WWII/Cold War/1950’s

**This question refers to the following 1942 poster for Westinghouse.**



**World War II Factory Worker**

National Archives

1. Which aspect of America’s involvement in World War II is best illustrated by this painting?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Technological and scientific contributions |
| b. | The popular commitment to advancing democratic ideals |
| c. | Questions about American values |
| d. | The mass mobilization of American society to the war effort |

2. The painting above best supports which of the following assertions?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | The Great Depression had been brought to an end by full employment. |
| b. | The United States maintained an isolationist foreign policy. |
| c. | African Americans were denied opportunities to participate in the wartime labor force. |
| d. | America would play a dominant role in the postwar peace settlements due to its commitment to democratic ideals. |

**This question refers to the following quotation.**

“In the field of national policy, the fundamental trouble with America has been, and is, that whereas their nation became in the twentieth century the most powerful and most vital nation in the world, nevertheless Americans were unable to accommodate themselves spiritually and practically to that fact. Hence they have failed to play their part as a world power—a failure which has had disastrous consequences for themselves and for all mankind. And the cure is this: to accept wholeheartedly our duty and our opportunity as the most powerful and vital nation in the world and in consequence to exert upon the world the full impact of our influence, for such purposes as we see fit and by such means as we see fit.”

Henry R. Luce, "The American Century," *Life*, February 1941.

3. Luce’s remarks were most clearly an attack on America’s

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | initial neutrality in World War I. |
| b. | highly restrictive immigration quotas in the early 20th century. |
| c. | isolationism in the 1930s. |
| d. | policies dealing with race and segregation during World War II. |

4. Which of the following American actions prior to Luce’s comments most closely aligns with his position?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Wilson’s support of the League of Nations |
| b. | Attacks on radicals and immigrants during the first Red Scare |
| c. | The severe restrictions on Mexican immigration in the early 20th century |
| d. | America’s initial neutrality in World War I |

5. Which of the following factors most strongly contributed to the realization of the goals outlined in the excerpt above?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Improved socioeconomic positions for American women and minorities |
| b. | The dominant American role in the Allied victory and postwar peace settlements following World War II |
| c. | The end of the Great Depression |
| d. | America’s popular commitment to advancing democratic ideals |

**This question refers to the following quotation.**

“All through the night I heard people getting up, dragging cots around. I stared at our little window, unable to sleep. I was glad Mother had put up a makeshift curtain on the window for I noticed a powerful beam of light sweeping across it every few seconds. The lights came from high towers placed around the camp.…I remembered the wire fence encircling us, and a knot of anger tightened in my breast. What was I doing behind a fence like a criminal? Of one thing I was sure. The wire fence was real. I no longer had the right to walk out of it. It was because I had Japanese ancestors. It was also because some people had little faith in the ideas and ideals of democracy….”

Monica Itoi Stone, *Nisei Daughter*, 1953

Monica Itoi Sone, *Nisei Daughter* (Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1953), 176–178.

6. The experience described in the excerpt above was an example of

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | internment. |
| b. | segregation. |
| c. | isolationism. |
| d. | opportunities for women. |

7. Which of the following U.S. government efforts was most undermined by the federal policy that resulted in the events described above?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | The development of the atomic bomb and other technological and scientific advances |
| b. | Securing Allied political cooperation |
| c. | Promoting joint military operations with allies |
| d. | The mass mobilization of American society for the war effort |

8. Which group faced comparable levels of intrusion on their rights as those described in Stone’s passage above?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Eastern European immigrants in the early 1900s |
| b. | Mexican Americans during World War II |
| c. | American Indians in the latter half of the 19th century |
| d. | Progressives in the early 20th century |

**This question refers to the following quotation.**

“That Americans were increasingly fearful of the Germans and Japanese is shown by their willingness to accept the Roosevelt administration’s bold support of Britain. Neither public opinion nor Congress prevented the President from doing what he thought was demanded by Britain’s plight, even when it involved using the Navy to patrol the North Atlantic in league with the British Navy.…Roosevelt’s meeting in August, 1941, with Churchill…to write the Atlantic Charter and to agree on postwar aims was undoubtedly the most unneutral act ever committed by a professed neutral. Yet the Atlantic meeting aroused surprisingly little hostile sentiment except among a small group.…The country, in short, was accepting the idea of support of Britain short of war….”

Carl N. Degler, *Out of Our Past,* 1984

Carl N. Degler, *Out of Our Past*, 3rd ed., (New York: HarperPerennial, 1984).

9. Which of the following groups most opposed the actions of President Roosevelt described above?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Imperialists |
| b. | Anti-imperialists |
| c. | Interventionists |
| d. | Isolationists |

10. One consequence of the change in Americans’ attitudes toward Germany and Japan described in the excerpt above was

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | the questioning of American values. |
| b. | the mass mobilization of American society for war. |
| c. | an unnecessary extension of the Great Depression. |
| d. | a decline in allied political cooperation. |

11. Which of the following most likely resulted from the policy described in the passage above?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Many Americans began to advocate overseas expansionism. |
| b. | America played a dominant role in the Allied victory and postwar peace settlements. |
| c. | The pursuit of a unilateral foreign policy by the United States. |
| d. | Popular commitment to advancing democratic ideals. |

12. Which of the following represented the largest post-World War II effort to bolster the economies of non-Communist nations?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | The League of Nations |
| b. | The North Atlantic Treaty Organization |
| c. | The Marshall Plan |
| d. | The Truman Doctrine |

13. Which of the following was the greatest setback to the U.S. policy of containment?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | The rise of Communist China under Mao Zedong |
| b. | The formation of the Warsaw Pact, a multilateral Communist alliance |
| c. | The Berlin Crisis during the reign of Nikita Khrushchev |
| d. | Communism entering Latin America with Castro’s Cuban Revolution |

14. In the 1950s and 1960s, which region’s nationalist movements presented the greatest challenge to U.S. Cold War goals?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | The Middle East |
| b. | Asia |
| c. | The South Pacific |
| d. | Africa |

15. Which of the following provoked the greatest fear of internal Communist threats?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | The influence of Communist actors and directors in the movie industry |
| b. | President Dwight Eisenhower’s allegations of Communist subversion |
| c. | The hearings of the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC) |
| d. | The arrests and convictions of hundreds of spies in the federal government |

16. Which of the following was most characteristic of the cultural conformity of the 1950s and early 1960s?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Middle-class suburbanization |
| b. | Steady domestic migration to rural America. |
| c. | Racial integration following the *Brown* ruling |
| d. | A decline in higher educational opportunities |

**This question refers to the following quotation.**

“In my opinion the State Department, which is one of the most important government departments, is thoroughly infested with Communists.…I have in my hand 57 cases of individuals who would appear to be either card carrying members or certainly loyal to the Communist Party, but who nevertheless are still helping to shape our foreign policy. One thing to remember in discussing the Communists in our Government is that we are not dealing with spies who…steal blueprints of a new weapon. We are dealing with a far more sinister type of activity because it permits the enemy to guide and shape our policy…and will end only when the whole sorry mess of twisted, warped thinkers are swept from the national scene.”

Senator Joseph McCarthy, *The Congressional Record*,1950

*Congressional Record*, 81st Cong., 2nd Session, vol. 96, part, 2, 1954–1957.

17. During the early 1950s, which of the following resulted from the sentiments expressed in the excerpt above?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Public debates over the proper balance between liberty and order |
| b. | Attempts to rein in the power of the executive branch |
| c. | Widespread concern about the military–industrial complex |
| d. | Strong domestic opposition to the Korean War |

18. Which of the following historical developments between World War I and World War II would the author of the passage most likely support?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | The Great Migration |
| b. | The free speech movement |
| c. | Restrictive immigration quotas |
| d. | The growth of the American labor movement |

**This question refers to the table below.**



Gallup Polls of the Biggest Problems Facing America, 1950–1980

Gallup polls reported in the *New York Times*, August 1, 1999. Reprinted by permission.

19. Which of the following most contributed to the Gallup poll results in 1950 as shown in the table above?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | World War II |
| b. | Concerns about the Middle East |
| c. | The Korean War |
| d. | The Vietnam War |

20. Which factor most likely led to the change in American sentiment about communism between 1950 and 1954?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | The escalating military crisis in Latin America |
| b. | Growing U.S. military involvement in Vietnam |
| c. | Multiple oil crises in the Middle East |
| d. | Investigations of suspected domestic Communist activity |

21. Between 1950 and 1959, what contributed LEAST to the change in American sentiment regarding unemployment?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Fear of communism |
| b. | Growth in the private sector |
| c. | The rapid expansion of higher education |
| d. | Increased federal spending |

**This question refers to the image below.**



Levittown Advertisement, 1950s

Courtesy of The State Museum of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

22. During the 1950s, which group most directly challenged the portrayal of American life depicted in the illustration above?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Private-sector businesses |
| b. | Political conservatives |
| c. | “Sun Belt” migrants |
| d. | Artists and intellectuals |

23. By 1980, how had the traditional family illustrated above changed?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Many more women worked outside the home. |
| b. | Parents initiated a sexual revolution thereby liberalizing U.S culture. |
| c. | Fundamentalist Christian political influence on society had almost completely waned. |
| d. | Middle-class prosperity had expanded as a result of real wage growth. |

24. Americans whose lifestyle paralleled the image above most likely opposed which aspect of post-World War II society?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | The growing counterculture |
| b. | The continued growth in federal spending |
| c. | Military actions to contain communism |
| d. | Cultural conformity |

25. The creation of the type of society depicted in the image above was possible because of

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | the dismantling of the New Deal. |
| b. | strict environmental regulations. |
| c. | the suburbanization of the middle class. |
| d. | conservative victories on taxation. |

**This question refers to the excerpt below.**

“The successful launching of the Soviet satellite is an overwhelmingly important event—against our side….Within the past thirty days we have been treated to as skillfully executed an example of psychological or political warfare orchestration as I have ever seen.…The first note was the arrival of the Soviet jet airliner….The second was the announcement of the successful testing of their ICBM. The third was the earth satellite. The fourth was the announcement of the setting off of a hydrogen bomb. The fifth will be another bigger and better earth satellite….You will notice the skillful alteration of war and peace—coexistence and atomic blackmail. You will also notice that all these items convey…Soviet success. The U.S. has either failed or not yet succeeded.”

Charles D. Jackson, “The Sputnik Crisis: The Beep Heard ’Round the World,” 1957

Memorandum from C. D. Jackson regarding Soviet satellite, October 8, 1957. *C. D. Jackson Papers*, Box 69, Log-1957 (4).

26. Which challenge faced by the United States in the 1950s and 1960s best exemplified the concerns articulated in the quote above?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | The end of détente |
| b. | The U.S. struggle for global leadership |
| c. | The rise of a U.S. military–industrial complex |
| d. | The process of decolonization and shifting alliances |

27. The Cold War challenges and technological deficits enumerated in the quote above most closely parallel U.S. unpreparedness in the early stages of which previous war?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | The Spanish-American War |
| b. | World War I |
| c. | World War II |
| d. | The Korean War |

28. Match the proper branch of the federal government with the effort it led to create greater racial justice after World War II.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Executive | A. Civil Rights Act of 1964 |
| 2. Legislative | B. *Brown v. Board of Education* |
| 3. Judicial | C. Desegregation of the military |
|  | D. Affirmative action |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | 2 & C, 2 & A, 3 & B, 2 & D |
| b. | 1 & C, 2 & A, 3 & B, 2 & D |
| c. | 1 & A, 2 & C, 3 & B, 1 & D |
| d. | 1 & C, 2 & A, 3 & B, 1 & D |

29. At the Yalta and Potsdam conferences, the leaders of each nation decided to

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | keep the Soviet Union out of the war with Japan. |
| b. | divide the defeated Germany into four sectors—American, British, French, and Soviet. |
| c. | rearm Germany as soon as possible. |
| d. | set up a world organization that would share knowledge of atomic weapons. |

30.The policy of making the military power of the United States and its allies so strong that no enemy would dare attack it for fear of retaliation is known as

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | deterrence. |
| b. | containment. |
| c. | brinkmanship. |
| d. | the Truman Doctrine. |

31. Which of the following best describes the beatniks of the 1950s?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | They rebelled against conformity and traditional social patterns. |
| b. | They worked to revive organized religion. |
| c. | They organized campaigns against racial injustice. |
| d. | They valued American middle-class culture above diverse cultural heritages. |

**Matching**

**IDENTIFYING KEY TERMS, PEOPLE, AND PLACES**

*Match each item with the correct statement below. You will not use all the items.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Berlin airlift |
| b. | containment |
| c. | HUAC |
| d. | Cold War |
| e. | satellite nation |

32. A(n) \_\_\_\_ in Eastern Europe was controlled politically and economically by the Soviet Union.

33. The term \_\_\_\_ refers to the competition that developed between the United States and the Soviet Union for power and influence in the world.

34. After World War II, American leaders developed a policy of \_\_\_\_ to resist and stop the spread of communism.

35. The \_\_\_\_ provided vital supplies to a region blockaded by the Soviet Union.

36. In the late 1940s, the \_\_\_\_ investigated the motion picture industry for Communist influences.

**IDENTIFYING KEY TERMS, PEOPLE, AND PLACES**

*Match each name with the correct statement below. You will not use all the names.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Benjamin Spock |
| b. | Richard M. Nixon |
| c. | William J. Levitt |
| d. | Jonas Salk |
| e. | GI Bill |

37. doctor who developed a vaccine against polio

38. developer who mass-produced new communities in suburbs

39. pediatrician who wrote a highly influential book on child care

40. this helped former soldiers attend college and get loans

41. Gave the "Checkers Speech"