

Name \_\_\_\_\_



# Anachronism

An anachronism is something that belongs to or is appropriate to a time that is different from the time in which it exists or is portrayed. In real life, something that belonged to a particular era long past can be called an anachronism; for example, a pocket watch is an anachronism today, when everyone uses their phones to keep the time.

Anachronisms can occur in works of art as the result of not conducting enough research. For example, if a character in a historical novel that was set at the turn of the 18<sup>th</sup> century used a telephone, that would be an anachronism, because the telephone wasn't invented until 1867.

Anachronisms can also occur by accident. For example, if an airplane happened to fly across the sky during the filming of a movie set at the turn of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the appearance of the plane in the film would be an anachronism.

**DIRECTIONS:** Identify something that would be an anachronism in each situation. Don't use the same item twice.

1. A school classroom in 1970

---

2. A frontier town in the Wild West in 1800

---

3. The meeting of the Continental Congress in 1776.

---

4. The inauguration of President John F. Kennedy in 1961

---