

DOCUMENT BASED QUESTION
2001
DOCUMENT ANALYSIS

Inferences in boldface should be counted as outside information.

1. What were the Cold War fears of the American people in the aftermath of the Second World War? How successfully did the administration of President Dwight D. Eisenhower address these fears?

Use the documents and your knowledge of the years 1948-1961 to construct your response.

DOCUMENT A: Source: Dwight Eisenhower, press conference, March 1954.

Document Information:

- Eisenhower says there is too much hysteria in the world.
- We fear the Kremlin & what they will do to our friends around them.
- We fear "unwise investigators" will go too far at home to combat internal problems.
- We fear depression & job loss.

Inferences:

- This suggests Cold War fears of the spread of communism.
- **"Unwise investigators" refers to Joseph McCarthy, HUAC, Loyalty Investigations.**
- It might remind students of US concerns about keeping the economy strong after WWII
- Economic instability could be a breeding ground for communism.
- Eisenhower's use of the word "hysteria" might increase rather than defuse tensions.
- **Eisenhower's discussion of job loss hints at the recession 1953-1954.**

DOCUMENT B: Source: John Foster Dulles, Secretary of State, June 1954.

Document Information:

- Dulles expresses concern about communism expanding in the Americas.
- This expansion, he says, requires more sacrifices by the American people.
- He argues that the situation in Guatemala has become so dangerous the American States had to do something.
- The American States adopted a resolution declaring that the domination of an American state by communism would be a threat to all the American States.

Inferences:

- Dulles is particularly concerned about Latin America because of its proximity.
- It suggests the magnitude of Dulles' fear of the spread of communism. **(Domino theory)**
- It could be compared to Kennedy's response (Doc I) and to the problems that later developed with Castro in Cuba.
- **This could remind students that Dulles was also the supporter of brinkmanship & massive retaliation .**
- It may suggest connections to the Monroe Doctrine.
- Students could discuss the difficulties the Eisenhower administration had in working with Latin American nations to get this resolution passed and the undercurrent of anti-U.S. hostility at the conference.
- Students might continue to discuss the actions the Eisenhower administration took in Guatemala - CIA, support for the United Fruit Company.