









Born: 1996-2015 86M people Pluralists Born: 1981 to 1996 83M people Echo Boomers: Generation Me Born: 1965 to 1980 49M people Forgotten Generation Born: 1946 to 1964 74M people Me Generation Born: Prior to 1945 29M people The Silent Generation

Technology: First Digital Natives

Communication: Commu
Smart phones, Video,
Emjois, FaceTime on
Handheld Devices,
Social Media, Instant,

Expectations: Collaborative, 1:1

Both parents work Constantly exposed to media

Shaped by: Covid, Economic Downturn, Global Warning, Environmental Issues, School & Mass Shootings, Mass First Black President, Gay Marriage

Most Multi-Cultural

Technology: First Digital Generation

Communication: Text, Social Media, Email, video games, Curated, On-Demand

Expectations: Flexible & Fun, Self-Employed

Shaped by: Helicopter parents, school shootings, My Space to Instagram evolution, Sept. 11, Great Recession, Iraq and Afghanistan Wars, 1st Black President, Global Warming, Gay Marriage

First generation to be less financially stable than parents

Technology: Digital Flexers

Communication: Text, Email, Social Media, video games

Expectations: Independence, resiliency

Shaped by: Living in a Baby Boomers world, Challenger Explosion, Black Monday, Clinton Impeachment, Desert Storm,

Known as latch key kids; slackers; difficult to label

Highest debt; Sandwich generation Technology: Adapting

Communication:F2F, Phone, Email, Facebook

Expectations: Winning, value of experience

Shaped by: Civil Rights, Vietnam War, Fall of Berlin Wall, Black Monday,

Do not like to be seen as old—have defined style and trends and want to continue to do so

Control 75% of US Wealth; Believe in the American Dream Technology: Seeking ease

Communication: Television, Phone Calls, Letters, Emails, Tablets

Expectations: Authority, Tradition

Shaped by: World War II, Korean War, Bay of Pigs, Civil Rights

Military minded; believe in God/organized religion

Living longer and aging

Writing Across Generations Worksheet

Exercise 1:

Choose a character in your novel NOT in your own generation:

How can you deepen your characterization based on their generation?

- What major historical events shaped them?
- What technology are they accustomed to?
- How does their generation shape their values?

Exercise 2:

Choose two or more characters in your novel that cross generations

How can you deepen the conflict between these characters by leaning into their generational differences?

What fundamental value clashes between them?

How does the history they live through impact them?

How do their peer groups influence them?

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