On Your Birthday

"People are trapped in history and history is trapped in them."

James Baldwin

What was the world like the day you were born? What was happening that year? Visit the library and/or your local newspaper office to find a newspaper from the day you were born. Find popular magazines from the year you were born, as well as an almanac and/or any other useful materials.

Getting started

Choose from the questions below to help you write:

1. On the day you were born, what happened in your community, in the United States and in the world?

2. What were the major news events the year you were born?

3. What were the hit songs the year you were born? What were the Oscar-winning movies? Which actors were popular? Which books were best sellers? Who were the sports heroes?

4. What other interesting information can you find about the year you were born? For instance, who was president of the United States?