



Traveling in Time

How long ago was that?

Number lines help you compare numbers and visualize how far apart they are.

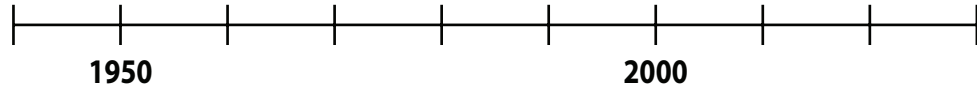
In this lesson you will use a number line to travel back and forth in time.

Thinking about 1's, 10's, 100's and 1,000's makes counting and comparing easier, and you can do this in your head. Comparing numbers can save you time and money, help you make decisions, and increase your skill at choosing the right answers on a test.

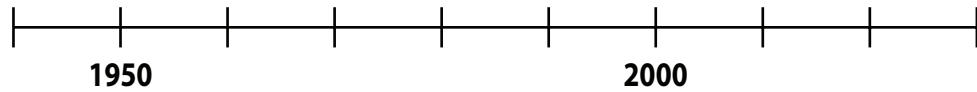


Activity 1: Birthday Numbers

1. Use the following number line to find the birth year of someone 46 years old today. Then write down, step by step, what you did in your head.

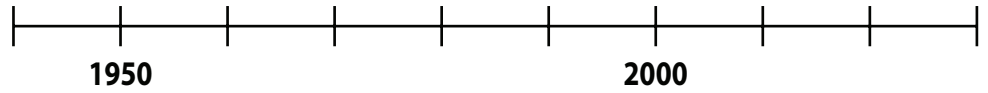


2. a. Use the number line to find the birth year of someone 38 years old today. Then write down your steps.

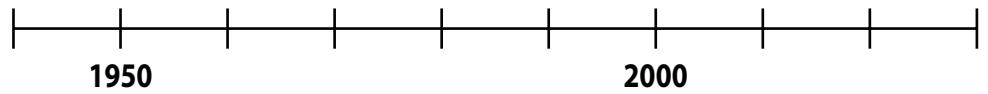


- b. How could using the answer to Problem 1 help you solve Problem 2?

3. Use the number line to determine the age of a person born in 1949. Write down your steps.



4. Use the number line to show your age. Write down your steps.





Activity 2: How Long Ago?

Below you can read about events that had a huge effect on United States history. Use the dates and number lines to figure out how long ago the event took place.

Choose three events. Using the number lines provided,

- Fill in the missing numbers;
- Label the year of the event you chose and the current year;
- Find the **difference** in years between the event and the current year;
- Write an equation (or equations) that show(s) what you did.
- Then read on for more information.

1. 1861—United States Civil War Starts

The North (the Union) fought the South (the Confederacy) over states' rights and the right to own slaves.

a.



- b. The U.S. Civil War started _____ years ago.
- c. Equation(s) for my method of solving the problem:

2. 1903—First Flight

The Wright Brothers flew the first plane in Kittyhawk, North Carolina. They built the plane and its engine in their bicycle shop. They flew three times that first day. On the first day, their third and final flight went a distance of 852 feet and lasted 59 seconds.

a.



- b. The first powered flight was _____ years ago.
- c. Equation(s) for my method of solving the problem:

3. 1906—San Francisco Earthquake

In San Francisco, California, an earthquake killed more than 500 people. It caused a huge fire which destroyed homes and stores across the entire city.

a.



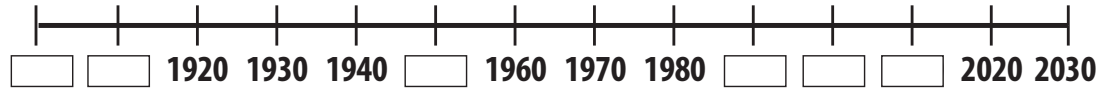
b. The San Francisco Earthquake occurred _____ years ago.

c. Equation(s) for my method of solving the problem:

4. 1918—The Great Flu Epidemic

A deadly flu epidemic swept across the United States, killing 500,000 Americans, young and old, and millions around the world.

a.



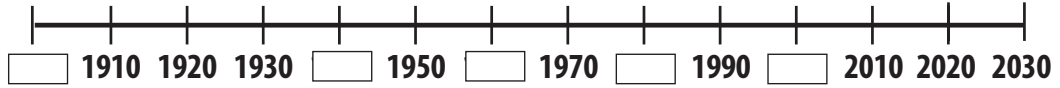
b. The Great Flu Epidemic took place _____ years ago.

c. Equation(s) for my method of solving the problem:

5. 1920—Women Granted the Right to Vote

The 19th Amendment to the Constitution passed, giving women over the age of 21 the right to vote. The 15th Amendment giving black men the right to vote was enacted in 1870.

a.



b. Women were granted the right to vote _____ years ago.

c. Equation(s) for my method of solving the problem:

6. 1929—The Stock Market Crash

The United States stock market crashed on October 29, 1929. People were making deals with no money to back them up. The crash caused banks and businesses to fail. Millions of people were put out of work. It was the beginning of the Great Depression.

a.



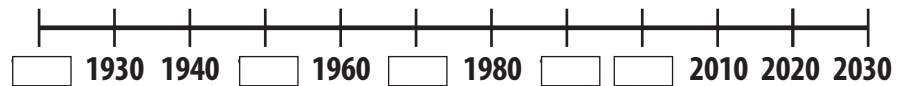
b. The stock market crash occurred _____ years ago.

c. Equation(s) for my method of solving the problem:

7. 1935—The “Dust Bowl”

In 1935, after years of little or no rain, the farmland in the central part of the United States turned to dust. On a day called Black Sunday, a strong wind blew the dust into gigantic black clouds of dirt that covered everything, turning day into night. With their farms ruined, many farmers and their families took what little they had and left their land. Many ended up in California, where millions of people with no jobs lined up every day in soup lines for something to eat.

a.



b. Black Sunday happened _____ years ago.

c. Equation(s) for my method of solving the problem:

8. 1945—World War II Ends

World War II began in 1939, when Germany, led by Hitler, invaded other countries in Europe. The dictators in Italy and Japan joined forces with Hitler; Britain and France declared war on Germany. Before the war was over, 25 countries across the world, including the United States, were involved. More than 52 million people died in fighting, in concentration camps, and from atomic bombs dropped on Japan. The war ended in 1945, when Germany and Japan surrendered.

a.



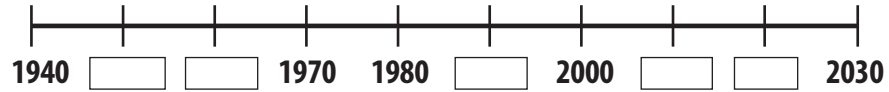
b. World War II ended _____ years ago.

c. Equation(s) for my method of solving the problem:

9. 1957—Soviets Launch Sputnik

The Soviet Union sent the first satellite, named Sputnik, into space. Sputnik was the size of a basketball and circled Earth every 98 minutes. From Earth, you could see it crossing the sky. Sputnik collected information about space and sent it back to Earth.

a.



b. Sputnik was launched _____ years ago.

c. Equation(s) for my method of solving the problem:

10. 1963—President John F. Kennedy Assassinated

John F. Kennedy, the 34th President of the United States, was shot and killed in Dallas, Texas. (The next day, his supposed assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald, was shot and killed by a visitor to the jail where Oswald was being held.)

a.



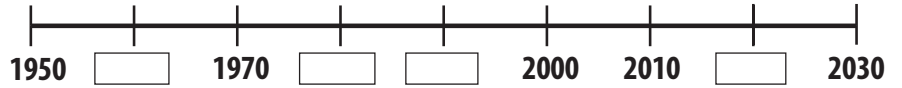
b. President Kennedy was shot and killed _____ years ago.

c. Equation(s) for my method of solving the problem:

11. 1964—Civil Rights Act Passed

Discrimination on the basis of race, creed (religion or beliefs), or country of origin was outlawed by the U.S. federal government in 1964.

a.



b. The Civil Rights Act became law _____ years ago.

c. Equation(s) for my method of solving the problem:

12. 1975—The Vietnam War Ends

The United States traveled across the world to fight a war in Vietnam to stop the spread of Communism. The war became very unpopular; thousands of people thought the United States should not have interfered. For the first time in history, public opinion caused the United States to withdraw from a war.

a.



b. The Vietnam War ended _____ years ago.

c. Equation(s) for my method of solving the problem: