

The Postwar Dream

1945-1965(ish)

The years following the end of the Second World War are remembered by many Americans as some of the happiest years in American History. Often referred to as “the good old days” or some other happy nickname, they are remembered as a time of peace, prosperity, and opportunity. For many, this was true. An economic boom led to unprecedented growth, consumers had access to all the goods they’d been denied throughout the war and the depression, starting a family was easier and more comfortable than ever, and a new popular culture emerged that allowed Americans to focus on “light and fluffy” thoughts rather than the serious business of the war and the Great Depression. During this same time, however, the threat of a war against communism loomed ever larger, and many who felt left out of this new American Dream began to push for a seat at the table.

Essay Questions: You will be given ONE of the following essays on the test.

- To what extent should the decades following World War II be remembered as the “Good ol’ Days?”
- How appropriate were US actions leading into and during the Cold War?
- How appropriate were the actions and choices of civil rights leaders in America between 1945 and 1965?

Unit Objectives:

- ◆ Describe the social, economic, political, and cultural transformations that occurred in America in the years following WWII.
- ◆ Describe the changes that took place in America during the Cold War.
- ◆ Describe the changes that took place in America after the Cold War.
- ◆ Describe the events that occurred during the Cold War.
- ◆ Describe the Cold War foreign policy.
- ◆ Describe the effect of the deterrence on the World.
- ◆ Explain the purpose and goals of the civil rights struggles.
- ◆ Identify and explain the tactics and techniques used to achieve social progress.
- ◆ Identify key figures and events of the civil rights movements.

Date	Topic	Targets & Objectives	Homework
Mon 1/20	Welcome!		
Tue 1/21	Post-war America	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can explain how America readjusted and recovered from WWII. (specifically GI Bill, suburbs, economic boom, and baby boom, etc.) ● I can evaluate the nations handling of civil right issues through a discussion of Jackie Robinson, the Dixiecrats, and Brown vs. Board of Ed.) 	19.1
Wed 1/22	The American Dream	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can explain how the postwar economic boom affected many Americans. (Specifically new businesses and social conformity.) ● I can explain how the highway system and the rise of the automobile affected American life. ● I can explain the impact of the new emphasis on consumerism. 	19.2
Thu 1/23	Pop Culture of the 50s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can describe the changes in mass media (TV, radio, etc.) and their impact on American culture. ● I can discuss the beat movement and the rise of jazz and rock & roll as examples of counter-culture in America. 	19.3

Fri 1/24	Edpuzzle: Let's Play House	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can explain the impact of the suburban lifestyle on women and family structures. 	
Mon 1/27	Pop Culture of the 50s	Project Intro	
Tue 1/28	Project Time		
Wed 1/29	The Cold War Begins	<p>Explain How each of the following impacted the start of the Cold War:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ideological differences between the US and USSR The United Nations The Potsdam Conference Satellite nations Containment Policy The Iron Curtain The Truman Doctrine 	18.1
Thu 1/30	The Cold War in Asia	<p>How does communist China emerge?</p> <p>How does the Korean War start?</p> <p>How does the Korean War go?</p> <p>How does the Korean War end?</p>	18.2
Fri 1/31	The Cold War at Home	<p>Explain how the Americans dealt with the fear of the Atomic Bomb</p> <p>Explain what the red scare was and how it affected Americans.</p>	18.3
Mon 2/3	Cold War Expansion	<p>How did Brinkmanship and the Arms Race expand the Cold War?</p> <p>Explain the Eisenhower Doctrine, and the expansion of the Cold War around the world.</p> <p>Explain how the Cold War expanded into space</p>	18.4
Tue 2/4	Early 60s Cold War	<p>Explain (who, what, when, where, why, and who cares?) for each of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The Bay of Pigs invasion -The Cuban Missile Crisis -The Berlin Wall -The Race to the Moon 	20.1, 20.2 (679-681)
Wed 2/5	Cold War wrap-up		
Thu 2/6	Civil Rights Review	<p>I can explain the history of the civil rights movements in America from 1865 through 1954.</p> <p>Explain the details surrounding, and significance of, each of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Segregation • Plessy vs. Ferguson • Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka • The NAACP legal strategy 	

Fri 2/7	Challenging Segregation	<p>Explain the details surrounding, and significance of, each of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Resistance to the Brown decision ● The Murder of Emmitt Till ● The Montgomery Bus Boycott ● Rosa Parks ● Martin Luther King Jr. 	21.1 (700 to the top of 703)
Mon 2/10	Struggles of the early Civil Rights Movement	<p>Explain the details surrounding, and significance of, each of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Crisis in Little Rock ● The Nashville Sit-ins <p>Compare and contrast the SCLC and SNCC. What strategies did the movement focus on after Montgomery?</p>	21.1 (703 to the end)
Tue 2/11	Triumphs of the Cause	<p>What were the Freedom Riders trying to do? How'd they try to do it? How'd it go? Explain (who? what? when? how? Why was it significant? etc.) for both James Meredith and the clash in Birmingham.</p>	21.2 (710 to the top of 714)
Wed 2/12	Triumphs of the Cause	<p>Explain (who? what? when? how? Why was it significant? etc.) of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The March on Washington ● The Civil Rights Act ● Freedom Summer ● Fannie Lou Hamer and the MFDP ● The campaign in Selma ● The Voting Rights Act of 1965 	21.2 (714 to the end)
Thu 2/13	Civil Rights Wrap-up		
Fri 2/14	Project Wrap-up		
Mon 2/17	Review		
Tue 2/18	1945-1965 Test		
Wed 2/19	Essay		
Thu 2/20	Go over test		
Fri 2/21			