### **Ancient History**

* **c. 3000 BCE** – Invention of writing (Sumerians develop cuneiform)
* **c. 776 BCE** – First recorded Olympic Games in Greece
* **c. 323 BCE** – Death of Alexander the Great, leading to the Hellenistic Age
* **c. 27 BCE** – Rise of the Roman Empire under Augustus

### **Middle Ages**

* **476 CE** – Fall of the Western Roman Empire, marking the start of the Middle Ages
* **1096–1291 CE** – The Crusades, religious wars between Christians and Muslims
* **1347–1351 CE** – The Black Death kills millions in Europe
* **1492 CE** – Christopher Columbus reaches the Americas

### **Early Modern Era**

* **1776 CE** – American Declaration of Independence
* **1789 CE** – Start of the French Revolution
* **1804 CE** – Napoleon Bonaparte becomes Emperor of France
* **1861–1865 CE** – American Civil War

### **20th & 21st Century**

* **1914–1918 CE** – World War I
* **1939–1945 CE** – World War II
* **1945 CE** – Atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki
* **1969 CE** – Apollo 11: First humans land on the Moon
* **1989 CE** – Fall of the Berlin Wall, end of the Cold War
* **1994 CE** – Nelson Mandela becomes president of South Africa
* **2001 CE** – 9/11 terrorist attacks in the U.S.
* **2020 CE** – COVID-19 pandemic begins