

Did you know that?

SOME HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL CURIOSITIES

The 1990s (Simple Past review)

The 1990s marked the end of century and the beginning of a new millennium! Many changes happened within this decade which molded our present lives in all ways you can imagine –politically, culturally, technologically, and others.

Do you know where each of the events below corresponds to in the timeline?

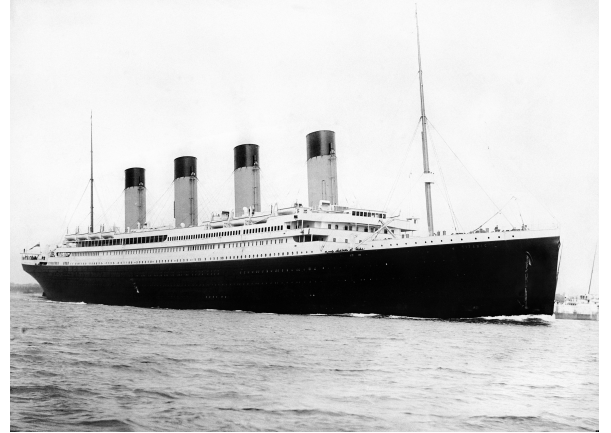


- After 27 years, South African freedom fighter Nelson Mandela **was** released from prison.
- Everybody **sang** the theme *Livin' la vida loca*.
- Bill Clinton **defeated** candidate Bob Dole, resulting elected for second term as president of the United States.
- Mount Pinatubo **erupted** in Philippines, killing over 300 people.
- Tom Hanks **starred** Forest Gump.

Did you know that?

The Titanic (Past Progressive)

In 1912, while The Titanic **was** sinking, it **broke** into two pieces.



General Sherman tree (Superlatives)

With 1,487 cubic meters in volume, General Sherman in California's Sequoia National Park, is the **largest** known tree in the world. It is not the **tallest**, though.



Did you know that?

Formal requests (Modals)

In different English-speaking countries, it is usually more polite to use the modal **May...** than the modal **Can...** to ask for permissions.

e.g. *May I use your phone, please?* (more polite) *Can I open the window?* (less polite)