

World Café Question for Table Host

Directions: Read your question the day before the World Café activity and come-up with two opinions that are for and two opinions that are against the discussion question.

Question for Discussion:

Table #1: The Cuban Missile Crisis

The Cuban Missile Crisis began when the U.S. placed nuclear weapons in Turkey capable of reaching the Soviet Union. The Soviets responded by placing weapons in Cuba capable of destroying several U.S. cities. During the 13 days of the Cuban Missile Crisis the world was at the brink of nuclear war. **Do you think President Kennedy appropriately handled the Cuban Missile Crisis? Explain why or why not using evidence from previous classes.**

For

1. President Kennedy ***DID APPROPRIATELY*** handled the Cuban Missile Crisis because _____

2. President Kennedy ***DID APPROPRIATELY*** handled the Cuban Missile Crisis because _____

Against

1. President Kennedy ***DID NOT APPROPRIATELY*** handled the Cuban Missile Crisis because _____

2. President Kennedy ***DID NOT APPROPRIATELY*** handled the Cuban Missile Crisis because _____

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Table #2: Truman or MacArthur

During the Korean War, General MacArthur wanted to invade Communist China. He believed the U.S. needed to defeat communism in Asia or be dragged into a long war against communism. President Truman disagreed because he thought war with China would lead the U.S. into war with Russia. **Who would you have sided with if you were alive in 1951; President Truman or General MacArthur? Explain your choice based on what we learned in class.**

For

1. If I was alive in 1951 I would have sided with **PRESIDENT**

TRUMAN because _____

2. If I was alive in 1951 I would have sided with **PRESIDENT**

TRUMAN because _____

Against

1. If I was alive in 1951 I would have sided with **GENERAL**

MACARTHUR because _____

2. If I was alive in 1951 I would have sided with **GENERAL**

MACARTHUR because _____

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Table #3: The Arms Race

During the Cold War, the United States and the Soviet Union were in a race to see who could make more nuclear weapons. Both sides believed they were protecting their people by building a large supply of weapons. **If you were a high school student during the Cold War, would you have felt safer knowing the U.S. had more nuclear bombs than the Soviet Union? Explain your opinion based on what you have learned.**

For

1. If I was a student during the Cold War I **WOULD HAVE** felt safer knowing the U.S. had more nuclear bombs than the Soviet Union because _____

2. If I was a student during the Cold War I **WOULD HAVE** felt safer knowing the U.S. had more nuclear bombs than the Soviet Union because _____

Against

1. If I was a student during the Cold War I **WOULD NOT HAVE** felt safer knowing the U.S. had more nuclear bombs than the Soviet Union because _____

2. If I was a student during the Cold War I **WOULD NOT HAVE** felt safer knowing the U.S. had more nuclear bombs than the Soviet Union because _____

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Table #4: Isolationism or Interventionism

Before WWII, the U.S. were isolationists and vowed not to intervene in other countries problems. After WWII, the U.S. were interventionists and promised to help any country threatened by communism. **Considering the world's problems today, should the U.S. continue to intervene in other countries or should we go back to isolationism? Explain your answer using examples from previous classes.**

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>
1. The U.S. SHOULD CONTINUE TO INTERVENT IN OTHER COUNTRIES because _____ _____ _____ _____ _____.	1. The U.S. SHOULD GO BACK TO ISOLATIONISM because _____ _____ _____ _____ _____.
2. The U.S. SHOULD CONTINUE TO INTERVENT IN OTHER COUNTRIES because _____ _____ _____ _____ _____.	2. The U.S. SHOULD GO BACK TO ISOLATIONISM because _____ _____ _____ _____ _____.

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Table #5: Nuclear Weapons

Today the U.S. is at war with terrorist groups around the world and the debate about the usefulness of nuclear weapons continues. While some argue that there is no longer a need for nuclear weapons, others believe that the new threat of terrorism makes them more necessary than ever. **Do you think the U.S. should use nuclear weapons against our terrorist enemies? Explain your opinion based on what you have learned in class.**

For

1. The U.S. **SHOULD** use weapons against our terrorist enemies

because _____

2. The U.S. **SHOULD** use weapons against our terrorist enemies

because _____

Against

1. The U.S. **SHOULD NOT** use weapons against our terrorist

enemies because _____

2. The U.S. **SHOULD NOT** use weapons against our terrorist

enemies because _____

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Table #6: Vietnam

The Vietnam War ended in 1975 after ten long years of fighting. By the end of the war 58,000 Americans had died and another 303,000 were wounded. Moreover, over 2 million Vietnamese had died and approximately \$140 billion dollars was spent on the war. **Do you think U.S. intervention in Vietnam was worth the effort? Explain why or why not using evidence from previous class discussions.**

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>
1. The U.S. intervention in Vietnam WAS WORTH THE EFFORT because _____ _____ _____ _____	1. The U.S. intervention in Vietnam WAS NOT WORTH THE EFFORT because _____ _____ _____ _____
2. The U.S. intervention in Vietnam WAS WORTH THE EFFORT because _____ _____ _____ _____	2. The U.S. intervention in Vietnam WAS NOT WORTH THE EFFORT because _____ _____ _____ _____

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Table #7: Joseph McCarthy

Today Joseph McCarthy is criticized as a symbol of communist hysteria in the 1950s when he claimed to have a list of communist spies working in the State Department. . However, there were people such as Alger Hiss who were legitimately accused of stealing top secret information, which demonstrated a real threat of communist spies in America. **Do you think Joseph McCarthy's fear of communist spies was unreasonable or was he simply trying to keep America safe? Support your opinion using examples from class.**

For

1. Joseph McCarthy **WAS SIMPLY TRYING TO KEEP AMERICA**

SAFE because _____

2. Joseph McCarthy **WAS SIMPLY TRYING TO KEEP AMERICA**

SAFE because _____

Against

1. Joseph McCarthy's **FEAR OF COMMUNIST SPIES WAS**

UNREASONABLE because _____

2. Joseph McCarthy's **FEAR OF COMMUNIST SPIES WAS**

UNREASONABLE because _____

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Table #8: Cold War Presidents

Throughout the course of the Cold War Unit we have studied the policies of several U.S. presidents during the Cold War. For example, we analyzed Truman's actions in Korea, Eisenhower's policies in the Middle East, Kennedy's actions in Cuba, and LBJ and Nixon's policies in Vietnam. **In your opinion, who was the best Cold War president; Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, LBJ, or Nixon? Explain your choice using evidence from previous classes.**

1. **TRUMAN** was the best Cold War president because _____

2. **EISENHOWER** was the best Cold War president because _____

3. **KENNEDY** was the best Cold War president because _____

4. **LBJ** was the best Cold War president because _____

5. **NIXON** was the best Cold War president because _____

Additional notes:

