Storyline

Interface mock-up

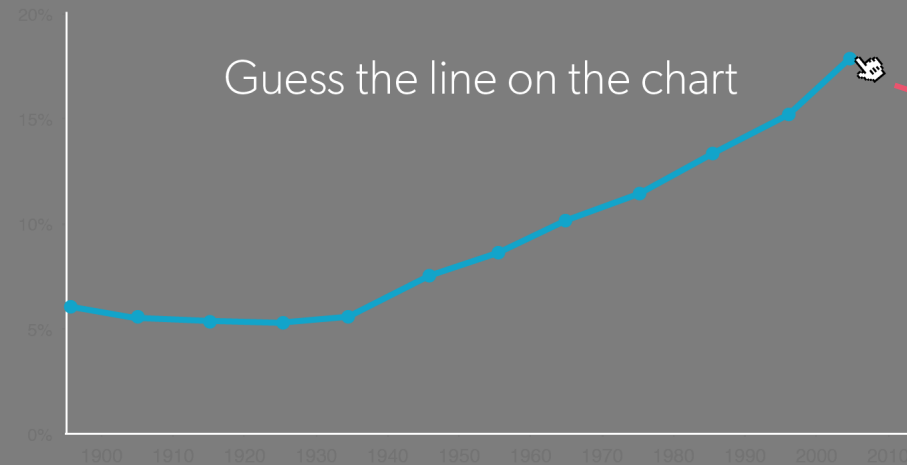# Storyline

How well do you know the trends that shape our lives?

AEI

Storyline

< Prev   Next >   BY TOPIC ⌄

Clicking anywhere starts challenge

Foreign-Born Americans (% of total population)

Guess the line on the chart

20%

15%

10%

5%

0%
1900 1910 1920 1930 1940 1950 1960 1970 1980 1990 2000 2010

START >

Animation (of line being drawn with cursor) helps first time time user understand concept

AEI

Foreign-Born Americans (% of total population)

Clicking anywhere starts challenge

20%

15%

How has the number of immigrants as a share of the US population changed since 1900?

10%

5%

DRAW THE LINE ›

0%
1900 1910 1920 1930 1940 1950 1960 1970 1980 1990 2000 2010

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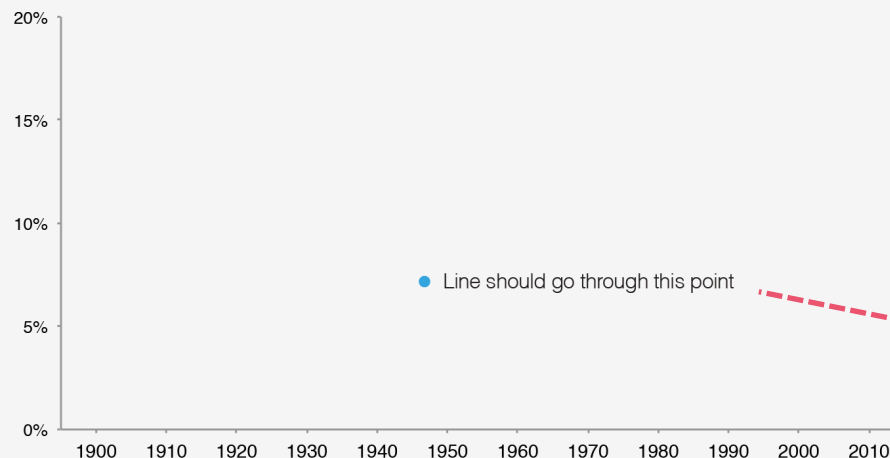Click to home (most recently uploaded chart)

Previous/next chart

Charts are displayed in random order (default)

Only display certain topic – i.e. economics, public opinion, defense

Instructions, about page

Point fades away after user starts drawing line

Like "Storyline" on FB

Clears drawing

Hint button

Storyline

‹ Prev   Next ›   BY TOPIC ⌄

Foreign-Born Americans (% of total population)

20%

15%

10%

● Line should go through this point

5%

0%

1900 1910 1920 1930 1940 1950 1960 1970 1980 1990 2000 2010

f Like

SUBMIT   CLEAR   HINT

Storyline

< Prev   Next >   BY TOPIC ⌄   ⤧

Clicking anywhere brings you back to chart

Most charts will have hints

Foreign-Born Americans (% of total population)

20%

15%

10%

5%

0%

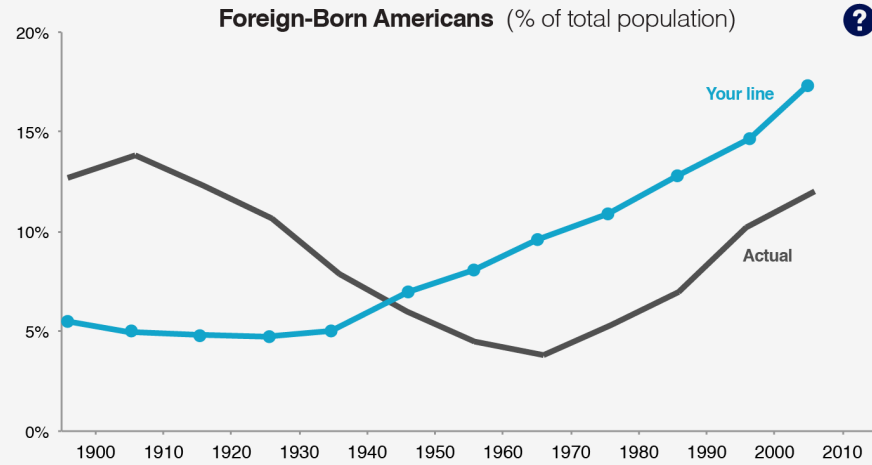1900 1910 1920 1930 1940 1950 1960 1970 1980 1990 2000 2010

HINT:
In 1965, the quota system that favored
European immigrants was ended.

CONTINUE ›

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Storyline

< Prev   Next >   BY TOPIC ⌄

Foreign-Born Americans (% of total population)   ❓

Line can be tweaked after being drawn

Shaded area lets user know he hasn't drawn a full line

20%

15%

10%

5%

0%

1900 1910 1920 1930 1940 1950 1960 1970 1980 1990 2000 2010

f Like

SUBMIT   CLEAR   HINT

AEI

Storyline

< Prev   Next >   BY TOPIC ⌄   ⤭

Foreign-Born Americans (% of total population)   ❓

Your line

Actual

20%

15%

10%

5%

0%

1900 1910 1920 1930 1940 1950 1960 1970 1980 1990 2000 2010

You were
45% accurate
You did better than 23% of users

To learn more, read:
America's electoral future: How changing demographics could impact presidential elections from 2016 to 2032

SOURCE DATA ⬇

SEE HOW OTHERS DID ⌄

Scroll bar

Link to related article

Downloads Excel file with data and source

Floating button – scrolls page down when clicked

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Foreign-Born Americans (% of total population)
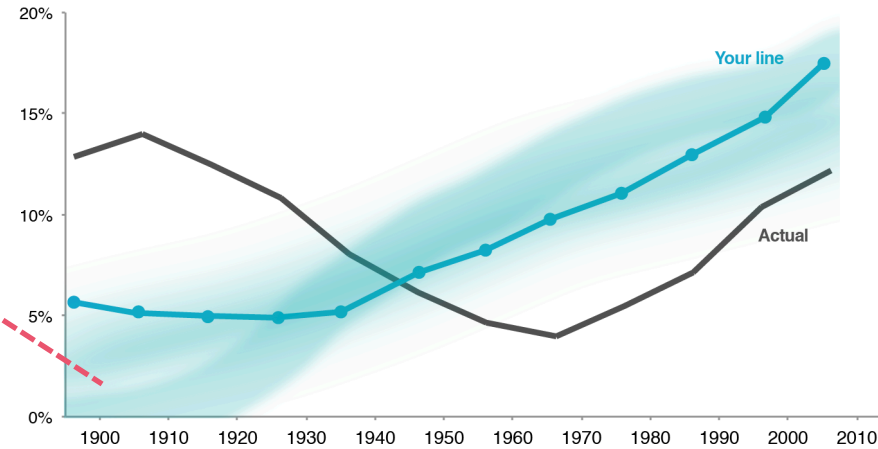
Scrolling down reveals "heat map" showing other users' guesses

Interface mock-up

Embedded version

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Embedded version (desktop)

Embedded version (mobile)

How angry are Americans at Washington? This issue of Political Report looks at levels of public anger over time and particularly going into the 2016 presidential election. With the Supreme Court deliberating controversial cases related to abortion, teachers' unions, and affirmative action, this issue also examines public opinion of the court and the cases at hand.

How angry are Americans?

Guess the line on the chart

Storyline

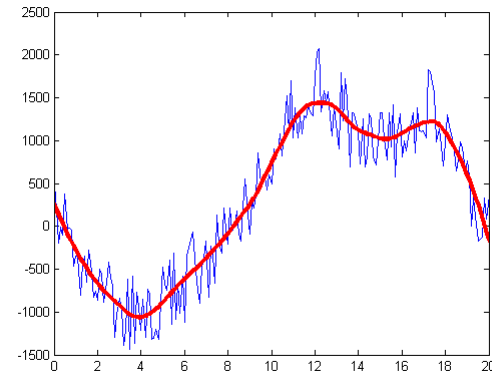Clicking anywhere produces pop-up version of app

9:00 AM

Back-end abilities

Upload .csv/.xls file

Add chart title, axis names, explanatory text at bottom and link, other notes and labels as needed

"Smooth" charts with lots of data point and modify chart line thickness if needed (to create a consistent look among the charts.

Preview chart in back end

Add "hint", format text box, place at appropriate place on chart

Embeddable by specific chart, by topic, or just random.

Questions

How do you write an accurate explanatory text, and choose hints, since people disagree on the factors behind trends?

Should you be able to plot two lines on one chart? Sometimes scholars make their point by superimposing two trend lines.

Charts will have different horizontal and vertical scales – which might confuse the user. Is it necessary to draw attention to the change from one chart to the next?
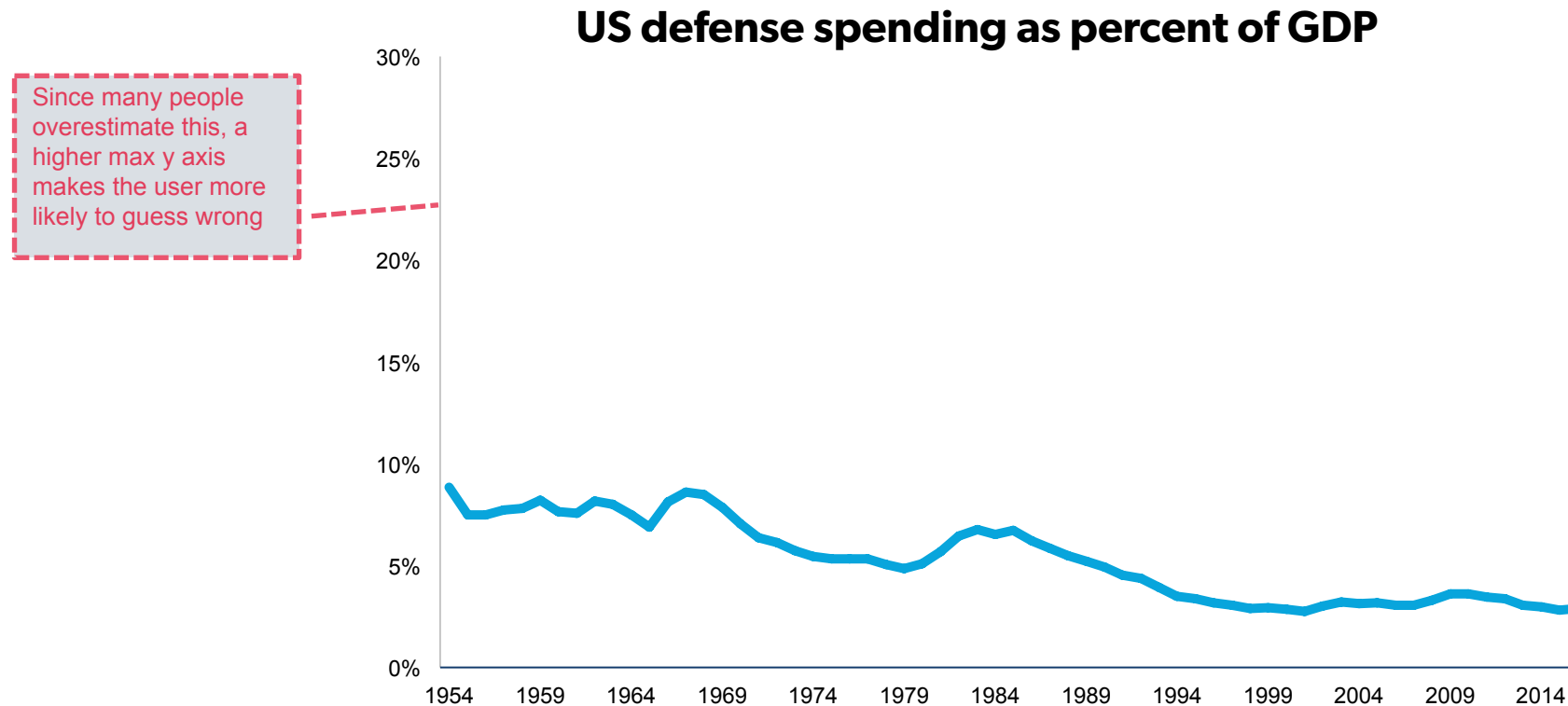
What is the best way to show people how to use it?

How do we describe Storyline? Is it a game? A quiz? A challenge?

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Should embeddable version produce "lightbox" version of app?

Example of lightbox
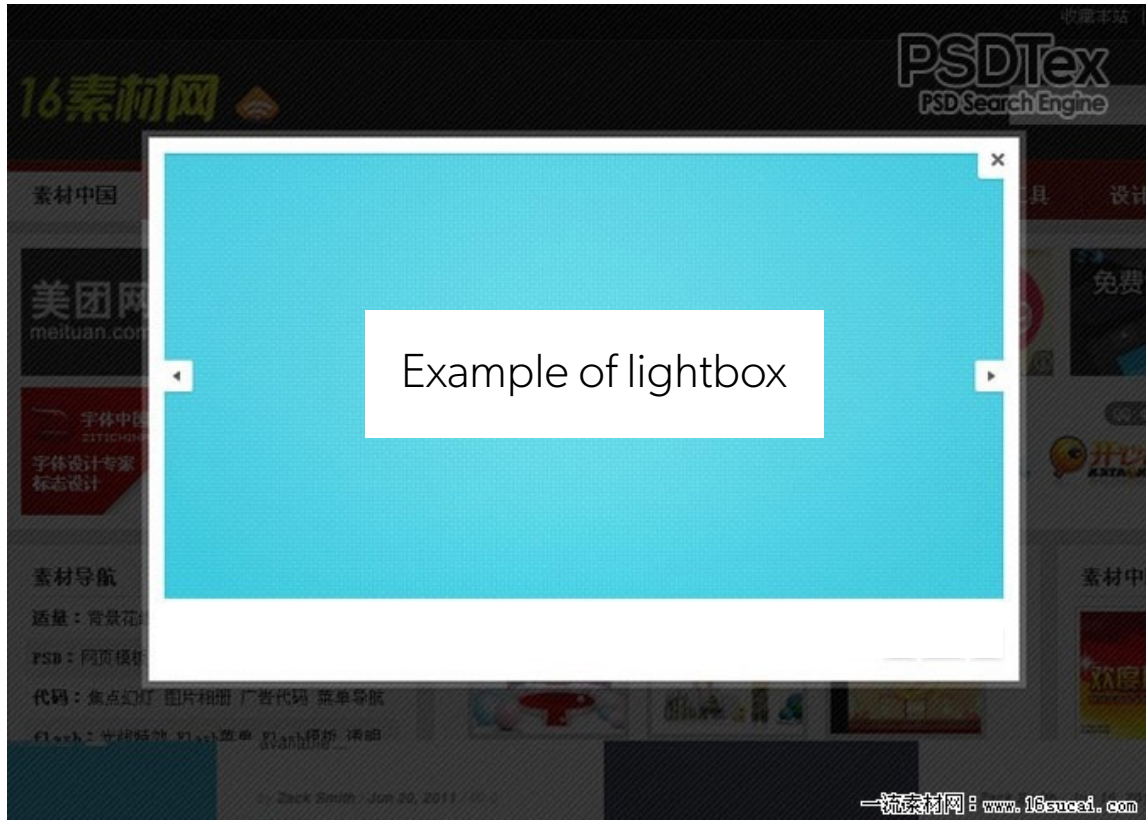
Should we try to intentionally make the challenge more difficult by extending the y axis far beyond the maximum y value? For example:

US defense spending as percent of GDP

Since many people overestimate this, a higher max y axis makes the user more likely to guess wrong

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How should you calculate the score? If you just add up the difference between the user line and actual line, User 2 would get a better score, even though he gets the trend wrong.

US defense spending as percent of GDP
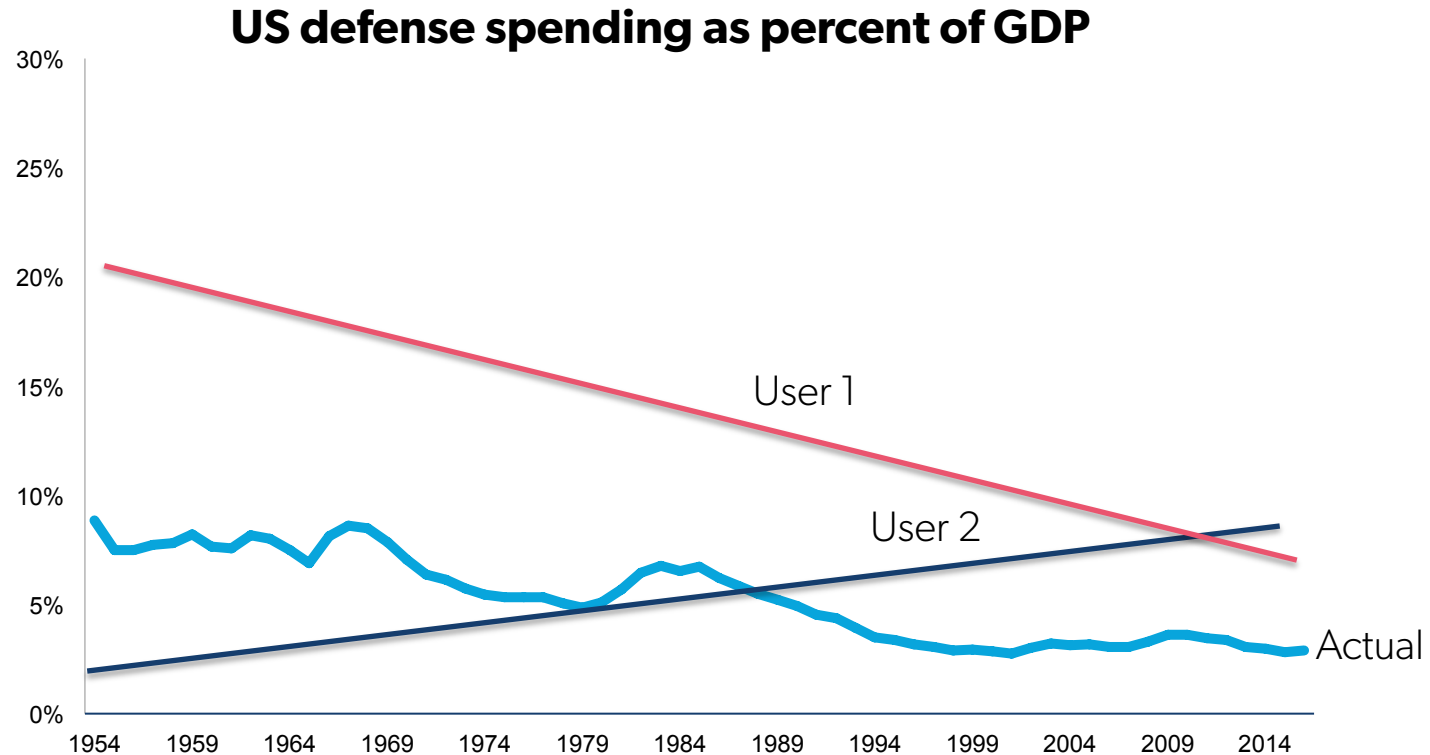
Roll-out

1	2	3	4
Prepare 100 charts based on past scholar content	Launch stand-alone Storyline app page	Launch Political Corner in-line charts	Insert into new scholar publication pages
Responsibility: DESIGN	Responsibility: DIGITAL/MEDIA	Responsibility: RAs/DESIGN	Responsibility: RAs (end goal)

Note: Effort to flag relevant data will fall on editorial/ media at first. Troubleshooting by Design.

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