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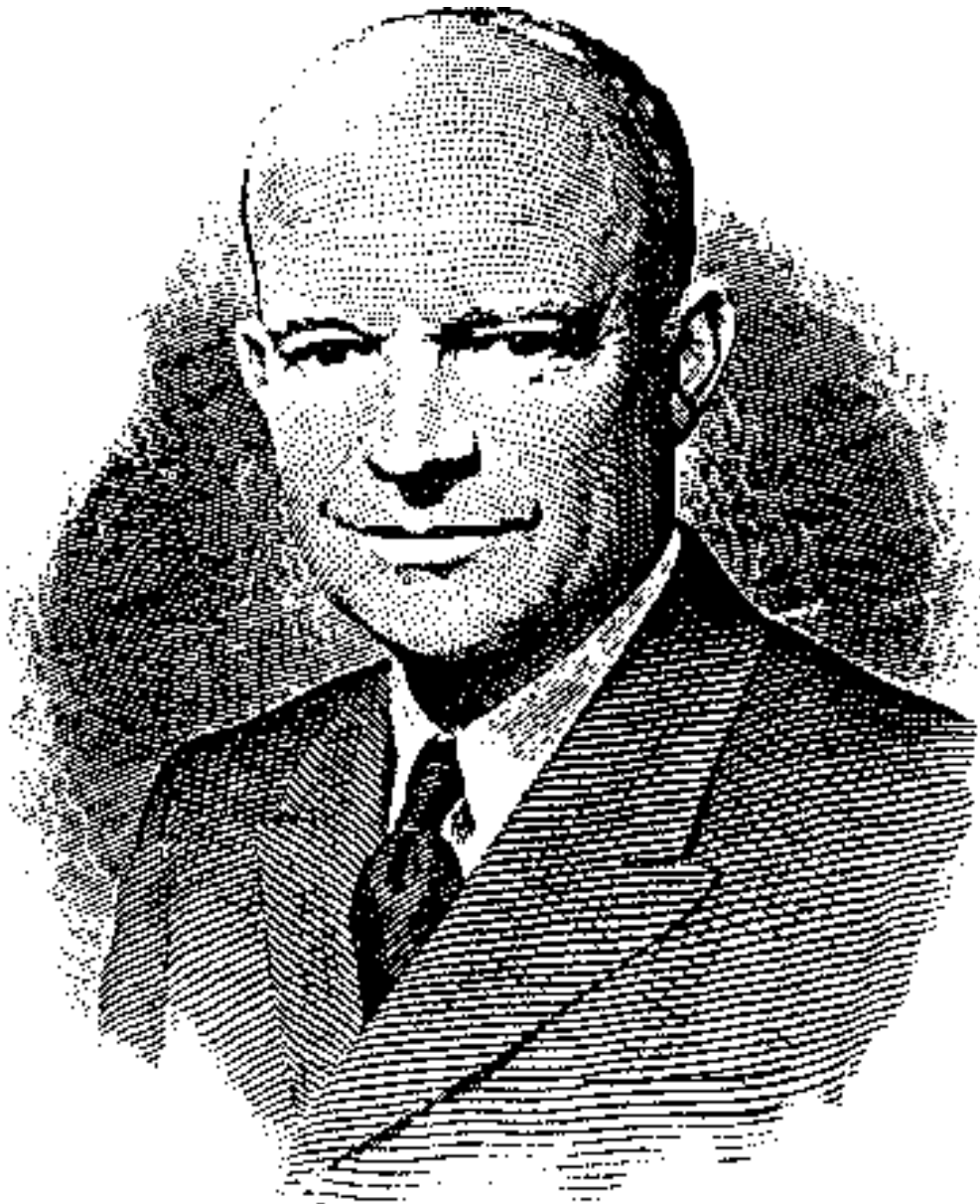
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1950's

***Creative Activities for Teaching
Critical Thinking & Writing***

U. S. History: The 1950's



By Lawrence Stevens

Stevens & Shea Publishers

1950's

Introduction

This unit emphasizes writing and critical thinking. There are basically three types of activities. The news stories, writing exercises and telegrams require students to evaluate, prioritize and write about historical events. They must **use** the information rather than just passively memorize it.

The chronology and data analysis activities require students to detect trends and draw conclusions.

The viewpoints and issues activities present different views of the same event rather than just the single view often presented by textbooks. The critical thinking exercises that accompany these units require the students to evaluate the information.

Many of the activities deal with popular news stories of the decade that are usually not covered in textbooks.

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Creative Activities for Teaching Critical Thinking and Writing U.S. History: The 20th Century

There are nine units in this series.

SS140	1900's
SS141	1910's
SS142	1920's
SS143	1930's
SS144	1940's
SS145	1950's
SS146	1960's
SS147	1970's
SS148	1980's



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Critical Thinking

1950's

by Lawrence Stevens

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1950's

Directions

Chronology Logic

Events must be placed in chronological order. Each event has internal clues which place it in between other events. Students must read carefully and evaluate what they read.

Chronology

The major events of the decade are listed year by year. Students must categorize events, detect trends and decide on the ten most important events of the decade.

Decisions

Major decisions of the decade are presented and students are to discuss and decide the best possible choice.

People and Terms

Students can categorize the people and decide who was the most important or influential in each category.

Crosswords

Puzzles reinforce the items on the people and terms lists.

Viewpoints

Events and personalities are viewed from two different points of view. There is a page of questions and activities that emphasize critical thinking that accompanies the two viewpoints. Students should discuss and compare answers.

News Stories

The facts of major news stories of the decade are presented in random order. The students must write a news story using the inverted pyramid—mention the most important facts at the beginning of the story and the least important facts at the end. The stories should be limited in the number of words, e.g., 75 words. Students must prioritize information. Students can read and compare their stories.

Issues

Major issues are presented from two points of view. Students must decide which they agree with the most. Students can write short essays stating their position.

News Writing

Several primary resources are provided for students to write a story. The sources and events are fictional but are typical of the decade. The student must assess the information and write a news report. Students should be reminded to cover who, what, when, where, why and how. They should also write the story placing the important facts first and the least important last.

Telegrams

Major news stories of the decade are described and students must condense the information into telegrams of no more than 10 or 20 words. Complete sentences are not required. Emphasis is upon selecting the important details.

Critical Thinking

Students must critically evaluate statements about the decade, select the most precise and general statements, detect emotional words and write generalizations.

Map Puzzle

Students must identify countries from the clues and locate the countries on a map.

Answers

Page

4

Chronology Logic

1. C 2. D 3. A 4. E 5. B 6. H 7. G 8. F 9. I.

7-8

Decisions

Have students research what actually happened.

11

Crossword: People

Across: 2. Salk 4. Ike 6. Kefauver 7. Taft 8. Truman 9. Wilson 15. Rayburn 16. Adams 17. Dwight Eisenhower 19. MacArthur 21. Benson 22. Stevens 23. Cohn. **Down:** 1. Durkin 2. Stevenson 3. King 5. Estes 10. Faubus 11. Dulles 12. Nixon 13. McCarthy 14. Parks 18. Warren 19. Morse 20. Hobby.

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Crossword: Terms

Across: 3. Dienbienphu 4. Brown 6. McCarthyism 9. Warren Court 10. Sputnik 12. Domino Theory 14. military-industrial 15. Doctrine. **Down:** 1. Checkers freeze 2. polio vaccine 5. Korean War 7. braceros 8. Hungary 11. Panmunjom 12. plane.

13-18

Viewpoints

Students should compare and discuss answers.

19-22

News Stories

Students should compare reports.

23-26

Issues

Students should compare reports.

27-28

News Writing

Students should compare reports.

29-30

Telegrams

Students should compare telegrams.

31-32

Critical Thinking

Students should discuss and vote on correct answers. There are not always correct answers to these items.

Directions

Below are some of the major events of the 1950's. Read them carefully, and using the clues offered, arrange them in chronological order beginning with the earliest.

Answers

A. Soon after Eisenhower is elected president in 1952 he ends the Korean War fulfilling his election promise to end the war.

1. C

B. Eisenhower easily wins re-election over his 1952 opponent Adlai Stevenson. Eisenhower managed in his first term to end the Korean War and avoid sending troops to Indochina.

2. _____

C. President Truman refuses to expand the war in Korea by attacking China. He fires General MacArthur who was publicly advocating bombing bases in China which supplied communist Chinese troops fighting in Korea. MacArthur is very popular and Truman's action upsets many.

3. _____

4. _____

D. Eisenhower easily wins election over the Democrats. Truman had involved the U.S. in an unpopular war in Korea. Eisenhower promises to end the war.

5. _____

6. _____

E. With the Korean War over the French who are losing their war in Indochina ask the U.S. for troops. President Eisenhower refuses but sends military aid instead. It does the French no good. They lose and withdraw from Indochina.

7. _____

F. Toward the end of his second term Soviet and U.S. relations are improved when the Soviet Premier, Nikita Khrushchev, tours the U.S. The U.S. and the Soviets seem to have equal power. Both have launched satellites and have rockets capable of carrying nuclear warheads.

8. _____

9. I

G. The United States attempts to catch up with the Soviets in space technology. It rushes to get its own satellite launched.

H. Going into his second term of office Eisenhower enjoys great popularity. The nation's economy is booming. The nation is shocked when the Russians send the first satellite into space.

I. Good relations with the Soviets are damaged at the end of Eisenhower's second term when a U-2 spy plane is shot down over Russia attempting to photograph Soviet missile bases.

1950

- U.S. recalls diplomatic officials from China after the Chinese communists seize the leading U.S. diplomat.
- President Truman authorizes construction of the H-bomb.
- Communist North Korea invades South Korea.
- United Nations asks for troops to stop communist aggression in South Korea.
- President Truman orders U.S. military to S. Korea.
- Truman orders army to take control of railroads to prevent a strike by railroad workers.
- U.S. armed forces land at Inchon, Korea, and take the offense and drive the North Koreans back to the Chinese border.
- China invades Korea.
- Puerto Rican nationalists attempt to assassinate President Truman.
- U.S. bans trade with Communist China and any port that trades with Communist China.

1951

- U.S. Senate, led by Estes Kefauver, investigates organized crime.
- Julius and Ethel Rosenberg convicted of sending A-bomb secrets to Russians.
- General Douglas MacArthur fired by President Truman as commander of forces in Korea.
- Korean cease-fire talks begin.
- U.S., Australia and New Zealand sign a mutual security treaty against communist aggression.

Directions

Use the chronology for the following activities.

1. Put the events into groups. Decide what categories you would put them into. For example, space, civil rights, war, etc.

2. What general trends do you see in the 1950's? Write a report. For example, What is the trend in civil rights?

3. Decide which are the ten most important events of the 1950's. Tell why.

- First trans-continental television broadcast.
- Japanese Peace Treaty signed among Japan, the U.S., and 47 other nations.

1952

- Truman orders seizure of steel mills to prevent strike. Truman's order ruled illegal by Supreme Court.
- Immigration and Naturalization Act eliminates racial and ethnic barriers to immigration.
- First H-bomb explodes.

- Dwight Eisenhower (Republican) elected president.

1953

- Korean War ends.
- U.S. provides aid to French fighting communists in Indochina (Vietnam).

1954

- First atomic powered submarine launched.

1950's

Chronology

•Five members of Congress are wounded by Puerto Rican nationalists.

•Senator Joseph McCarthy opens televised hearings into communist influence in U.S. Army.

•Racial segregation in public schools ruled unconstitutional by Supreme Court.

•Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) formed to protect Asia from communist aggression.

•U.S. Senate votes condemnation of Senator McCarthy for his conduct.

French withdraw from Indochina. Indochina is divided into four parts—Cambodia, Laos, North and South Vietnam. North Vietnam is ruled by the communists.

1955

•U.S. agrees to help train new South Vietnamese army.

•Leaders of U.S., USSR, Great Britain and France meet at summit meeting.

•Rosa Parks refuses to give up her seat to a white man on a Montgomery, Alabama, bus. Blacks boycott buses when she is arrested.

•American Federation of Labor (AFL) and Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) are merged into the AFL-CIO with a combined membership of 15 million.

1956

•101 Southern Congressmen call for massive resistance to desegregation rulings of Supreme Court.

•Federal Highway Act signed to create nationwide interstate highway system.

•First transatlantic telephone cable goes into operation.

•Eisenhower re-elected.

1957

•Congress approves first civil rights bill since Reconstruction to protect the voting rights of blacks in the South.

•Governor Orval Faubus calls out National Guard to prevent blacks from enrolling in Little Rock, Arkansas, high school.

•Eisenhower sends in U.S. Army to make sure the black students are enrolled in Central High, Little Rock, Arkansas.

•Jack Kerouac publishes *On the Road*.

1958

•First U.S. satellite goes into orbit.

•5,000 Marines sent to Lebanon to protect elected government threatened with overthrow.

•First domestic jet airline service starts.

1959

•Alaska admitted as 49th state.

•Hawaii admitted as 50th state.

•St. Lawrence Seaway opened. Connects Great Lakes with Atlantic Ocean.

•First ballistic missile submarine launched.

•First atomic powered merchant ship launched.

•Russian premier Nikita Khrushchev tours United States.

The Korean War and MacArthur

Communist North Korea attacked South Korea in June 1950 after U.S. forces had withdrawn from South Korea. The U.S. asked the United Nations to resist communist aggression and the U.N. countries sent troops to South Korea. Most of the soldiers were Americans and the U.N. forces were commanded by World War II hero General Douglas MacArthur.

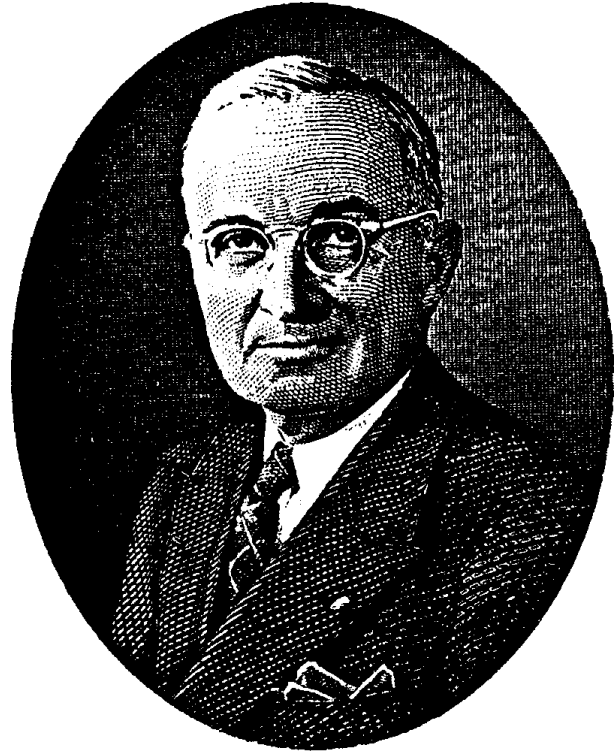
The American forces drove the North Koreans back into their own country and began to push them back toward the border with China. Communist Chinese armies entered the war and pushed the Americans back to where the original border was between the two countries. Both sides dug in and trench warfare began. MacArthur announced publicly that the U.S. should bomb China and support an anti-communist Chinese invasion of China.

Truman at the same time was calling for peace talks to end the war. Truman as the commander-in-chief of the U.S. military told MacArthur to stop calling publicly for an expanded war. MacArthur continued to call for the bombing of China. If you were Truman, what decision would you make?

- A. Fire MacArthur for disobeying orders.
- B. Keep MacArthur on as general because he is a good commander.
- C. Change your course of action and attack China.

Directions

These are some of the important decisions of the 1950's faced by Truman and Eisenhower. How would you have decided ? Tell why.



Harry S Truman

Seizure of the steel mills

The steelworkers union and owners had failed to reach an agreement on a new contract. The steel workers were threatening to go on strike. The steel mills were vital to the Korean War effort. Some suggested that the government take control of the steel mills in order to keep them operating. Others thought this action would be unconstitutional. If you were Truman, what decision do you make?

- A. Order government seizure of the mills.
- B. Continue to persuade both the union and owners to reach an agreement.

McCarthy

Senator Joseph McCarthy rose to fame by making accusations of communists working in high places in the government. In 1954 he began televised hearings into alleged communists in the U. S. Army. McCarthy claimed to have lists of communists and communist sympathizers in the government. He never, however, provided the lists to the public.

Anyone who criticized McCarthy was called a “dupe” or “sympathizer” of the communists. McCarthy harmed people’s reputations by making unfair and unfounded charges against them. This became apparent during the Army–McCarthy hearings as McCarthy made unfounded charges against U.S. Army officers. Some suggested that Eisenhower denounce McCarthy and his tactics. Eisenhower was a former high ranking general. What would you do?

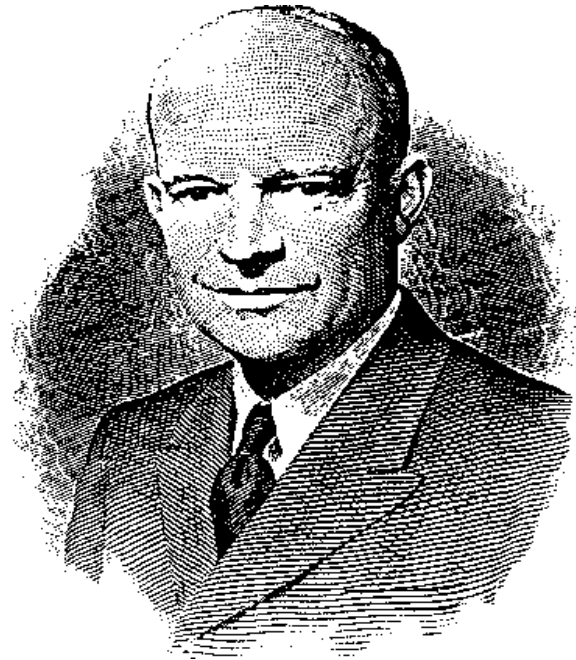
- A. Denounce McCarthy.
- B. Keep quiet.

Aid to Indochina

The French had been trying to maintain their control of Indochina. The communists were fighting to force them out. The war was going badly for the French. The U.S. had supplied \$24 billion in military aid. By 1954 the French army was trapped at a place called Dien Bien Phu.

Some thought that the only way to prevent the communists from taking over was for the U.S. to send troops. Others even suggested dropping an atomic bomb on the communist forces besieging the French. What would you do?

- A. Nothing.
- B. Send U.S. soldiers.
- C. Drop an atomic bomb.



Dwight Eisenhower

Little Rock and Integration

The Supreme Court had decided in 1954 that segregated schools were inherently unequal. In 1957 Central High in Little Rock Arkansas was to be integrated. Governor Orval Faubus ordered the National Guard to prevent the nine black students from enrolling in all-white Central High. A federal court order directed Faubus to withdraw the National Guard and allow the black students to enroll. Local school authorities ordered the students to withdraw fearing mob violence.

There was massive resistance in the south to school integration. 101 southern congressmen called for resistance to efforts to integrate schools. President Eisenhower had to decide what to do. What would you do?

- A. Call out U.S. soldiers to protect the black students.
- B. Allow the Department of Justice to handle it.
- C. Wait until things cool off.

Sherman Adams

President Eisenhower's chief of staff who was accused of accepting favors.

John Foster Dulles

Eisenhower's Secretary of State. An ardent anti-communist.

Dwight D. Eisenhower

Very popular president from 1952 to 1960. A Republican.

Gov. Orval Faubus

The governor of Arkansas who opposed the integration of Little Rock High School. President Eisenhower sent in the U.S. Army to enforce the Supreme Court decision ending school segregation.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

A minister in Montgomery, Alabama. Led the Montgomery Bus Boycott to end segregation on city buses. Became a famous civil rights leader.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur

The commander of the U.N. forces in Korea. He wanted to invade Communist China and said so publicly. President Truman fired him for defying orders.

Sen. Joseph McCarthy

Senator from Wisconsin noted for his anti-communism. He claimed there were communists working for the government when there were none. He was censured by the United States Senate for making irresponsible attacks.

Richard Nixon

Vice-president under Eisenhower. Ran for president in 1960 and lost to John F. Kennedy. He ran again in 1968 and won.

Rosa Parks

The lady who started the Montgomery bus boycott by refusing to give up her seat to a white.

Sam Rayburn

The very powerful Speaker of the House. Congressman from Texas.

Jonas Salk

Developed the polio vaccine.

Adlai E. Stevenson

A democratic senator from Illinois who opposed Eisenhower in the elections of 1952 and 1956.

Harry S Truman

A former senator from Missouri. Became Roosevelt's vice-president in 1944 and president in 1945. He was elected in 1948 after a hard-fought campaign with the Republican candidate Tom Dewey.

Earl Warren

Appointed Supreme Justice of the Supreme Court by President Eisenhower. The former governor of California led the court in making important decisions regarding racial equality and civil rights.

Wayne Morse

Senator from Oregon who switched from the Republican Party to the Democratic in protest of Eisenhower's policies. Conservationist.

Estes Kefauver

Senator from Tennessee who investigated organized crime. A candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination.

Ezra Taft Benson

Eisenhower's Secretary of Agriculture.

Martin Durkin

Eisenhower's Secretary of Labor who resigned in protest of the President's policies.

Oveta Culp Hobby

The first secretary of the newly created cabinet post of Health, Education and Welfare.

Robert Stevens

Secretary of the Army who was called to testify before Senator McCarthy about alleged communists in the army.

Roy Cohn

An aide to Senator McCarthy. Later became a famous lawyer.

Robert Taft

Conservative Republican senator from Ohio. Opposed Eisenhower for Republican nomination in 1952.

Charles E. Wilson

Eisenhower's Secretary of Defense.

Braceros

Farmworkers from Mexico. A program was started in World War II to provide farmworkers to farms in the western U.S. The braceros were used by large farmers to depress the wages paid to farmworkers. This became an issue in the 1960's as Mexican American farmworkers demanded higher wages.

Brown v. Board of Education

A Supreme Court decision in 1954 which ended segregation in public schools. Up to this time the Supreme Court had determined that separate schools for African Americans were legal as long as they were equal. This decision determined that separating the races made one race inherently unequal.

Checkers speech

Richard Nixon was the vice-president under Dwight Eisenhower. In the first campaign it was revealed that he had received money from special interests. Many wanted him kicked off the ticket. He made a televised speech claiming that he had done nothing wrong. While making the speech he had his family and his dog with him. His dog was named Checkers.

Dienbienphu

The final battle in Indochina. The Viet Minh (Vietnamese communists) defeated the French for control of Indochina. The area was divided into North and South Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia, setting the stage for the Vietnam war. North Vietnam was under control of the communists.

Domino theory

The idea that if one country fell to the communists, the surrounding countries would also fall to the communists like a string of dominoes.

Eisenhower Doctrine

The extension of the policy of containment to the Middle East declaring the area out of bounds for communist aggression.

Hungarian revolution

In 1956 Hungarians revolted against Russian domination. The Russians used their army to suppress the revolt. Many Hungarians fled the country to Austria and eventually the United States.

Korean War

The Korean War began in 1950 when communist North Korea invaded South Korea. The United States asked the U.N. to help South Korea. The U.S. provided the bulk of the forces.

McCarthyism

The Cold War with Russia began a search for spies and communist sympathizers in the United States. Senator Joseph McCarthy accused innocent people of being communist sympathizers.

Military-industrial complex

When Eisenhower left office he described the military-industrial complex as a threat to the country. Military contractors hire retired military officers. Military bases in Congressional districts have a great political influence in keeping the arms race going.

Panmunjon

The place in Korea where the truce ending the Korean War was signed.

Polio vaccine

Invented by Dr. Jonas Salk. The vaccine prevented the dreaded paralyzing disease.

Sputnik

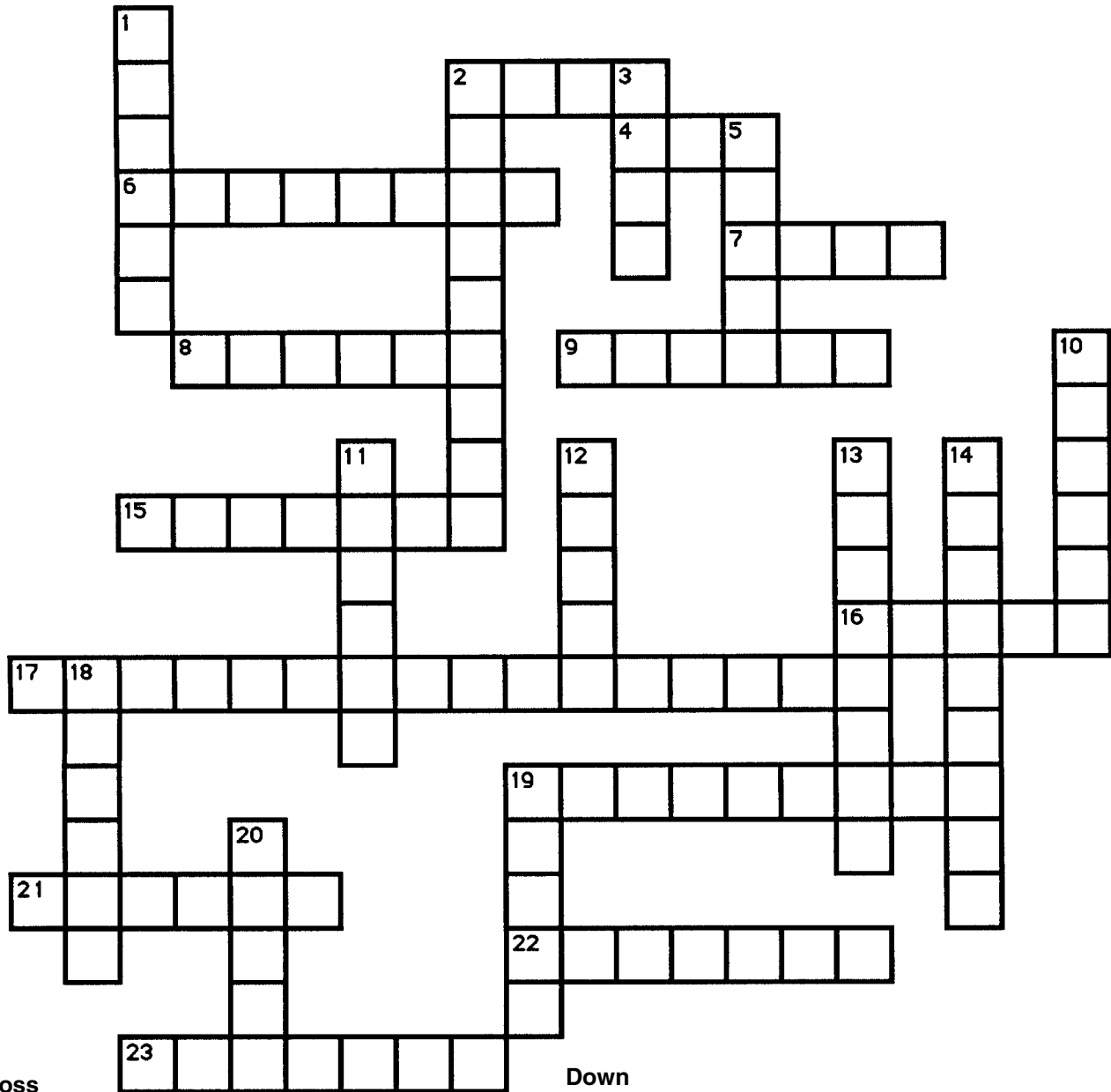
The Russians launched the first satellite in 1957. It was called Sputnik.

U-2 Incident

The U-2 was a spy plane. The plane was shot down over Russia. The U.S. denied that the plane was flying over Russia. The Russians proved the U.S. wrong by capturing the pilot.

Warren Court

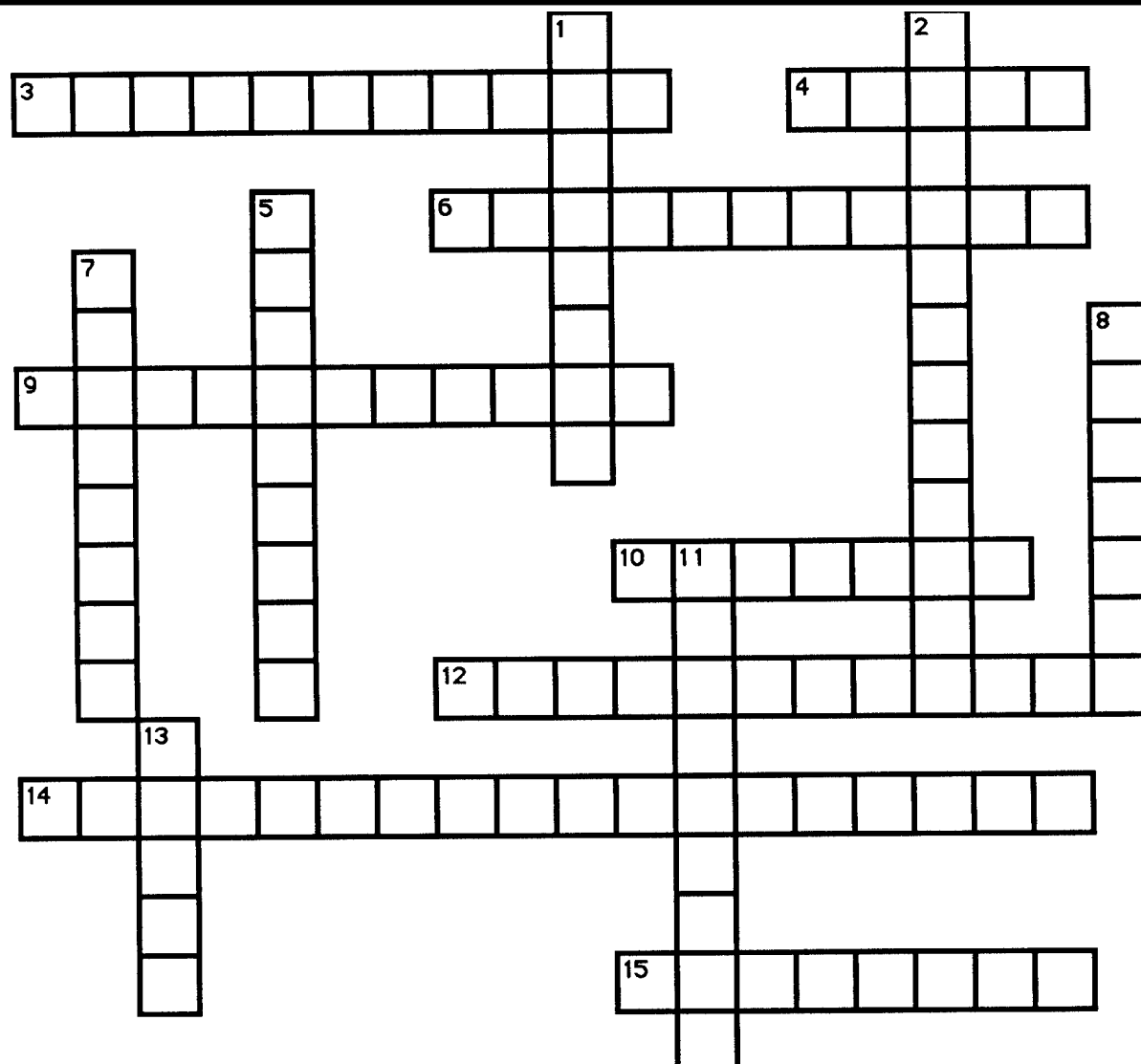
The name given to the Supreme Court while Earl Warren was Chief Justice. The court was known for its "judicial activism."

**Across**

2. Inventor of polio vaccine.
4. Eisenhower's nickname.
6. Tennessee senator who led hearings about organized crime.
7. Conservative Republican senator from Ohio.
8. President who refused to run in 1952.
9. Secretary of Defense under Eisenhower.
15. Speaker of the House.
16. An aide to Eisenhower who resigned because of a scandal.
17. Elected president in 1952 (2 words).
19. Military commander fired by Truman.
21. Eisenhower's Secretary of Agriculture.
22. Secretary of Army who testified before Senator McCarthy.
23. An aide to McCarthy (2 words).

Down

1. Martin _____, Eisenhower's Secretary of Labor.
2. Adlai _____, Democratic candidate for president.
3. Led Montgomery bus boycott.
5. Kefauver's first name.
10. Governor of Arkansas who opposed integration.
11. Eisenhower's Secretary of state.
12. Vice-President from 1952 to 1960.
13. Senator famous for investigating communism.
14. Refused to sit in a segregated section of a bus (2 words).
18. Supreme Court Chief Justice.
19. Senator from Oregon who championed conservation.
20. Oveta Culp _____, first Secretary of HEW.

**Across**

3. Where the Viet Minh defeated the French in Vietnam.
4. _____ v. Board. The famous case that ended school segregation.
6. The fear of communists hiding in government positions.
9. The court headed by Earl Warren (2 words).
10. What the first Russian satellite was called.
12. The idea that if one nation fell to communism, nearby countries would fall also (2 words).
14. The politically powerful combination of defense contractors and the Pentagon (2 words).
15. The Eisenhower _____ extended the policy of containment to the Middle East.

Down

1. Richard Nixon's dog.
2. A famous medical breakthrough of the 50's by Jonas Salk (2 words).
5. This war ended in 1954 (2 words).
7. Workers from Mexico.
8. The people revolted in this communist country and many refugees fled to the U.S.
11. Where the truce negotiations took place in Korea.
13. The U-2 was a spy _____.

1950's Eisenhower Viewpoint Questions

Directions

Read both viewpoints on the following pages and answer the questions below.

General questions for both viewpoints

1. Which viewpoint favors Dwight Eisenhower?
2. What evidence or arguments are used to indicate Eisenhower was a good president?
3. Which viewpoint is critical of Eisenhower?
4. What evidence or arguments are used to indicate Eisenhower was not a good president?
5. What events are mentioned in the favorable viewpoint that are not mentioned in the unfavorable viewpoint?
6. What events and generalizations are mentioned in the unfavorable viewpoint that are not mentioned in the favorable viewpoint?
7. Are there any generalizations which are agreed upon by both viewpoints? If any, what are they?

Valid generalizations

Which statements are valid generalizations? A generalization is a conclusion based upon the facts. It may also include a value judgment or opinion. A valid generalization is supported by the facts. An invalid generalization is not supported by the facts and tends to be more of an opinion. Mark (V) for valid and (I) for an invalid generalization. Use (CT) if you can't tell.

1. _____ Eisenhower's policies increased the chance of nuclear war.
2. _____ Eisenhower was a moderate who helped the poor as well as the rich.
3. _____ Eisenhower was not a conservationist.

4. _____ Eisenhower was a popular president.

5. _____ Eisenhower did little to advance civil rights.

Assumptions Viewpoint A

An assumption is something that is believed to be true without proof. Our values and beliefs influence our generalizations about things. This is called bias. Often an author's values and assumptions are not openly stated. Which statements would the author of Viewpoint A agree with? Mark an (A) for those that you think the author would agree with and a (D) for those you think the author would disagree with. Use (CT) if you can't tell.

1. _____ It is good for the government to protect the environment.
2. _____ It is important for the government to advance civil rights.
3. _____ It is important to fight communist aggression.
4. _____ The government should use military force to get its way with other countries.
5. _____ Eisenhower was more liberal than Congress.

Emotional words

Certain words are used to influence the reader's feelings or show the author's biases. Identify these words in the statements below. Underline the words or phrases.

1. Eisenhower was a man of peace.
2. He warned the American people about the military-industrial complex.
3. The public image of labor was tarnished.

Dwight Eisenhower was elected president in 1952. The United States was involved in the Korean War which seemed to have no end. Eisenhower, who was commander of Allied forces in Europe during World War II, promised to end the war.

Eisenhower went to Korea to review the situation. In 1954 a truce was negotiated establishing the boundary line between North and South Korea at about where it was when the war began.

The 20th Century has seen a steady rise in education. In 1900 only 11% of American young people were enrolled in high school. By 1940 it had risen to 73%. During the same period college enrollment had risen eight times. After World War II the increase in education enrollment continued with the G.I. Bill financing the costs for many students. Eisenhower began to pump money into education. In 1953 he authorized federal grants to school districts that had been impacted by federal spending. Two years later he advocated more money for school construction but Southern Democrats, fearing integration, defeated his proposal. In 1957 he again proposed massive amounts of federal aid for school construction but was defeated by a combination of Southern Democrats and Republicans.

Eisenhower had better success in aiding higher education. In 1958 he persuaded Congress to pass the National Defense Education Act which provided loans for students to complete their college education and granted money for improved science and math instruction to public schools.

The president became a leader in the fight for equal rights for African Americans. He appointed Earl Warren, the governor of California, as Supreme Court Chief Justice in 1953. Warren led the court in making historic decisions ending segregation in schools and public places. In 1957 When Orval Faubus, the governor of Arkansas, opposed the integration of Central High School in Little Rock, President

Eisenhower sent the U.S. Army to enforce the court order.

Eisenhower worked closely with labor during his administration. He expanded the Social Security Act to cover one million people who were not covered, such as farmers, local government workers and clergymen. Eligibility was lowered to the age of 62.

Eisenhower also proposed an expanded housing program and proposed building 140,000 public housing units over a four year period. Congress refused this idea and later accepted 35,000 units.

Eisenhower was hampered in his efforts by a coalition of conservative Republicans and Democrats in Congress who refused to pass the laws that he wanted. They opposed increases in spending for housing and education. They also opposed any civil rights legislation that Eisenhower wanted.

Congress did approve of Eisenhower's \$33.5 billion proposal to build 41,000 miles of highways and he created the interstate highway system. Eisenhower also was able to bring about the construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway which connected the Great Lakes with the Atlantic Ocean. Five previous presidents had proposed this and had been defeated by opposition in Congress.

Eisenhower struggled with the traditional problem of farmers—overproduction. Eisenhower's Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson pushed through Congress flexible price supports for five basic crops and a soil bank plan in which farmers would be paid for taking crops out of production.

Eisenhower ended his presidency worrying about what the Cold War had produced. He warned the American people about the military-industrial complex, a combination of businesses, politicians and military who wanted to continue the arms race because it produced profits and jobs. Eisenhower was a man of peace. He hoped that someday the Cold War and the arms race would end.

Dwight Eisenhower was the perfect president for the 1950's. It was uncertain whether he was a Republican or Democrat. Some Democrats tried to enlist him to run in 1948 against Truman for the Democratic nomination. He was a popular hero because of his World War II experience. He was a middle-of-the-road president and continued the Cold War policies of Truman.

Using threats of bombing China Eisenhower carried out his promise of ending the Korean War. Eisenhower began an arms build-up and continued the "policy of containment" to stop the expansion of communism. In Southeast Asia SEATO (Southeast Asia Treaty Organization) was created and in the Middle East CENTO (Central Treaty Organization).

On the homefront Eisenhower was preoccupied with balancing the budget and cutting taxes. Between 1952 and '56 Eisenhower cut federal employment from 2.4 million to 2.2 million. To save on defense expenditures which made up two-thirds of the budget, Charles Wilson, the Secretary of Defense, stressed a "bigger bang for the buck" relying upon nuclear weapons to deter Soviet aggression. In 1954 Eisenhower sought a tax cut that favored the rich by allowing the first \$50 of dividends to be untaxed. By 1956 the federal government actually had a surplus, the first since 1948. After 1955 Eisenhower spent more on defense and welfare but far less than what was needed.

Social security was expanded, more public housing was built and the interstate highway system was started. Also the St. Lawrence Seaway was constructed.

Organized labor felt betrayed by Eisenhower. Eisenhower's appointee to Secretary of Labor, Martin Durkin, resigned from office when the President refused to recommend changes in the Taft-Hartley Act. The public image of labor was also tarnished when the U.S. Senate began investigations of labor racketeering. In response to the labor investigations the AFL-CIO expelled the Teamsters' Union in 1957.

Eisenhower was slow to react to the need of social justice by African Americans. Blacks were denied access to public facilities in the South, were still denied the right to vote in many parts of the South and schools were still segregated. With the Supreme Court decision of *Brown v. Topeka* in 1954 segregated schools were outlawed. However, the Eisenhower administration moved slowly to enforce the law. In 1957 the President sent Federal troops to force the admission of black students to Central High in Little Rock, Arkansas. He did little else to force integration. African Americans were highly critical of Eisenhower for lack of effort.

Eisenhower continued in the Republican tradition of giving away public resources to private interests for exploitation. In 1953 he signed an act giving coastal states the rights to oil and natural gas lying along their shorelines. This would make it easier for private interests to exploit these resources. Senator Wayne Morse, a former Republican who switched political parties because he was upset with Eisenhower, charged that the Department of Interior was allowing certain private interests to exploit timber in federal forests and allowing oil drilling in wildlife preserves.

Eisenhower was easily re-elected in 1956 but criticism of his administration began to mount. People thought he was a "do-nothing" president who took too many vacations and was preoccupied with balancing the budget at the expense of welfare programs.

Questions

Bias

1. What is the main point of the article?
2. What evidence does the author use to support her point?

1950's Cold War Viewpoint Questions

Directions

Read both viewpoints on the following pages and answer the questions below.

General questions for both viewpoints

1. Which viewpoint favors the Cold War?
2. What evidence or arguments are used to indicate the Cold War was necessary?
3. Which viewpoint is critical of Cold War?
4. What evidence or arguments are used to indicate the Cold War was not a good idea?
5. What events are mentioned in the favorable viewpoint that are not mentioned in the unfavorable viewpoint?
6. What events and generalizations are mentioned in the unfavorable viewpoint that are not mentioned in the favorable viewpoint?
7. Are there any generalizations which are agreed upon by both viewpoints? If any, what are they?

Valid generalizations

Which statements are valid generalizations? A generalization is a conclusion based upon the facts. It may also include a value judgment or opinion. A valid generalization is supported by the facts. An invalid generalization is not supported by the facts and tends to be more of an opinion. Mark (V) for valid and (I) for an invalid generalization. Use (CT) if you can't tell.

1. _____ The Cold War was totally unnecessary.
2. _____ The U.S. interfered in the affairs of other countries to protect business interests.
3. _____ The U.S. engaged in the Cold War to protect democracy.

4. _____ Communism expanded after World War II.

Assumptions Viewpoint A

An assumption is something that is believed to be true without proof. Our values and beliefs influence our generalizations about things. This is called bias. Often an author's values and assumptions are not openly stated. Which statements would the author of Viewpoint A agree with? Mark an (A) for those that you think the author would agree with and a (D) for those you think the author would disagree with. Use (CT) if you can't tell.

1. _____ The Soviet Union caused the Cold War.
2. _____ Communism is a better alternative than capitalism because it helps the poor.
3. _____ Democracy is better than communism.
4. _____ The government should use military force to get its way with other countries.

Emotional words

Certain words are used to influence the reader's feelings or show the author's biases. Identify these words in the statements below. Underline the words or phrases.

1. Anti-communist witch hunts were conducted in the U.S.
2. The U.S. installed a right-wing military dictatorship.
3. The U.S. supported rich landowners.
4. Communist totalitarian regimes were imposed upon Europe.

Winston Churchill, in a speech given at Fulton, Missouri, in 1946 described the "Iron Curtain" that had dropped across Europe. The curtain was created by communist Russia. Joseph Stalin, the Russian dictator, had promised free elections in eastern Europe after the war. Instead, communist totalitarian regimes were imposed on the eastern European countries. In Poland, democratic forces were wiped out. In Czechoslovakia, the president of the democratically elected government was thrown from a window and the communist party took over. The Cold War had begun.

The Soviet Union also tried to export communist revolutions outside of eastern Europe. In Greece, communist revolutionaries attempted to overthrow the government. The United States responded with the Truman Doctrine. Aid was given to governments threatened by a communist takeover. The U.S. provided \$400 million in aid to Greece and the communist forces were defeated in 1949.

To rebuild western Europe, the Marshall Plan was adopted and \$16 billion in aid was given to the war-torn countries of Europe. The Soviet Union in contrast was looting the countries under its control in eastern Europe. The Soviet Union did not disarm after the war but kept large armies in eastern Europe.

Great Britain and the United States dismantled their armed forces at the end of the war. With the Soviet attempt to blockade Berlin and drive the allies out, it became apparent that the Soviets represented a military threat to western Europe.

The United States, Canada and western European countries created a defensive military alliance, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, to protect western Europe from Soviet aggression.

Communist aggression took place in other areas. The communists took over China in 1949. Communists fought against the French in Indochina and in 1950, communist North Korea invaded South Korea. The United States and

the United Nations aided South Korea in fighting the communists and in 1954 a truce was reached which established a border between the two countries. The border was about the same place as it was before the war.

From 1945 to 1949 the Soviet Union had larger land forces than the U.S., but the U.S. had the atomic bomb. In 1949, the Soviet Union exploded their own bomb. Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were arrested and convicted for passing atomic bomb secrets to the Soviets. They were executed for treason in 1953.

The communists continued to push for world domination in the 1950's. In 1954 communists won a victory over the French in Indochina. The Russians brutally crushed revolts in East Germany, Poland and Hungary. To keep East Germans from fleeing to democratic West Germany the communists built the Berlin Wall. Any Germans who tried to cross it were executed.

The communists began to make inroads in Latin America. Their first attempt was to take over the government of Guatemala. The pro-communist regime of Jacobo Arbenz was overthrown by the Guatemalans with the help of the United States. Communists were successful in taking over Cuba in 1959 when Fidel Castro took control of the government.

By the end of the 1950's Americans realized that they were in a struggle with a formidable adversary, the Soviet Union, which was attempting to spread communism throughout the world.

Questions

Bias

1. What is the main point of the article?
2. What evidence does the author use to support her point?

The Cold War was created by the selfish interests and miscalculations of the U.S. government. President Truman established the Truman Doctrine in 1947 to help the right wing Greek government. During the war Greece had been controlled by the Germans. After the war, Greek democrats began a struggle to restore democracy. The British government, which had controlled Greece through a king since the country had become independent in 1830, could not put down the insurgents. Great Britain asked the United States for help. The U.S. provided military advisors and \$250 million in military aid. The United States believed that the Soviet Union was aiding the Greek revolutionaries. In reality, Joseph Stalin, the dictator of the Soviet Union, had refused them aid. The Greek government won and installed a right-wing military dictatorship that did little to help the poor.

The Soviet Union had been devastated by the war and was in no position to contest the United States for world dominance. The eastern part of the Soviet Union had been completely destroyed. The Soviet Union lost 30 million people during the war. The Soviet Union was concerned about rebuilding its own country and protecting itself from future invasions by Germany. Germany had invaded Russia twice in 30 years. The Soviet Union took control of the countries in eastern Europe to provide a buffer against any future invasions. What the Soviet Union did was no different from the United States intervening in the affairs of our Latin American neighbors to protect business interests and the Panama Canal.

The United States failed to understand the needs of poor countries. Behind every revolution the U.S. saw the threat of communism. In Asia the United States failed to recognize that the communist-led revolutions in China and Vietnam were actually nationalist revolutions to rid their country of imperialist oppressors. The U.S. usually allied itself with military dictatorships. In the case of China, it was Chiang Kai-shek, who, in turn, was supported by a wealthy

ruling class. In the case of Vietnam the U.S. backed the colonial power France whose rule the Vietnamese hated.

In Latin America the U.S. also supported military dictators who protected rich landowners and U.S. business interests. The U.S., using the Central Intelligence Agency, overthrew any government that attempted social reforms to help the poor. In Guatemala the U.S. overthrew a democratically elected government because it was a threat to U.S. business interests. In Cuba, the U.S. cut off diplomatic relations and trade to overthrow the Castro government which had nationalized U.S. owned plantations. When severing trade didn't work, the U.S. sponsored an invasion.

Instead of providing economic aid and encouraging democratic reforms, the U.S. provided military aid to prop up military governments.

The Cold War and anti-communism also fit well into the hands of American corporations at the end of World War II. Military expenditures provided large profits for some American corporations. Anti-communist witch hunts conducted by the U.S. government forced labor unions to get rid of their most radical members who were strong fighters for workers' rights. The Cold War suppressed any criticism of the government or the economy. Anyone who was critical would be called a communist or communist sympathizer.

The Cold War mentality that developed in the 1950's led the U.S. into the tragic Vietnam War and a terribly expensive arms race that deprived the poor of government expenditures to improve their lives.

Questions

Bias

1. What is the main point of the article?
2. What evidence does the author use to support her point?

Directions

Write a news story using the facts below. Write the story using the inverted pyramid. Decide which facts are the most important and put them at the beginning of the story. Place the least important facts at the end of the story. You may combine facts into one sentence and you may rewrite sentences.

Write the story in a journalistic style. Put no more than five sentences in a paragraph and limit the sentences to 20 words or less.

Facts: Nixon's Secret Fund

šRichard Nixon, a U.S. Senator from California, is the Republican vice-presidential candidate in the 1952 election.

šNixon said, "This is another typical smear by the same left wing elements which have fought me ever since I took part in the investigation which led to the conviction of Alger Hiss.

šThe *New York Post* revealed on September 18, 1952, that a secret fund had been set up for Richard Nixon.

šNixon is an ardent anti-communist who served in the House of Representatives on the House Un-American Activities Committee.

šThe fund was set up by Dana Smith, a Pasadena, California, lawyer in 1950.

šThere were 76 contributors to the fund which totalled \$18,000.

šNixon defeated Helen Gahagan Douglas in the California election for the U.S. Senate in 1950.

šSmith said that the fund was set up to support Nixon's campaign against communism and corruption in government.

šThe fund was set up when Nixon was elected U.S. Senator in 1950.

šThe *New York Post* favors the Democratic nominee for president, Adlai Stevenson.

šThe Republican presidential candidate, Dwight Eisenhower, had no comment on the charge.

Directions

Write a news story using the facts below. Write the story using the inverted pyramid. Decide which facts are the most important and put them at the beginning of the story. Place the least important facts at the end of the story. You may combine facts into one sentence and you may rewrite sentences.

Write the story in a journalistic style. Put no more than five sentences in a paragraph and limit the sentences to 20 words or less.

Facts: St. Lawrence Seaway

šThe St. Lawrence Seaway links the Great Lakes with the Atlantic Ocean.

šAn ocean-going ship can travel from the Atlantic all the way to Chicago, Illinois.

šFive previous presidents had proposed the Seaway and had been defeated.

šThe Seaway will be financed by a corporation set up by the U.S. government which will sell \$105 million in bonds to the U.S. Treasury.

šThe Seaway had been opposed for years by railroads, Eastern seaports and the coal miners.

šOn May 13, 1954, President Eisenhower signed a bill authorizing the joint construction by Canada and the United States of the St. Lawrence Seaway.

šDeclining iron supplies in Minnesota made the canal important for bringing in new iron supplies from Labrador and other places to steel mills located on the Great Lakes.

šA hydroelectric plant will also be constructed and run jointly by New York and Ontario.

Directions

Write a news story using the facts below. Write the story using the inverted pyramid. Decide which facts are the most important and put them at the beginning of the story. Place the least important facts at the end of the story. You may combine facts into one sentence and you may rewrite sentences.

Write the story in a journalistic style. Put no more than five sentences in a paragraph and limit the sentences to 20 words or less.

Facts: School Integration

šLinda Brown was an eleven year-old black girl.

šLinda Brown lost her case in the Federal District Court of Kansas.

šBrown wanted to enroll in the school closest to her home. She was denied enrollment because the school was segregated. Only white children could attend.

š2.5 million blacks and 8 million whites attended segregated schools.

šLinda Brown lived in Topeka, Kansas.

šThe Supreme Court decision Plessy v. Ferguson declared segregated schools were constitutional if the facilities were equal. The decision was made in 1896.

šLinda Brown's parents sued in 1950 to have Linda admitted to the all-white school.

šSeventeen states and the District of Columbia had laws requiring segregated schools.

š Linda Brown's case was one of five similar cases that the Supreme Court began hearing in 1952.

šThe attorney for Brown's case was Thurgood Marshall, an attorney for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

šMay 17, 1954 the Supreme Court unanimously ruled that segregated schools violated the 14th Amendment which guarantees equal protection of the law.

šThe Chief Justice of the Supreme Court is Earl Warren.

šEarl Warren is the former Republican governor of California.

Directions

Write a news story using the facts below. Write the story using the inverted pyramid. Decide which facts are the most important and put them at the beginning of the story. Place the least important facts at the end of the story. You may combine facts into one sentence and you may rewrite sentences.

Write the story in a journalistic style. Put no more than five sentences in a paragraph and limit the sentences to 20 words or less.

Facts: Sputnik

šThe satellite was 22 inches in diameter and weighed 184.3 pounds.

šIt reached a maximum height in orbit of 560 miles.

šThe satellite was called "Sputnik."

šSputnik is Russian meaning an object that was traveling with a traveler.

šSputnik circled the globe once every hour and thirty-five minutes at a speed of 18,000 miles an hour.

šThe satellite was launched by the Soviet Union on Saturday morning, October 5, 1957.

šThe Soviets are the first to launch a satellite.

šThe satellite contained two radio transmitters that send scientific information to earth.

šSenator Henry M. Jackson says, "The launching is a devastating blow to the prestige of the United States as the leader in the scientific and technical world."

šRear Admiral Rawson Bennett, said, "I don't know why such a fuss is being made over a hunk of iron almost anybody could launch."

šAdmiral Bennett is the Chief of the Office of Naval Research.

Directions

Read the background and the pro and con arguments. Decide which view you agree with the most.

The issue is, how far should the government go to protect the country from subversion?

Background: Internal Subversion

Concerns about spies had began when Whittaker Chambers charged that Alger Hiss, a State Department employee, had been a member of the Communist Party. Hiss sued Chambers for libel but lost his case. Hiss was later convicted and sentenced to jail for perjury.

In 1949 12 leading members of the Communist Party were convicted for violating the Smith Alien Registration Act. This law, which was passed in 1940, made it illegal to teach that the violent overthrow of the government is desirable, or to publish material advocating the overthrow of the government, or to organize or belong to an organization that advocates the overthrow the government.

Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were convicted for passing atomic bomb secrets on to the Russians in 1951. With increasing fears about the power of the Soviet Union, many Americans were worried about “subversives”—communists and communist sympathizers in the government.

The House Un-American Activities Committee conducted investigations into possible communist influence in labor unions and the entertainment industry. Many people lost their jobs because others thought they were communists.

President Truman created the Loyalty Review Board and dismissed many government employees for being “disloyal.” However, when Eisenhower took office in 1952 many thought that Truman had not gone far enough.

Politicians such as Senator Joseph McCarthy increased their political power by claiming that there were communists in the government.

Eisenhower extended the right of agency heads to dismiss employees when he took office. The Republicans claimed that 6,926 people were fired for security reasons from May 1953 to October 1954.

In 1954, the Democratically controlled Congress, not to be outdone by the Republicans, passed the Communist Control Act, outlawing the Communist Party.

Pro

The Communist Party was a danger to the United States. It worked under orders from Moscow. It is reasonable that under the circumstances, Communists and their sympathizers should be fired from jobs and put in jail when necessary.

Con

Putting people in jail for membership in the Communist Party or advocating the overthrow of the government is a violation of the First Amendment to the Constitution. If Communists pass secrets to the Soviet Union or actually try to overthrow the government, this is illegal. Speech and membership in an organization should not be.

Directions

Read the background and the pro and con arguments. Decide which view you agree with the most.

Do you think world war should be risked to stop local communist aggression?

Background: Brinksmanship

The Cold War began after World War II. During World War II communist Soviet Union and the United States had been allies. After the war distrust and hostility developed between the two nations. Eastern European countries that were promised free elections became communist dictatorships. In 1947 Churchill described an "iron curtain" that had descended across Europe.

The communists seem to be on the move elsewhere. In China the communists took control of the country in 1949 in spite of massive amounts of military aid that the U.S. had provided the nationalist government.

In response to apparent Russian aggression, President Truman developed a policy of containment. Communism would not be allowed to expand. In Europe the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) was created. Truman asked General Eisenhower to organize NATO which was a military alliance to defend Europe from Soviet attacks.

Eisenhower became president in 1952. At the urging of his Secretary of State, John Foster Dulles, Eisenhower became an advocate of brinksmanship. Dulles was convinced that the invasion of South Korea by the communists in 1950 was the result of a misunderstanding of where the U.S. would draw the line against communist aggression.

Dulles believed that the communists should be told in simple and clear terms that there would be serious consequences if they attacked any country. The U.S. would use "massive retaliation" against communist aggression.

Eisenhower's foreign policy was challenged by the Chinese communists. The Nationalist Chinese, whom we supported, retreated to islands of the Chinese mainland in 1949. The largest of these was Formosa. In 1957, the Chinese communists attacked two smaller offshore islands, Quemoy and Matsu. They bombarded the islands for six weeks prior to invasion.

Pro

The only way to stop communist aggression is by the threat of military action.

The threat of military action works. It worked when the Soviets attempted to take over northern Iran in 1947. Harry Truman threatened the Soviets with an atomic attack if they didn't remove their troops. They removed them.

Con

The policy of brinksmanship was dangerous because it could easily lead to a much larger war, and possibly a world war.

Immediately after the war the U.S. was the only country with an atomic bomb. The Soviets acquired their own atomic bomb in 1948.

The U.S. should limit its military involvement in far off places such as Asia. Many military leaders warned of the difficulty of fighting a country like China 10,000 miles away from the U.S.

Directions

Read the background and the pro and con arguments. Decide which view you agree with the most.

Should the U.S. become militarily involved in far away places just because the Soviets might become involved?

Background: Eisenhower Doctrine

Great Britain and France had traditionally been the western influences in the Middle East because they were the former colonial powers in the region. The Arab countries of the Middle East had achieved their independence after World War II. The British retained control, however, of the Suez Canal.

Egypt took control of the Suez Canal in 1956. France, Great Britain and Israel invaded Egypt without telling the United States. The U.S. denounced their actions. They withdrew their forces and the U.S. was worried that the Soviet Union would increase its influence in the area. Already the Soviets were supplying arms and economic aid to Egypt.

Eisenhower proposed that the U.S. provide military and economic aid to any Middle Eastern country that requested it. Military aid included sending U.S. military forces into the Middle East when they were needed.

Pro

The Middle East is close to the Soviet Union. If the U.S. does not promise aid to Middle Eastern countries they will eventually fall under the domination of the Soviet Union.

The Middle East provides large amounts of oil. These oil supplies could be threatened by the Soviets.

Con

Providing military aid to the Middle East supported undemocratic governments. Jordan and Saudi Arabia, for example, were ruled by dictatorial kings.

Sending military aid would do nothing to solve the real problem in the area which is the conflict between Israel and its Arab neighbors.

Directions

Read the background and the pro and con views and decide which you agree with the most. The issue is, should the natural resources of the country be sold to private interests?

Background: Environmental Policy

After the Civil War the Federal government passed the Mineral Lands Acts of 1866 and 1872 which opened public lands for exploration and sale.

At the end of World War I Congress passed the Mineral Lands Leasing Act of 1920 which allowed for the leasing to private companies oil lands which were controlled by the Federal government. These policies continued with modification.

Theodore Roosevelt put the federally controlled lands under tighter control. The Forest Service under the Department of Agriculture controlled millions of acres of land. Timber and mining companies had been plundering the resources at a very cheap price. Roosevelt's Chief Forester, Gifford Pinchot, established the policy of multiple use allowing for timber cutting, mining, recreation, and grazing with the idea of protecting the environment.

Miners, timber and cattlemen preferred that the federal government sell federal lands. Later, when oil became important in the 1920's, oil companies clamored for the sale of federal lands.

The New Deal of the 1930's also emphasized conservation of natural resources and federal ownership.

In 1945 President Truman proclaimed federal ownership of all resources on the continental shelf. As early as the 1930's Texas and Louisiana had begun to deed oil leases to private companies to drill for oil off the coast. Selling these oil leases to private companies was a source of money for the states. Congress passed two bills giving the states control but Truman vetoed them. The Supreme Court upheld Truman's decision in 1947 and 1950.

In the presidential campaign of 1952 Eisenhower declared that he favored state ownership of the off-shore mineral resources. Consequently, Congress in 1953 passed an act to give the states of California, Florida, Texas and Louisiana the mineral rights.

Pro

The country needs timber and oil. Private companies should be allowed to develop these resources. In the case of oil, the U.S. should produce as much of its own as possible. Otherwise the U.S. must depend on outside sources and thus lose some of its independence. Allowing for the cutting of timber can provide cheaper housing for Americans.

Con

Private mining, timber and oil companies have a poor environmental record. To sell public lands to private companies will cause waste and pollution. The leasing of mineral and timber rights to private companies must be controlled to prevent destruction of the environment and must be balanced against recreational uses. The federal government must maintain control of the land to protect it from exploitation.

Directions

One of the most important events of the 1950's was the Supreme Court decision in 1954 which overturned the decision that allowed segregation of the races in public facilities.

Using the information below, write a news story about the event. Use the inverted pyramid approach putting the important information first and the least important last. If you quote someone use quotation marks and identify the source. The events described below are fictional but typical of the time.

Interview with Orval Faubus, Governor of Arkansas

Interviewer: Do you think you are violating Federal law by not letting the black student into Central High?

Faubus: No. I think the Federal government is violating the rights of the state of Arkansas. They can't tell us how to run our schools.

Interviewer: But you are using the National Guard to stop students from entering the school.

Faubus: The National Guard is the state militia and I called them out to keep the peace.

Interviewer: Do you think there is a threat of violence?

Faubus: Yes. If those black students go near that school there will be a riot. Keeping them out of there is in their own best interests. I'm protecting their safety.

Interview with Jason Pace, a representative of the Federal government

Interviewer: What do you think will happen at Central High?

Pace: We think the governor is violating a Federal court order.

Interviewer: What do you intend to do about it?

Pace: We expect the governor to obey the law.

Interviewer: What about the safety of the students?

Pace: We expect that their safety be protected.

Interviewer: Do you think the governor is willing to do that? He says that there will be violence if the students attend Central High.

Pace: If he doesn't, we are prepared to.

Interviewer: Does that mean sending in Federal marshals?

Pace: The U.S. Army if necessary.

Interview with Carolyn Brown, an African American student attempting to enroll at Central High

Interviewer: Have they allowed you to enroll yet?

Brown: No. The National Guard has been keeping us away from the school. They say it is not safe if we go there.

Interviewer: Do you think the National Guard will protect you?

Brown: No.

Interviewer: Are you afraid?

Brown: Yes.

Interviewer: Why do you want to go to that school then?

Brown: Because we have a right to. That is what the Supreme Court has decided. We have to stick up for our rights.

Interview with Billy Dee Foster, a member of the crowd of whites that is protesting the enrollment of black students in Central High

Interviewer: Why are you out here?

Foster: To keep those coloreds out of our school.

Interviewer: You realize, of course, that Federal courts have ordered the enrollment of the black students.

Foster: I don't care what they order. They ain't going to our school.

Interviewer: How do you intend to keep them out?

Foster: Our governor is going to keep 'em out.

Interviewer: Do you think there will be violence if they try to enter the school?

Foster: Yes. Somebody is going to do somethin'.

Interview with Central High School principal, Charles Summers

Interviewer: How do you think the black students will be received when they enroll in school?

Summers: Just fine. We are prepared to receive them. The teachers support their coming here.

Interviewer: What about the students?

Summers: Our student council approves their coming here. I think a lot of students will welcome them.

Interviewer: What about those who won't?

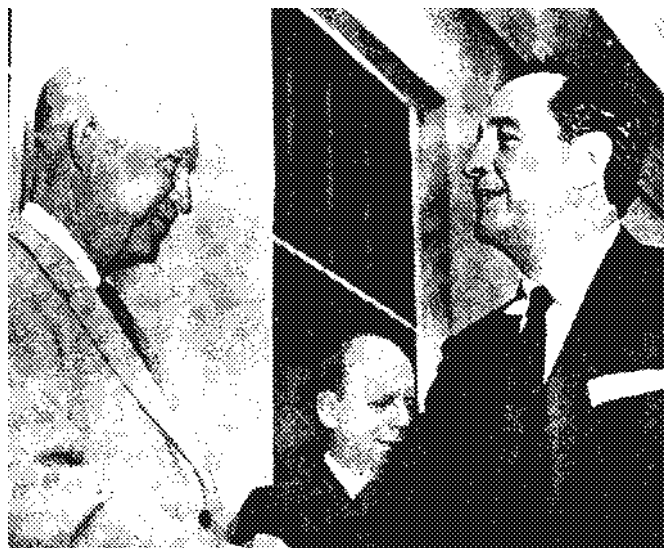
Summers: There won't be any trouble here among our students. We take great pride in our school. The only trouble I see is the outsiders standing out in front of the school. Most of those people don't even live in our town.

Interviewer: When do you expect the students to enroll?

Summers: I think early next week. I am told by the Department of Justice that the President will order in federal marshalls or the U.S. Army to protect the students.

Interviewer: What is taking so long?

Summers: Well, I suppose, the federal government has been trying to convince the governor that it is his responsibility. But I think they have given up on that. I have been told to be ready to enroll the students next week.



President Eisenhower (left) and Arkansas Gov. Orval Faubus.

Directions

Write a telegram containing no more than 20 words reporting each of the events below. You do not have to write complete sentences. Imagine you are a reporter on the scene and you have to send a telegram to your paper reporting the news story and you only have enough money for 20 words.

Korean War

On the morning of June 24, 1950, North Korean forces launched a massive attack upon South Korea at several points along the 38th parallel which forms the boundary between the two countries. At the end of World War II Korea was split into north and south countries. North Korea was under communist rule and South Korea was non-communist. The president of South Korea was Syngman Rhee. U.S. forces were withdrawn from South Korea in 1949.

Truman fires MacArthur

At 1 A.M. on Wednesday April 11, 1951, President Harry Truman fired General Douglas MacArthur. MacArthur is the Commander of U.S. Army forces in the Far East and Commander in Chief of the United Nations forces fighting in Korea. Truman fired the general for insubordination. MacArthur had publicly criticized U.S. strategy in the Korean War. MacArthur publicly advocated expanding the war to China.

Ike Elected

Dwight David Eisenhower won 442 electoral votes to 89 for Adlai Stevenson in November 1952. Eisenhower is the first Republican elected president since 1928. 55% of the American people approved of Eisenhower's campaign slogan "I like Ike." Eisenhower, who was commander of Allied forces in Europe during World War II, is 62 years old and is 5'10" tall and weighs 175 pounds. Eisenhower promised to kick crooks and communists out of the government and to end the war in Korea.

Ike Appoints Charles Wilson

Charles Wilson appeared before the Senate Armed Forces Committee on January 15, 1952. Wilson, the president of General Motors, has been appointed Secretary of Defense by President Eisenhower. Senators said that the fact that Wilson owned 50,000 shares of GM stock and that GM did business with the Defense Department created a conflict of interest. Wilson denied that there was a conflict of interest. Wilson said, "for years I thought what was good for our country was good for General Motors and vice versa."

Korean Armistice

At 10 A.M. on July 26, 1953, President Eisenhower announced the signing of an armistice in Korea. The war had begun in June 1950 when communist North Korea invaded South Korea. South Korean leader Syngman Rhee was opposed to the armistice. Rhee wanted to continue the war to reunify Korea. The U.S. has promised Rhee continuing military and economic aid if he agreed to the armistice.

Mossadegh Overthrown

On August 22, 1953 the Shah of Iran was returned to power when the Iranian army arrested Mohammad Mossadegh. Mossadegh was the Prime Minister of Iran who nationalized British oil fields and refineries in 1952. Mossadegh was supported by Iranian communists. The British government had asked for U.S. help in getting rid of Mossadegh. The CIA helped overthrow Mossadegh. The Shah of Iran signed a new oil agreement giving the British 40% of Iran's oil and the U.S., 40%. The U.S. has promised the Shah \$85 million in economic aid.

Indochina

On July 21, 1954, an agreement was signed in Geneva, Switzerland,— an agreement ending the war in Vietnam. The French had been fighting the communist led Viet Minh since 1946. The Viet Minh defeated the French at Dienbienphu in 1954. The agreement divided Vietnam into north and south, called for free elections in two years, provided for free movement between the two and forbade the introduction of military equipment. It also established a three member supervisory commission made up of Poland, India and Canada. The communist Viet Minh controlled North Vietnam.

H Bomb Tests

Operation Redwing began on May 5, 1956. The operation will test 12 different nuclear devices. The purpose of the tests is to develop a hydrogen bomb that can be dropped from a plane and be carried by a missile. On May 21 an Air Force plane dropped a ten megaton hydrogen bomb on Bikini which is in the South Pacific.

Suez Invasion

British and French paratroopers dropped on the Suez Canal on November 5, 1956. The paratroopers were followed up with an amphibious assault. The president of Egypt, Gamal Abdul Nassar, had nationalized the canal. The canal had been owned by Great Britain. The Soviet Union hinted that it would use nuclear missiles against London and Paris if the troops were not withdrawn. Israel also attacked Egypt at the same time.

John Foster Dulles,
Eisenhower's
Secretary of State.



Dwight Eisenhower Hungarian Revolt

On October 23, 1956, Hungary installed a new premier, Imre Nagy. Nagy had been deposed by the Soviets in 1955. People in Budapest began to riot on October 22 in protest of low living standards and the lack of democracy. Nagy promised "democratization and improved living standards." On October 24 Soviet tanks entered Budapest to put down the riots. Hungarians attacked them with Molotov cocktails (homemade fire bombs).

Russians launch satellite

On October 5, 1957, the Soviet Union launched the first space satellite. They called it sputnik. The satellite weighs 184.3 pounds and is 22 inches in diameter. The satellite is collecting scientific information.

U.S. launch satellite

On January 31, 1958, at 10:48 p.m. the U.S. launched a satellite. The satellite is named "Explorer." On December 6, 1957, the U.S. launched a satellite which crashed. Nikita Khrushchev, Soviet leader, said that Soviet sputniks were "lonely."

Directions

Below is a series of statements about the 1950's. There are four types of statements. 1. True facts which are well-documented. 2. Arguable facts which are not well-documented but can be proven true or false with further research. 3. Purely opinion which are statements judging the facts. 4. Mixed fact and opinion in which the facts are interpreted with a person's opinion. Decide which statements are factual and which are opinions. Mark an F for truly factual statements, AF for an arguable fact, O for opinion and FO for statements that contain an interpreted fact.

1. ____ Dwight Eisenhower was a great president.
2. ____ Dwight Eisenhower advanced civil rights for African Americans.
3. ____ The Warren Court declared segregation unconstitutional.
4. ____ The Russians launched the first satellite.
5. ____ Soviet space technology was superior to the Americans' in the 1950's.
6. ____ Dwight Eisenhower ended the Korean War.
7. ____ Dwight Eisenhower was a lazy president.
8. ____ Dwight Eisenhower did nothing to stop Joe McCarthy.
9. ____ Eisenhower was a Republican.
10. ____ It took courage for Eisenhower to send soldiers to Little Rock to enforce school integration.
11. ____ Nuclear power is an important advancement.
12. ____ The first atomic powered submarine was launched in 1954.
13. ____ The U.S. government overthrew the Arbenz government of Guatemala.
14. ____ Martin Luther King, Jr., was a leader of the Montgomery bus boycott.
15. ____ Martin Luther King, Jr., was a great leader.
16. ____ Dwight Eisenhower lied about the U-2.
17. ____ Dwight Eisenhower did little to help the poor.
18. ____ Dwight Eisenhower expanded public housing.
19. ____ The 1950's were very prosperous.
20. ____ Eisenhower helped the poor when he was president.
21. ____ Eisenhower was more intelligent than Stevenson.
22. ____ Eisenhower defeated Adlai Stevenson.
23. ____ MacArthur was a great general.
24. ____ North Korea invaded South Korea in 1950.
25. ____ The Soviet Union started the Cold War.

1950's

Critical Thinking

Directions

Select the statement that you think is most precise in each group.

Group 1

- A. Eisenhower was a good president.
- B. Eisenhower expanded public housing.
- C. Eisenhower did not care about the poor.
- D. Eisenhower built 35,000 public housing units.

Group 2

- A. The U.S. spent a lot of money on the Korean War.
- B. The U.S. tried to win the Korean War.
- C. The U.S. settled for a tie in the Korean War.
- D. The U.S. agreed to a truce in the war in 1953.

Group 3

- A. Eisenhower had success in helping education.
- B. Eisenhower persuaded Congress to pass the National Defense Education Act.
- C. He spent more money on education.
- D. Eisenhower was frustrated by Congress in helping education.

Directions

From the statements below select the most general statement in each group.

Group 1

- A. The Cold War policy was an overall success.
- B. The U.S. had to fight the communists in Korea.
- C. The communists made no gains in the 1950's except in Vietnam and Cuba.
- D. Eisenhower applied the policy of containment to the Middle East.

Group 2

- A. Eisenhower cut federal employment.
- B. Eisenhower's Secretary of Defense was Charles Wilson.
- C. Eisenhower saved money by emphasizing nuclear weapons.
- D. Eisenhower attempted to balance the budget.

Directions

Write a general statement that is supported by all of the facts in each group below.

Group 1

- A. Eisenhower built the St. Lawrence Seaway.
- B. He built 41,000 miles of roads.
- C. He spent \$33.5 billion on road construction
- D. More people were driving cars.

Group 2

- A. A U-2 plane was reported missing.
- B. Eisenhower stated that it was on a weather mission.
- C. The soviets reported they captured the pilot of the plane.
- D. It was shot down inside Russia.



Senator Joseph McCarthy