

Read Naturally Live

Level 8.0

Paired Story Comparison Questions

Sputnik and the Space Race & Mir Space Station

1. Both Sputnik and Mir were firsts in outer space. What did Sputnik prove for the first time? What did Mir prove for the first time?
2. Do you think the United States and Russia had a better relationship when Mir was in orbit than when Sputnik was in orbit? Give evidence from the stories to support your answer.
3. How long did Russia support both the Mir Space Station and the International Space Station?

Cuban Missile Crisis & Greenbrier Bunker

1. At what point in the Cuban Missile Crisis did documents probably start to arrive at the Greenbrier bunker? Give details from both stories to support your answer.
2. How did the Cuban Missile Crisis justify the existence of the Greenbrier bunker?
3. Based on information in both stories, what events could have happened in the Cuban Missile Crisis that would have resulted in the Greenbrier bunker fulfilling its purpose? Use examples from the stories.

Leonardo da Vinci & Michelangelo

1. Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo lived during the Renaissance, but what made them both true Renaissance men, regardless of when they lived?
2. How did the Renaissance affect both Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo?
3. Both Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo were interested in the human body. How did each man use his artistic abilities to pursue this interest?

Watergate & What Is Impeachment?

1. Imagine that Nixon did not resign. Using information from both stories, what steps could have been taken against him, and what role would each house of Congress have played in that process?
2. Would impeachment and dismissal from office have been appropriate for Nixon had he not resigned? Use information from both stories to support your answer.

3. What group investigated the possibility of beginning impeachment proceedings against Presidents Nixon and Johnson? How did this group become aware that potentially impeachable offenses had taken place?

Dolly the Cloned Sheep & The Cloning Controversy

1. Use information from both stories to explain why some people were appalled by scientists' success in cloning Dolly.
2. Why might Dolly's death have enhanced the arguments made by those against cloning?
3. What "additional advances" might people have envisioned after the success of cloning Dolly?

Indira Gandhi & King George VI

1. Which leader, Indira Gandhi or King George VI, do you think seemed more suited to leadership before coming to power and why? Give details from the stories to support your answer.
2. The story about Indira Gandhi talked about unrest in her country throughout her youth, while King George VI's country faced turbulence during his time as king. Compare and contrast the situations in the two countries.
3. King George VI and Indira Gandhi were both leaders of large nations. How were these two people like each other? How were they different?

The Great Depression & Franklin Delano Roosevelt

1. How do you think that Roosevelt's attitude and openness to change affected Americans during the Great Depression?
2. FDR assured people that "the only thing we have to fear is fear itself." Explain how fear might have contributed to the Great Depression.
3. How might FDR's New Deal measures have helped America during the Great Depression?

Some Dumb Laws & The Making of a U.S. Law

1. Why is it surprising that so many dumb laws have been passed? Use information from both stories to support your answer.

2. Who voted on the laws mentioned in the Some Dumb Laws story—the U.S. Congress or local and state governments? How do you know?
3. Why do you think some laws are made at a local or state level, while others are made at a national level? Use information from both stories to explain your answer.

Polio & The Iron Lung

1. The first person to use the iron lung was an 8-year-old girl who had polio. How had polio paralyzed her breathing muscles, and what did the iron lung do to help her?
2. Why did the iron lung continue to be necessary even after the development of the polio vaccine?
3. Which do you think was more effective in relieving fear of polio: the polio vaccine or the iron lung? Use information from both stories to explain your answer.

Attack on Pearl Harbor & Dawn of the Atomic Age

1. In some ways, Pearl Harbor was the beginning of U.S. involvement in World War II, and Hiroshima was the end. Which attack caused more devastation? Give details to support your answer.
2. Compare Japan's purpose in bombing Pearl Harbor to the United States' purpose in bombing Hiroshima. What did each side hope to achieve with its strategy?
3. How were the attacks on Pearl Harbor and Hiroshima different? How were they similar?

A 14th-Century Disaster & The Pandemic of 1918–1919

1. How was the plague epidemic of the 14th century similar to the influenza epidemic of the 20th century?
2. For each epidemic, how did people's actions contribute to the spread of the disease?
3. Use information from both stories to explain the impact pandemics can have on the world.

Albert Einstein & Stephen Hawking

1. What obstacles did Albert Einstein and Stephen Hawking face in their careers? Why is it important that these scientists overcame their obstacles?
2. How was each scientist slow to show his brilliance?
3. In what ways might Hawking have benefited from Einstein's work?

Read Naturally Live

Level 8.0

Additional Comparison Questions

Sputnik and the Space Race & Cuban Missile Crisis

Sputnik was launched in 1957. The Cuban Missile Crisis occurred five years later. How did the launch of Sputnik contribute to the political climate that gave rise to the Cuban Missile Crisis?

Sputnik and the Space Race, Cuban Missile Crisis & Mir Space Station

Based on what you learned about the space race and the Cold War in the Sputnik and Cuban Missile Crisis stories, explain the political significance of Mir's replacement, the International Space Station.

Sputnik and the Space Race, Cuban Missile Crisis & Greenbrier Bunker

The launch of Sputnik, the Cuban Missile Crisis, and the construction of the Greenbrier bunker all took place during the Cold War era. What was the nature of the relationship between the Soviet Union and the United States during the Cold War era? How do you think the citizens of these two countries must have felt during this time period? How did the Cold War affect their lives?

Cuban Missile Crisis & Dawn of the Atomic Age

The Cuban Missile Crisis and the attack on Hiroshima are similar in that both situations involved nuclear weapons. How did these two situations differ?

Greenbrier Bunker & Dawn of the Atomic Age

How might the United States' experience in developing and using the atomic bomb have affected the decision to build the Greenbrier bunker and/or the design of the bunker?

Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo & Albert Einstein

The Michelangelo and Leonardo da Vinci stories discuss the idea of a Renaissance man. Based on the information in the story, might people consider Einstein a Renaissance man as well? Why or why not?

What Is Impeachment? & Indira Gandhi

If Indian law included an impeachment process like the one in the United States, could Indira Gandhi have faced impeachment? Why or why not?

Dolly the Cloned Sheep, The Cloning Controversy & The Iron Lung

Both Ian Wilmut and Philip Drinker made significant scientific contributions. In what ways were their contributions similar? In what ways were they different? Why was Wilmut's work so much more controversial than Drinker's? Do you think that anything about Drinker's work could bother the people that are bothered by Wilmut's work?

Franklin Delano Roosevelt & Polio

How, specifically, did polio attack FDR's body?

Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Polio & Stephen Hawking

If FDR had suffered from the same illness that afflicted Hawking, do you think he could still have served as President? Use information from the stories to support your answer.

Polio, A 14th-Century Disaster & The Pandemic of 1918–1919

These stories all discuss serious epidemics. How were these epidemics similar? How were they different?

Dawn of the Atomic Age & Albert Einstein

What did Albert Einstein have to do with what happened at Hiroshima? Do you think Einstein agreed with Truman's decision to use an atomic weapon? Use information from the stories to support your answer.

Read Naturally Live

Level 8.0

Answer Key for Paired Story Comparison Questions

Note: The Answer Key may not include all possible answers.

Sputnik and the Space Race & Mir Space Station

1. *Both Sputnik and Mir were firsts in outer space. What did Sputnik prove for the first time? What did Mir prove for the first time?*

Sputnik proved it was possible to launch an artificial satellite into space. Mir proved it was possible to reside in space for an extended time.

2. *Do you think the United States and Russia had a better relationship when Mir was in orbit than when Sputnik was in orbit? Give evidence from the stories to support your answer.*

The relationship between the United States and Russia was better when Mir was in orbit, because the Cold War ended in 1991, and Mir remained in orbit until 2001. Mir was still in orbit when Russia decided to shift all of its support to the International Space Station, and the United States was one of the nations involved in the International Space Station program. In contrast, the launch of Sputnik greatly upset the United States.

3. *How long did Russia support both the Mir Space Station and the International Space Station?*

Russia was already supporting the Mir Space Station when it began the International Space Station project in 1998. It destroyed Mir in 2001, so Russia was supporting both projects for about three years.

Cuban Missile Crisis & Greenbrier Bunker

1. *At what point in the Cuban Missile Crisis did documents probably start to arrive at the Greenbrier bunker? Give details from both stories to support your answer.*

The crisis first came to the attention of the United States government on October 15, 1962. President Kennedy announced the crisis to the public on October 22. Tension reached its highest point on October 27. By the following day, the situation was already getting less tense. So, officials probably began moving the documents to the bunker no earlier than October 15 and no later than October 27, 1962.

2. *How did the Cuban Missile Crisis justify the existence of the Greenbrier bunker?*

The Greenbrier bunker was built to ensure continuity of government in the case of a nuclear emergency; the Cuban Missile Crisis showed that nuclear war was a real threat and that the existence of the bunker was justified.

3. *Based on information in both stories, what events could have happened in the Cuban Missile Crisis that would have resulted in the Greenbrier bunker fulfilling its purpose? Use examples from the stories.*

Any of these actions would have likely resulted in U.S. government officials relocating to the Greenbrier bunker: the Soviet Union could have launched nuclear missiles at the United States; the United States could have invaded Cuba; the United States could have launched nuclear weapons at the Soviet Union from Turkey; a war between the United States and the Soviet Union could have begun.

Leonardo da Vinci & Michelangelo

1. *Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo lived during the Renaissance, but what made them both true Renaissance men, regardless of when they lived?*

Both men were true Renaissance men because they had talent in a variety of disciplines besides art. Da Vinci was also an engineer, inventor, and scientist. Michelangelo was also a poet. Both artists were architects.

2. *How did the Renaissance affect both Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo?*

Both were surrounded by art because the Renaissance was a time during which art played a prominent cultural role. They both had opportunities to cultivate their artistic talents from a young age (apprenticeships, commissions, etc.), and their works of art received recognition and were considered important.

3. *Both Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo were interested in the human body. How did each man use his artistic abilities to pursue this interest?*

Leonardo da Vinci observed the human body and made detailed sketches of what he saw. Michelangelo sculpted David, a statue of the human form that embodies the Renaissance ideal of beauty.

Watergate & What Is Impeachment?

1. *Imagine that Nixon did not resign. Using information from both stories, what steps could have been taken against him, and what role would each house of Congress have played in that process?*

If Nixon had not resigned, he might have been impeached, tried, and possibly forced to leave office. The House of Representatives probably would have voted a bill of impeachment; the Senate would have conducted Nixon's trial and then assessed whether he was guilty and whether his actions warranted dismissal from office.

2. *Would impeachment and dismissal from office have been appropriate for Nixon had he not resigned? Use information from both stories to support your answer.*

Impeachment is appropriate when there is evidence that a high-ranking official has committed an act of treason, bribery, or other high crime or misdemeanor. Evidence had linked Nixon's administration to a burglary, which is a crime, so impeachment would have been appropriate. We can't say whether dismissal would have been appropriate since there was no formal trial, but the Watergate story uses phrases like "confirmed the link" and "proved," suggesting that the evidence was strong enough to show that Nixon had committed a crime and there were grounds for his dismissal.

3. *What group investigated the possibility of beginning impeachment proceedings against Presidents Nixon and Johnson? How did this group become aware that potentially impeachable offenses had taken place?*

The House Judiciary Committee looked into the possibility of beginning impeachment proceedings against Presidents Nixon and Johnson. This group noticed a public act that seemed like an impeachable offense in the case of Johnson's actions. It received information as the result of investigative journalism in the case of the Watergate scandal.

Dolly the Cloned Sheep & The Cloning Controversy

1. *Use information from both stories to explain why some people were appalled by scientists' success in cloning Dolly.*

Some people do not think it is ethical to clone animals because they feel it manipulates nature. Others feel the technology might be misused. People also claim that cloning experiments are cruel to animals and note many cases of animals suffering or dying as a result of cloning. Cloning could have been responsible for Dolly's premature aging, lung disease, and early death.

2. *Why might Dolly's death have enhanced the arguments made by those against cloning?*

Dolly had medical problems and lived to be only half the age expected for a sheep of her breed, which could have been due to the fact that she was a clone.

3. *What "additional advances" might people have envisioned after the success of cloning Dolly?*

People may have been hopeful that, if scientists could clone a sheep, they could probably clone other livestock, which could increase the availability of top-quality foods. People might have envisioned saving endangered species through cloning. People may have been hopeful that cloning could help save lives from terminal illness, help infertile couples have babies, and help eliminate some genetic disorders.

Indira Gandhi & King George VI

1. *Which leader, Indira Gandhi or King George VI, do you think seemed more suited to leadership before coming to power and why? Give details from the stories to support your answer.*

Answers will vary. Even though she was a girl and not born into the royal family, Indira Gandhi threw her own doll into the fire at age 4 and started the Monkey Brigade at age 12. The story describes her as being an enthusiastic and dedicated supporter of the cause of independence and very dedicated to her country from a young age. It also portrays her as capable and confident.

The story describes King George VI as being a shy, sensitive child who was often sick, had to wear leg braces, and developed a stutter. It says that, though he worked hard to do what was expected of him, not much was expected of him, and he seemed ill-equipped to occupy the throne.

2. *The story about Indira Gandhi talked about unrest in her country throughout her youth, while King George VI's country faced turbulence during his time as king. Compare and contrast the situations in the two countries.*

In both countries, the people felt threatened by another country. In the case of India, its citizens fueled the unrest in their country as they were trying to gain independence from British rule. Their efforts were rewarded when they became a sovereign nation in 1947. Great Britain, on the other hand, was not trying to gain independence from an outside country, but they did suffer actual attacks from one as part of WWII.

Both leaders worked to keep their countries free. Indira worked to help India become independent of British rule. She actively worked for independence and was even beaten and thrown into prison for her efforts. Albert led his country against German aggression in World War II. He also modeled bravery and calmness during this turbulent time.

3. *King George VI and Indira Gandhi were both leaders of large nations. How were these two people like each other? How were they different?*
Both had people doubt their worth. Indira Gandhi's grandmother did not think she would amount to much being a girl. People did not think Albert was suited to the job of king.

Despite their wealth, both had challenges during childhood. Indira spent her childhood aware of and even helping to fight for India's independence. She saw that Indians were treated as second-class citizens. She had to deal with her parents and others being in jail. She threw her doll into the fire and started and participated in the Monkey Brigade. Albert was forced to write with his right hand, despite being left-handed. He also had to wear leg braces, was often sick, and developed a stutter.

Both were very dedicated to their countries. Indira Gandhi was spirited and fighting for her country, even as a child. George VI grew into his role out of a sense of duty, though he was originally averse to the idea of being king.

Both followed in their fathers' footsteps, though King George did not have to be elected. Indira Gandhi was a controversial leader and ended up being assassinated. George VI became a very popular monarch.

The Great Depression & Franklin Delano Roosevelt

1. *How do you think that Roosevelt's attitude and openness to change affected Americans during the Great Depression?*

Answers will vary. FDR's attitude and openness to change helped Americans regain hope for the future. He demonstrated that he was committed to working at a problem until it was solved, and this commitment would likely have been reassuring to the people he had pledged to serve.

2. *FDR assured people that "the only thing we have to fear is fear itself." Explain how fear might have contributed to the Great Depression.*

During the Great Depression, fear might have kept people from shopping or spending their money at businesses. If the businesses had fewer sales, they would not be able to afford to hire more workers. If businesses hired fewer workers, then there would have been fewer people earning money to spend or to invest at the banks.

3. *How might FDR's New Deal measures have helped America during the Great Depression?*

The New Deal measures provided jobs and better wages and working conditions. It also included programs to manage the food supply. These measures may have helped bring prosperity back to America.

Some Dumb Laws & The Making of a U.S. Law

1. *Why is it surprising that so many dumb laws have been passed? Use information from both stories to support your answer.*

There is a complex approval process for making a new law. Many people analyze the different aspects of a proposed law, and many lawmakers have a chance to reject it. The process takes a long time, so it is surprising that so many laws that seem silly or don't have a clear purpose, like banning kite flying, made it all the way through the approval process.

2. *Who voted on the laws mentioned in the Some Dumb Laws story—the U.S. Congress or local and state governments? How do you know?*

The Some Dumb Laws story mentions only city and state laws, which would have been voted on at a state or local level. Laws passed by the U.S. Congress and signed by the President would be the same for all states—if kite flying were illegal, for example, it would be illegal in the whole country.

3. *Why do you think some laws are made at a local or state level, while others are made at a national level? Use information from both stories to explain your answer.*

Laws should be in the best interest of the constituents they represent. States or cities may have unique situations that necessitate laws only in those areas. It wouldn't be effective or beneficial to apply these types of laws to the entire country. Other laws, like the U.S. law that prevents people from discriminating based on race, affect all citizens in a country and should thus be made at a national level.

Polio & The Iron Lung

1. *The first person to use the iron lung was an 8-year-old girl who had polio. How had polio paralyzed her breathing muscles, and what did the iron lung do to help her?*

Polio attacked the 8-year-old girl's central nervous system and paralyzed the muscles that controlled her breathing. The iron lung used air pressure to make her breathe.

2. *Why did the iron lung continue to be necessary even after the development of the polio vaccine?*

The iron lung was still necessary because polio was not eliminated in all countries and people still needed artificial respiration for other medical conditions. Some of the people who had contracted polio before the development of the vaccine still needed iron lungs to stay alive.

3. *Which do you think was more effective in relieving fear of polio: the polio vaccine or the iron lung? Use information from both stories to explain your answer.*

Most likely the vaccine was more effective in relieving fear, because the iron lung kept someone from dying only after polio had already done serious damage. The polio vaccine, on the other hand, prevented people from getting polio at all.

Attack on Pearl Harbor & Dawn of the Atomic Age

1. *In some ways, Pearl Harbor was the beginning of U.S. involvement in World War II, and Hiroshima was the end. Which attack caused more devastation? Give details to support your answer.*

Hiroshima caused more devastation. Far more people were injured and killed in Hiroshima than at Pearl Harbor, and many more buildings and structures were destroyed. In addition, after the immediate attack on Hiroshima, radiation from the atomic bomb continued to sicken and kill people.

2. *Compare Japan's purpose in bombing Pearl Harbor to the United States' purpose in bombing Hiroshima. What did each side hope to achieve with its strategy?*

The Japanese wanted to remove the United States as an obstacle to Japan's imperialism in the Pacific. The United States wanted to end the war against Japan quickly and to avoid many more U.S. casualties. Both countries hoped that a swift, devastating strike would cripple the enemy's ability to fight back and would bring a quicker conclusion.

3. *How were the attacks on Pearl Harbor and Hiroshima different? How were they similar?*

Answers will vary. The attacks were different in that one involved atomic weapons and the other didn't, and an attack on Hiroshima was anticipated, but an attack on Pearl Harbor was not. They were similar in that they both involved Japan and the United States in World War II, and they both caused severe devastation.

A 14th-Century Disaster & The Pandemic of 1918–1919

1. *How was the plague epidemic of the 14th century similar to the influenza epidemic of the 20th century?*

Both epidemics spread very quickly, ended over 20 million lives, and initially confused the medical community. With both diseases, people usually died within a few days after showing symptoms.

2. *For each epidemic, how did people's actions contribute to the spread of the disease?*

In the 14th century, people carried the disease with them as they moved along trade routes. Later, flagellants likely helped spread the disease as they traveled from town to town. In the 20th century, travel associated with World War I likely helped spread the disease.

3. *Use information from both stories to explain the impact pandemics can have on the world.*

Pandemics can cause worldwide panic and widespread death because they affect people in many countries. They can have a great impact on art, literature, music, economic systems, and social structures. They also prompt analysis by the medical community and the development of treatments, such as antibiotics for treatment of the plague.

Albert Einstein & Stephen Hawking

1. *What obstacles did Albert Einstein and Stephen Hawking face in their careers? Why is it important that these scientists overcame their obstacles?*

Einstein faced rejection, and Hawking faced a severe illness. It was important that they overcame these obstacles because both scientists have made important contributions to our understanding of the world.

2. *How was each scientist slow to show his brilliance?*

Hawking was not able to read until the age of 8. Einstein was slow in learning to speak, and he had a difficult time in school. When Einstein started publishing scientific papers, his ideas were so unconventional that colleagues disregarded them at first.

3. *In what ways might Hawking have benefited from Einstein's work?*

Both men were physicists, but Einstein had already published important papers by the time Hawking started studying. Einstein's papers describing the nature of light and the nature of gravity might have helped Hawking in his studies of how the gravity of a black hole can trap light.

Read Naturally Live

Level 8.0

Answer Key for Additional Comparison Questions

Note: The Answer Key may not include all possible answers.

Sputnik and the Space Race & Cuban Missile Crisis

Sputnik was launched in 1957. The Cuban Missile Crisis occurred five years later. How did the launch of Sputnik contribute to the political climate that gave rise to the Cuban Missile Crisis?

The launch of Sputnik increased tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union and began the space race. People connected the ability to launch a satellite into space with the ability to launch long-distance missiles, so the successful launch of Sputnik caused people to worry that the Soviets had the technology to launch missiles that would reach the United States. This worry likely built up over the next five years, until the Cuban Missile Crisis arose out of fear that the Soviet Union and the United States would launch missiles at each other.

Sputnik and the Space Race, Cuban Missile Crisis & Mir Space Station

Based on what you learned about the space race and the Cold War in the Sputnik and Cuban Missile Crisis stories, explain the political significance of Mir's replacement, the International Space Station.

The International Space Station signified that Russia, a part of the former Soviet Union, and the United States had come to coexist more peacefully, since they collaborated on the project. It is significant that the Russians opted to abandon Mir, which was their own station and, therefore, something they could claim full credit for, in favor of a project where they would share credit with the United States and many other countries. This shift shows that, for each country, national pride was no longer based on doing better than the other country; instead, both countries were willing to work together and to explore space as a team.

Sputnik and the Space Race, Cuban Missile Crisis & Greenbrier Bunker

The launch of Sputnik, the Cuban Missile Crisis, and the construction of the Greenbrier bunker all took place during the Cold War era. What was the nature of the relationship between the Soviet Union and the United States during the Cold War era? How do you think the citizens of these two countries must have felt during this time period? How did the Cold War affect their lives?

The two nations were competing with each other during the Cold War. They were very mistrustful of one another. In the United States, people were afraid of nuclear war. They watched films about it and participated in drills teaching them how to protect themselves in the event of an attack. They built their own bomb shelters too. Soviet leaders knew that the United States' missiles in Turkey could reach the Soviet Union. People in the Soviet Union likely felt afraid too and may have taken similar measures with shelters, drills, and other precautions.

Cuban Missile Crisis & Dawn of the Atomic Age

The Cuban Missile Crisis and the attack on Hiroshima are similar in that both situations involved nuclear weapons. How did these two situations differ?

The Cuban Missile Crisis involved only the threat of nuclear warfare. In Hiroshima, on the other hand, a nuclear weapon was actually used. The attack on Hiroshima also took place during a world war, while the Cuban Missile Crisis did not.

Greenbrier Bunker & Dawn of the Atomic Age

How might the United States' experience in developing and using the atomic bomb have affected the decision to build the Greenbrier bunker and/or the design of the bunker?

The Greenbrier bunker's existence, as well as its three- to five-foot-thick walls, indicated that the United States was worried that other nations might use an atomic bomb. Since the United States had decided to use the bomb in a real situation, it was probably easier to envision that an enemy might decide to use one as well. The United States likely studied the effects of the atomic bomb when it was developed and dropped on Hiroshima. Officials had seen how devastating it was, and they probably knew how much reinforcement would be needed to withstand its blast, which impacted the Greenbrier bunker's design.

Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo & Albert Einstein

The Michelangelo and Leonardo da Vinci stories discuss the idea of a Renaissance man. Based on the information in the story, might people consider Einstein a Renaissance man as well? Why or why not?

Einstein could be called a Renaissance man in that his interests and influence extended well beyond the world of science. He was an accomplished violinist, and he played a hand in important political matters. President Roosevelt initiated the Manhattan Project due, in part, to input from Einstein. Einstein's support for a Jewish state was likely important, as shown by Israel offering him the presidency.

What Is Impeachment? & Indira Gandhi

If Indian law included an impeachment process like the one in the United States, could Indira Gandhi have faced impeachment? Why or why not?

If Indian law included an impeachment process like the one in the United States, Indira Gandhi could have faced impeachment for breaking election laws and possibly for limiting freedoms, if she used unlawful methods to do so.

Dolly the Cloned Sheep, The Cloning Controversy & The Iron Lung

Both Ian Wilmut and Philip Drinker made significant scientific contributions. In what ways were their contributions similar? In what ways were they different? Why was Wilmut's work so much more controversial than Drinker's? Do you think that anything about Drinker's work could bother the people that are bothered by Wilmut's work?

Wilmut and Drinker both accomplished major scientific breakthroughs that changed their fields. They both achieved their goals by experimenting on animals. Their contributions were different in that Wilmut's served to advance science in general, while Drinker's served an immediate medical purpose. They were also different in that Wilmut's contribution was very controversial, whereas there was probably not much controversy about Drinker's invention, which helped people who had polio. People who believe that Wilmut's work was cruel to animals might also be bothered by Drinker's testing on cats.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt & Polio

How, specifically, did polio attack FDR's body?

FDR's polio paralyzed him from the waist down, which means it attacked his central nervous system, but it did not paralyze his lungs.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Polio & Stephen Hawking

If FDR had suffered from the same illness that afflicted Hawking, do you think he could still have served as President? Use information from the stories to support your answer.

Both polio and ALS can impair movement. Polio left FDR with paralyzed legs. ALS forced Hawking to use a wheelchair and prevented him from talking. If FDR had suffered from ALS in the way that Hawking did, he may not have been able to be President, because ALS affected Hawking's ability to speak, and politicians need to be able to speak. In addition, FDR lived at an earlier time than Stephen Hawking, so he probably wouldn't have had access to technology like the voice synthesizer that enabled Hawking to communicate. FDR's success as President was due in part to his ability to communicate.

Polio, A 14th-Century Disaster & The Pandemic of 1918–1919

These stories all discuss serious epidemics. How were these epidemics similar? How were they different?

These epidemics were similar in that they were all widespread and deadly. These epidemics were different in that polio was ongoing, infecting people each year, but the infection and death rate did not seem to have been as swift as those of influenza or the plague. The symptoms for each epidemic were also different.

Dawn of the Atomic Age & Albert Einstein

What did Albert Einstein have to do with what happened at Hiroshima? Do you think Einstein agreed with Truman's decision to use an atomic weapon? Use information from the stories to support your answer.

Einstein warned Roosevelt about the possibility of creating an atomic bomb, which prompted Roosevelt to initiate the Manhattan Project. The Manhattan Project, in turn, created the atomic bombs used on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Truman's decision was most likely upsetting to Einstein because Einstein was a pacifist.