# Linking Past to Present

***What changes since 1914 have shaped how we live today?***

## PREVIEW

Think about events in your life that have shaped how you think and behave today. Perhaps your grandfather took you to baseball games when you were young, and now you love to play baseball. Or maybe you often visited the zoo with your parents, and now you hope to become a veterinarian.

Choose one event that happened to you before you entered middle school, and explain how it is connected to some event or situation in your life today.

## READING NOTES

**Social Studies Vocabulary**

As you complete the Reading Notes, use these terms in your answers.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| feminist | globalization | knowledge worker |
| mass media | service sector | communism |

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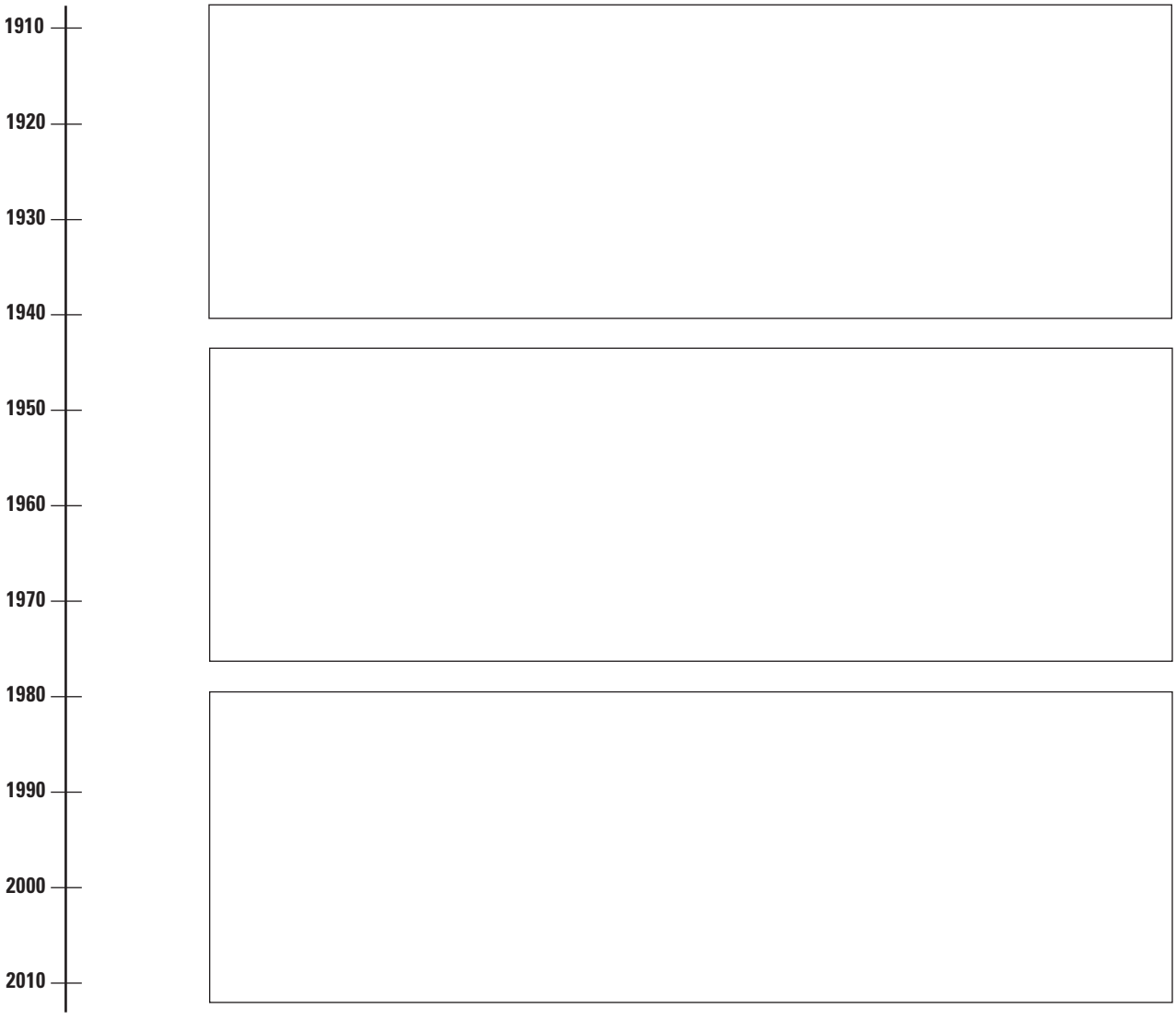
## Section 1

1. Choose three events from Section 1 that you believe have most shaped how we live today. Label those events on the timeline below, along with the date and a one-sentence summary of each event. Also draw a simple illustration to represent each event. Finally, draw a line from each event to the correct place on the timeline.




2. Write a few sentences that explain how one of the events on your timeline has shaped how we live today. Use evidence to support your argument.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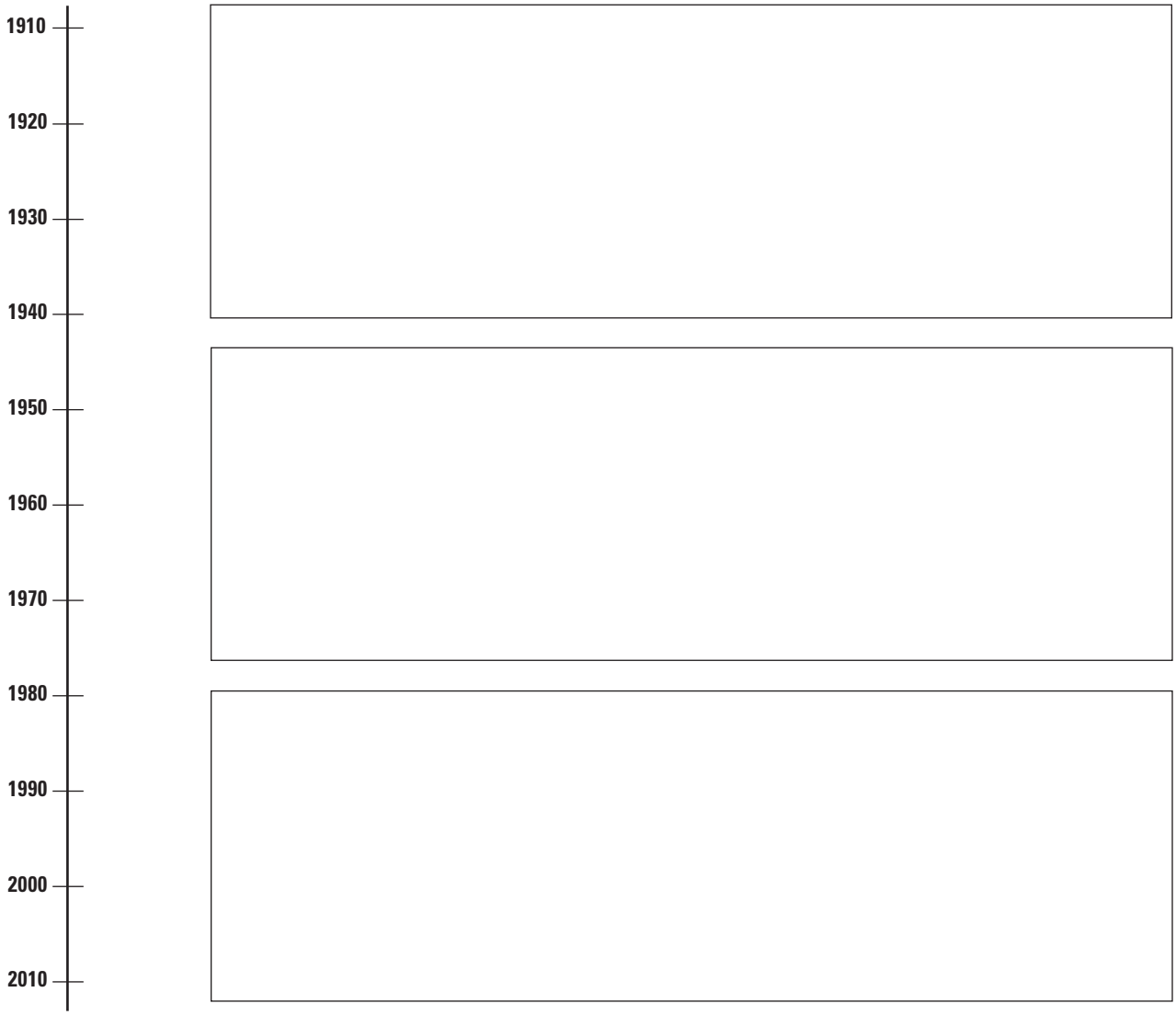
## Section 2

1. Choose three events from Section 2 that you believe have most shaped how we live today. Label them on the timeline below. Include the date, a one-sentence summary, and an illustration for each event. Draw a line from the event to the correct place on the timeline.




2. Write a few sentences that explain how one of the events on your timeline has shaped how we live today. Use evidence to support your argument.

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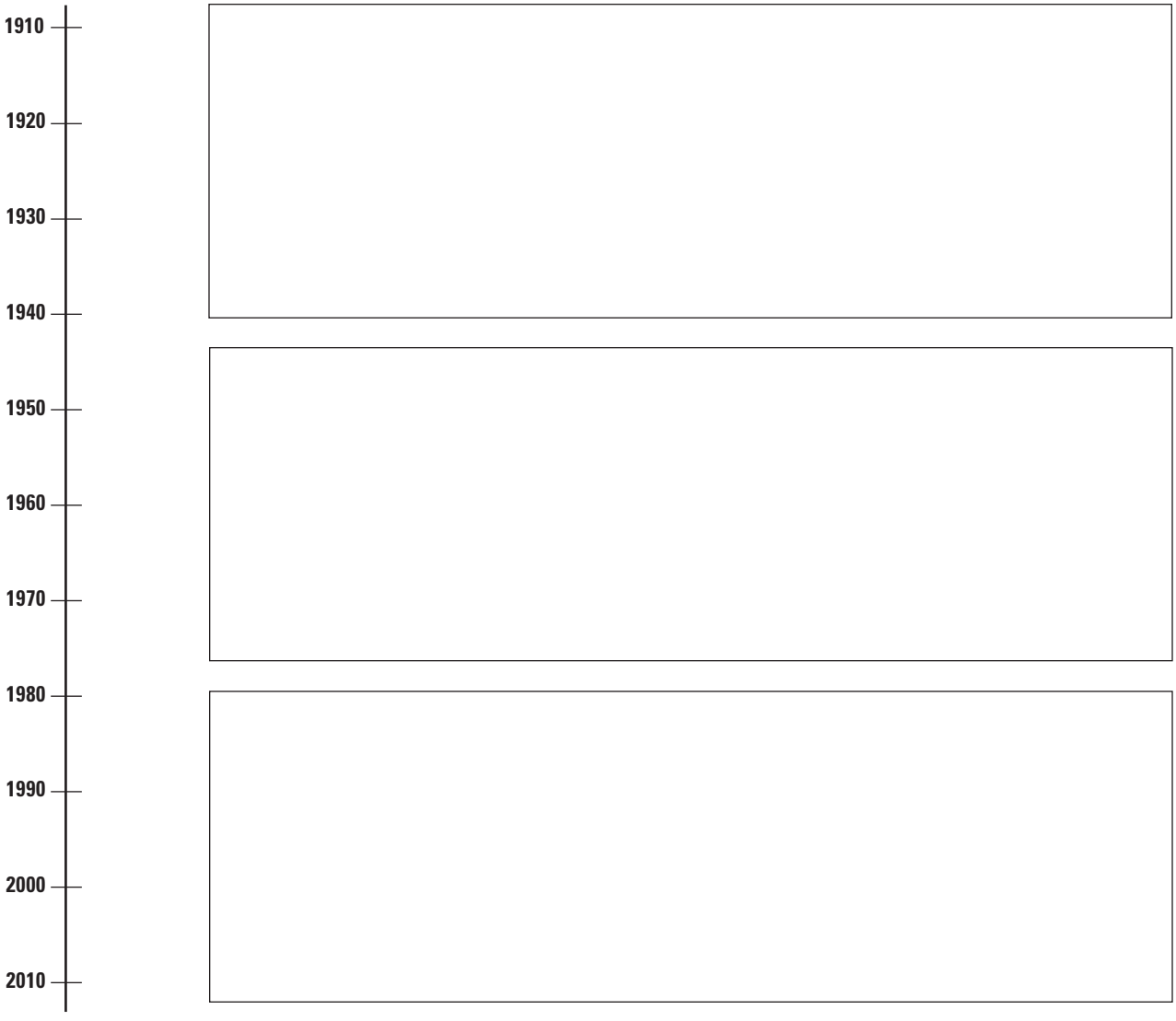
## Section 3

1. Choose three events from Section 3 that you believe have most shaped how we live today. Label them on the timeline below. Include the date, a one-sentence summary, and an illustration for each event. Draw a line from the event to the correct place on the timeline.




2. Write a few sentences that explain how one of the events on your timeline has shaped how we live today. Use evidence to support your argument.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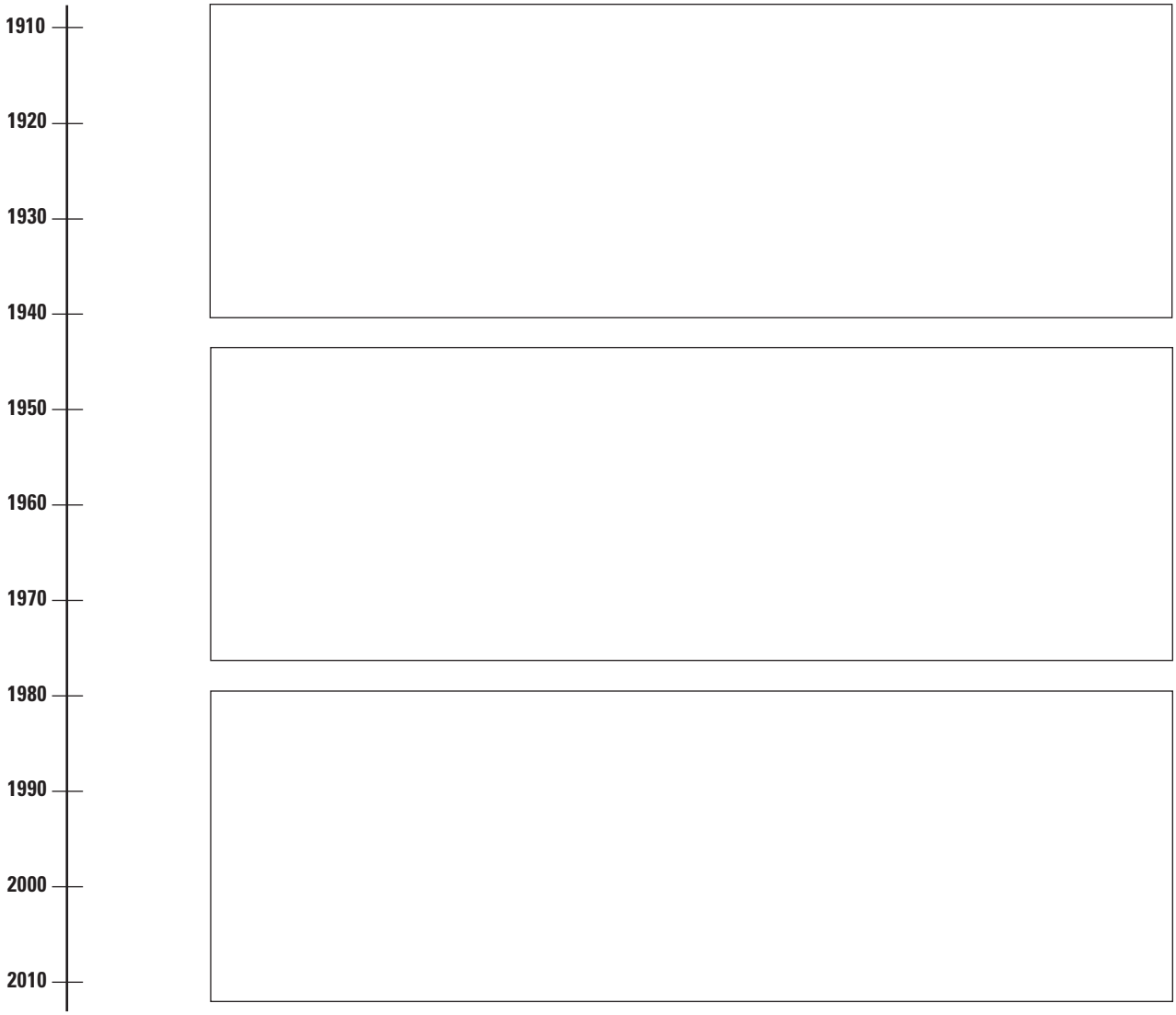
## Section 4

1. Choose three events from Section 4 that you believe have most shaped how we live today. Label them on the timeline below. Include the date, a one-sentence summary, and an illustration for each event. Draw a line from the event to the correct place on the timeline.




2. Write a few sentences that explain how one of the events on your timeline has shaped how we live today. Use evidence to support your argument.

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## PROCESSING

Interview one of the oldest, most interesting people you know and create a timeline of events that have shaped that person's life.

- Share some of the events from this lesson with your interviewee. Ask him or her to describe any of these events that he or she lived through.
- Have your interviewee identify the three historic events that had the greatest effect on his or her life.
- Ask the person to describe how these events have shaped his or her life.
- After the interview, place those three events on the timeline below. Include the date, a one-sentence summary, and an illustration for each event. Draw a line from each event to the correct place on the timeline.
- *On a separate sheet of paper,* write a short, three-paragraph essay explaining how each of the three events shaped your interviewee's life.

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READING FURTHER

## Preparing to Write: Analyzing Arguments

Rachel Carson and Norman Borlaug represent two very different positions in the debate over protecting our planet and feeding its population. Around the world, people continue to wrestle with the same questions. Fill in the chart to organize the ideas behind the arguments.

| | **Position on Protecting the Environment** | **Position on Feeding the Population** |
|---|---|---|
| **Rachel Carson** | | |
| **Norman Borlaug** | | |
| **Agribusiness Companies** | | |
| **Organic Farmers** | | |

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## Writing Debate Arguments

Take a position in the debate about this question: *Can people balance feeding the population with protecting the environment?* Write three arguments for your position. If your position is "yes," argue how people can achieve this balance. If your position is "no," argue why people cannot achieve this balance.

Use this rubric to evaluate your arguments. Make changes in your arguments if you need to.

| Score | Description |
|---|---|
| 3 | The three arguments address the debate question directly. The arguments are convincing. There are no spelling or grammar errors. |
| 2 | The arguments address the debate question. There are few spelling or grammar errors. |
| 1 | The arguments do not address the debate question. They are not convincing. There are many spelling or grammar errors. |


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