

HISTORY OF ISRAEL EXPLAINED

EDUCATOR'S GUIDE



TEL AVIV: ISRAEL'S CULTURAL & FINANCIAL CAPITAL

Section 1: Additional resources

- Benjamin Glatt, Today In History: Founding of Tel Aviv,
<https://www.jpost.com/Christian-News/Today-in-history-Founding-of-Tel-Aviv-450852>
- Municipality of Tel Aviv- Yafo, A Brief History of Tel Aviv,
<https://www.tel-aviv.gov.il/en/abouttheCity/pages/history.aspx>
- Leadle.NET, Tel Aviv History: Urban Planning 1920s,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yWwa-UJcxWw>
- Go-TelAviv.com, Tel Aviv Bauhaus Architecture,
<https://www.go-telaviv.com/bauhaus-architecture.html>
- Ari Shavit, My Promised Land, Chapter 12

Section 2: Review - Did the students understand the material?

1. In what year was Tel Aviv established?
 - a. 1901
 - b. 1909 (correct)
 - c. 1911
 - d. 1919
2. How did Tel Aviv get its name?
3. Why did Tel Avivians send oranges to Buckingham Palace in 1936?
4. How many people live in Tel Aviv today?
 - a. 250,000
 - b. 450,000 (correct)
 - c. 750,000
 - d. 1,000,000

4. Tel Aviv is known for its:
- Beaches
 - Nightlife
 - Start-up companies
 - Culture (all correct)

Section 3: Discussion Questions

- As described in our Media Lab [article](#), Tel Aviv is a thriving international city, in competition with Paris, New York and London. It is the [fifth most visited city](#) in the Middle East and Africa. [TimeOut](#) calls it the “contemporary hub of Israel, the cultural capital, a culinary mecca and a beach bliss.” One might view this as a remarkable achievement of Zionism. Others might ask why the Jewish state should care about this. What do you think?
- Tel Aviv has become known as “the city that never stops.” If you went to Tel Aviv for a week, what would your itinerary look like?
- Tel Aviv has become [known](#) as a tremendously liberal city. In what ways might the government of Israel celebrate this, and in what ways might this be challenging for the Israeli government and society?

Section 4: Reflection Questions

- In many ways, Tel Aviv is the realization of Zionism in the most explicit way, an innovative renewal of Jewish life in its traditional and historic land. Do you see innovation and traditionalism in conflict or as complements to one another?
- Conde Nast included both Tel Aviv and Jerusalem in its [list](#) of top 40 cities in the world. Do you feel more of a connection toward Jerusalem or Tel Aviv? How do you see them as similar to one another and different as well?
- In Tel Aviv, one of the people who Ari Shavit interviewed in *My Promised Land* said he “believes that the party-now scene is more relevant than the [Peace Now](#) movement.” Why might Israel be more interested in partying than pursuing peace at this point? What does it tell us about Israeli culture?