EXAMPLE: 1960s / Famous People - Muhammad Ali

Muhammad Ali is one of the most famous boxers of all time. When he was twelve years old, Ali’s bike was stolen. Angry, Muhammad Ali went to report the crime. He went to the “basement of the Columbia Auditorium to police officer Joe Martin, who was also a boxing coach at the Columbia Gym. When Muhammad Ali said he wanted to beat up the person who stole his bike, Martin told him that he should probably learn to fight first” (Rosenberg). Thus began his legacy.

Ali was a very influential force in boxing. His methods of boxing changed the sport. Instead of ducking away from punches, he’d lean back, a technique that is still employed in boxing today. Before Ali, many athletes would duck or back up, but Ali created his signature move, which still exists today. In the 1960s, Ali won a gold medal in the Olympic games at the age of 18. After his Olympic medal, he continued to dominate the sport as a professional boxer. In fact, “Muhammad Ali had been the greatest heavyweight boxer in the world three times. In his professional career, Ali had won 56 bouts and lost only five. Of the 56 wins, 37 of them were by knockout” (Rosenberg). Ali changed the sport of boxing and history itself. He created new techniques and inspired boxers to be quicker, stronger, and more aggressive than ever before.