition between the two superpowers; the act of one winning over the other as a demonstration of superiority.

10.- The present relations between Russia and the USA, began approximately in September of 2014 where there would exist a new beginning of relations with Washington, in sustaining that the situation with the Ukraine that led the East to impose sanctions against Russia is improving thanks to the peace initiatives of the Kremlin.

11.- The Cold War was a conflict that continued between 1947 and 1991 with its main protagonists being the United States of America and the Soviet Socialist Republic, and which divided the world into two blocks: west and east. These two blocks were well defined and were complete opposites in the fields of ideology, politics, military and, most markedly, the economic camp. In conclusion, the consequences that were lived or are still being lived on account of the Cold War are that the world transitioned from being bipolar to unipolar. Since then, the influence of the United States of America in economic and political manners across the world are without rival. On the other hand, one aspect of these consequences is also the experiences lived in the Vietnam and Korean wars which provided a lesson in non-intervention and respect for national sovereignty. It is also worth noting that in the present world scene, China as well as economic blocks formed in Europe are profiled as new superpowers that could change the world scene in the future.

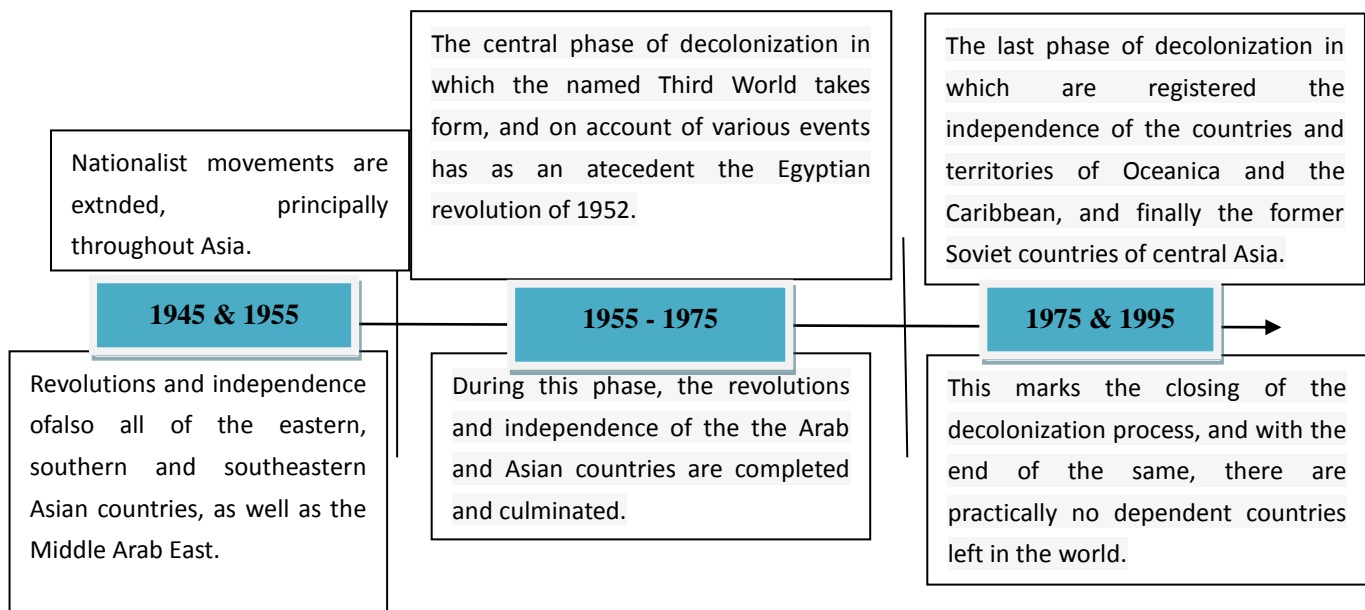
12.- Reflection.

We cannot ignore human emotion and the sensation of injustice. The truth is that each person, as well as each nation, has its own view of how things are and how they

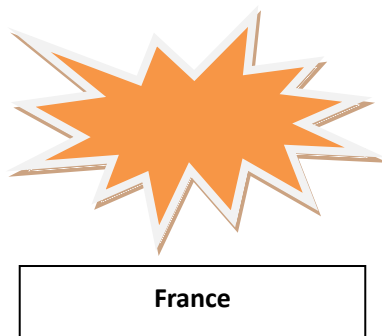
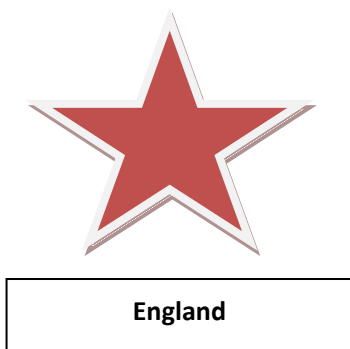
should be. But the root is the need to employ the respect that we each owe the other in spite of our differences, in such a way that violence is never an option. On the other hand, the applications of principles such as dialogue, forgiveness, consideration and the proposing of alternative solutions should give place to another panorama in international relations as well as human ones.

## TOPIC 12 EXERCISE

### 1.- Timeline.



### 2.-



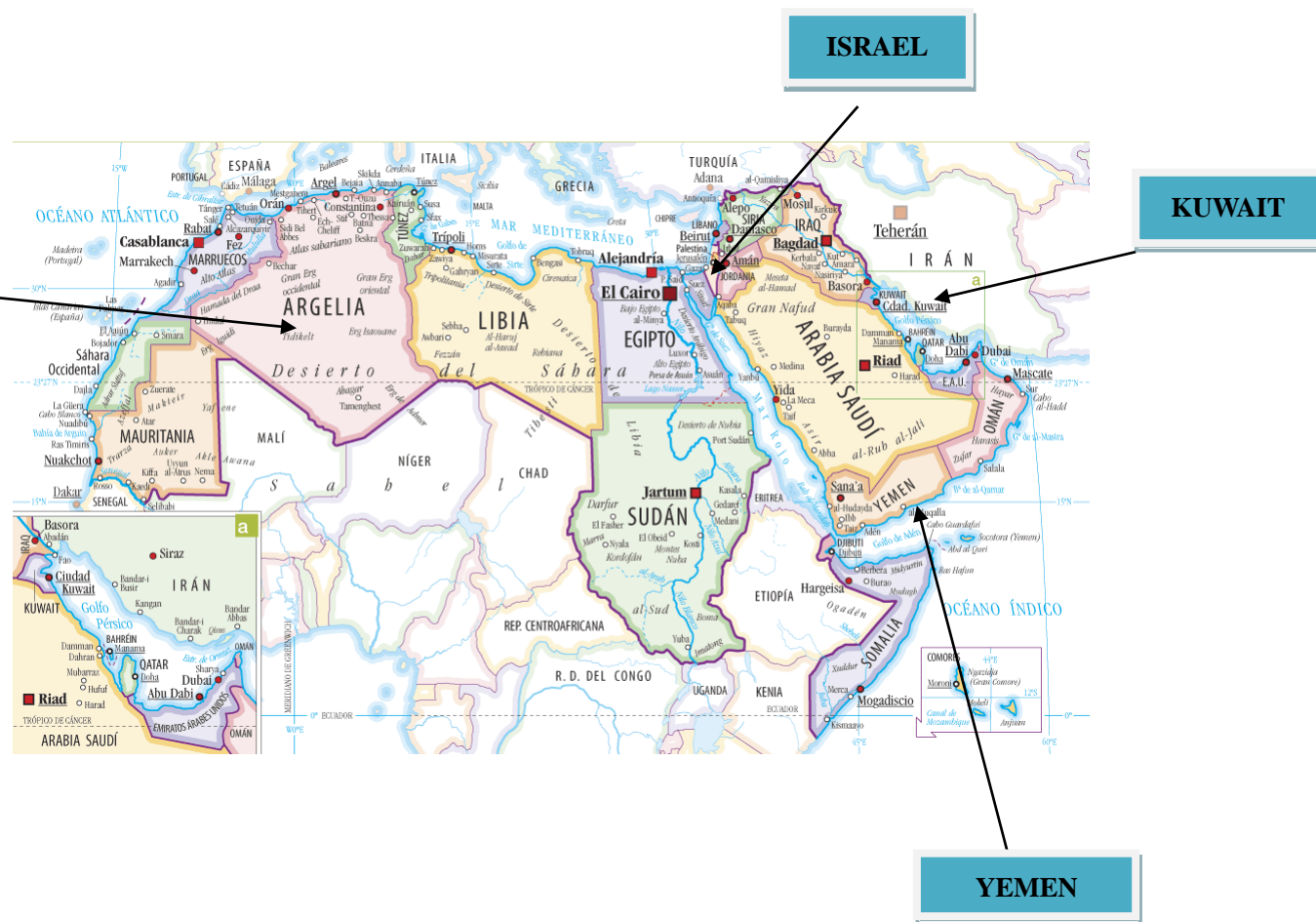
3.- The group of countries that refused to take sides in the Cold War, opting for neutrality, peace and economic moderation, and thus by definition formed part of the Third World.

4.-

Kuwait – Since July 20th, 1961

Algeria - Since August 16th, 1962

Yemen - 1967-1990 (fusion of Yemen with the North)



5.- Israel again becomes a nation on May 4th, 1948.

## 6.- Conflicts.

Date	Name of the Conflict	Motive	Result
1967	Six-Day War	Israel defends its borders.	Egypt loses power to the Arabs
1973	The War of Yom Kippur	Egypt initiates a war against Israel in an attempt to dissolve its confidence and dignity.	Both countries signed the Camp David Treaty, which re-established peace between Cairo and Tel Aviv and also included the returning of the Sinai to Egypt.

## 7.- That you have to defend yourself day after day.

## TOPIC 13

1. Imagine being a tour guide.
2. Tour.



- Upon the end of World War II, Berlin ended up divided on account of the division in Germany. Poor relations between the communists and the allied states continued to increase up to the point of the creation of two currencies, political ideologies, two Germanys. When they began to take note of the loss of the people that were suffering, the leaders of the Former Democratic German Republic (FDGR) on August 13th, 1961 decided to build a concrete wall 166 kilometres long and four kilometres high in order to divide the city of Berlin.

The official objective: To protect the people of the former German Republic against the attacks of western fascists. The real objective, however, was another: to impede the escape of thousands of citizens not conformed with the communist regime imposed by the Soviet Union.

During the twenty-eight years that the wall stood, more than five thousand people attempted to escape. More than one hundred died in the attempt. Many were murdered by the border guards of the FDGR. On November 9th of 1989, at approximately 7:00pm, the leader of the Eastern Berlin Communist party, Gunter Schabowski, announced that a part of the wall would be opened for "private trips to the other side."

Finally, on July 1st, 1990, Eastern and Western Germany were united, assuming Eastern Germany's former name, The Federal Republic of Germany.



- The period between 1945 – 1955: The period in which existed the greatest tensions, in that in this period were established the two blocks and the superpowers intended to amplify their respective areas of influence. Various happenings can be identified during this period:

The division of Germany into two States (1948): The Federal German Republic (FGR), influenced by the United States, and the German Democratic Republic (GDR), influenced by the Soviet Union.

- The errors of the leaders.

Leonid Brezhnev	Ordered the invasion of Afghanistan as a Soviet exercise and, thus, impeding the collapse of the communist regime.
Yuri Andropov	Health problems kept him away from political activity and he died without having accomplished any major reforms.
Konstantin Chernenko	Looses his career as Secretary General before Yuri Andropov.

- Politics of Mikhail Gorbachev.

When Mikhail Gorbachev was elected Secretary General and became the supreme Soviet ruler, Perestroika had already been designed, but it was not until the central committee of PCUS that it was decided to put it into practice in order to rescue the country from its grave economic crisis and to spurn development.

Its objective was to convert the system that was centrally operated to a less centralized one, and to adopt a more modern market, by which it was permitted a certain local autonomy, and to develop a special program to modernize the engineering industry and the economic operating models that had been neglected.

- The fall of the Berlin wall: German unification.

The political and social events during the years 1989 and 1990 in Germany, that concluded with the adhesion of the Former Democratic Republic of Germany (DRG) under the jurisdiction of the Federal German Republic (FGR) creating one unified Germany.

-The first consequence was the reunification of Germany. The Federal Republic of Germany converted into an economic power that surpassed France and Great Britain. The reunification also allowed for the reunion of families and friends that had been separated for a long time. It also created numerous social and economic problems such as housing shortages, strikes and demonstrations, unemployment, an increase in delinquency and violence on behalf of the far right wing towards foreigners.

- The majority of the times the government makes decisions for "betterment," but it does not always turn out that way, to the extent that it can have a great affect on the economy as well as the citizens who reside in the nation.



## TOPIC 14

1.- Radio Talk show Simulation.

2.- Hello and good afternoon to all my listeners out there. My name is Ana Salazar. Today we have received very important information so be sure to stick around.

On August 2, 1990, the President and Dictator of Iraq decided to invade in unilateral fashion its neighbouring Kuwait. The United States immediately and decisively, consistent with its vigilance over international rights and in defence of the sovereignty and independence of Kuwait, an international recognized country that was unjustly aggravated and invaded, and later occupied and annexed by its invader, as well as economically, in order to maintain control over the petroleum of the region. As we can recall, the United States assumes leadership in international relations on account of its great power.

The President of Iraq, Saddam Hussein, decided to invade Kuwait. Iraqi troops crossed the border and quickly gained control over the small country, occupying its principal military and government installations. This act was denounced in the United Nations, where severe economic sanctions were imposed. In spite of all of this, Hussein continued on with the attacks and, therefore, the UN decided to approve a military operation consisting of 34 countries led by the United States, whose President is George Bush, to liberate Kuwait and expulse the occupying troops.

There was a total of 34 countries that formed part of the UN organized coalition: Argentina, Saudi Arabia, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Canada, Czechoslovakia, South Korea, Denmark, Egypt, The United Arab Emirates, Spain, the United States, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Kuwait, Morocco, Nederland, Niger, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Portugal, Catar, United Kingdom, Senegal and Syria.

At this moment, the battle continues and the balance seems to lean in favour of the coalition, although Hussein is yet to recognize his defeat.

We thank you for your choosing to listen to our show and we will keep you informed in the next segment. Have an excellent evening.