

Character (Creation Year)	Writer and Artist's Lives (Creation Influences)	Historical Events (Creation Influences)	Historical Changes Reflected through Costume Changes	Historical Changes Reflected through Iconic Story Arcs
<p>Superman (1933)</p>	<p>Jerry Siegel & Simon Shuster – 2 young boys</p> <p>Loved science fiction</p> <p>Worked for the school paper</p> <p>Felt like outsiders</p> <p>Awkward interactions with peers</p> <p>Jewish</p>	<p>Great Depression (1929-1939) – led to creation and popularity of Superman, an immigrant who was looking to save others</p> <p>Hitler (1940) – Superman took a stance against Nazi Germany before the US entered the war</p> <p>Pearl Harbor and Japanese Internment Camps (1942-1945) – villains in Superman stories are Japanese, racist and inaccurate depictions of Japanese in Superman comics and serials</p> <p>TV (1950s) – popularity of TV brought Superman to life in a new way, but he was still drawn as a cartoon when he went to fly</p> <p>Space Race (60s) – Superman stories in space & Superman races Flash to see who is fastest</p> <p>Vietnam & Watergate (70s) – themes of pollution, famine, and racism. Many of these awkward stories failed in their message and popularity because superman was representative of authority, which people were going against</p> <p>Moral Decline (90s) – scandals, drugs human rights abuses led creators to feel that Superman was too good for our world so he was killed off in the comics</p> <p>9/11 (2001) – society wanted superheroes again, leading to the success of the Smallville TV show</p>	<p>Original costume of blue tights and red underwear (1933) - designed after strongman outfits, showing his power, trying to make him respected</p> <p>“S” on costume represents House of El, tied to his lineage (1978)</p> <p>“S” on costume represents Hope (1997)</p> <p>Shirt and jeans (2011) – modern look, modern “everyday” man, trying to make him more relatable</p>	<p>Action Comics 1 – today we view him as a violent, forceful, rude man, but he reflects the power dynamics and masculinity of the 1930s</p> <p>Fleisher Cartoons – less aggressive Superman, focusing more on being Superman and allowing Lois to scoop the stories</p> <p>Superman 17 – moral stance against Nazi Germany, capturing Hitler and Stalin</p> <p>Superman – The Movie: brought Superman to life, made the hero relatable and popular again</p> <p>Adventures of Superman – introducing young kids to iconic characters and story arcs of Superman, modernizing his stories while teaching lessons</p> <p>Death of Superman – answers what happens when Superman is too good for this world, mourns the loss of goodness</p> <p>Smallville – introduced a new generation of teenagers to Superman, strong Christian undertones</p> <p>For the Man Who Has Everything – asks the question is superman relevant even during dark times of corruption and human abuse, Kelly shows that superman represents morality and restraint</p> <p>Man of Steel – dark story where Superman kills the villain to save innocents, changing the character’s moral stance on “no kill”</p>
