

Analyzing Evidence, Interpreting Documents, and Argumentation... *Conformity in the 1950s*

From the 2015 Revised Framework:

Students will...

ANALYZE EVIDENCE... Explain the relevance of the author's point of view, author's purpose, audience, format or medium, and/or historical context as well as the interaction among these features, to demonstrate understanding of the significance of a primary source. Evaluate the usefulness, reliability, and/ or limitations of a primary source in answering particular historical questions.

INTERPRET DOCUMENTS... Analyze a historian's argument, explain how the argument has been supported through the analysis of relevant historical evidence, and evaluate the argument's effectiveness. Analyze diverse historical interpretations.

CREATE AND DEFEND AN ARGUMENT... Evaluate evidence to explain its relevance to a claim or thesis, providing clear and consistent links between the evidence and the argument. Relate diverse historical evidence in a cohesive way to illustrate contradiction, corroboration, qualification, and other types of historical relationships in developing an argument.

From the Period 8 Content Outline:

Key Concept 8.3: Postwar economic and demographic changes had far-reaching consequences for American society, politics, and culture.

- I. Rapid economic and social changes in American society fostered a sense of optimism in the postwar years.
 - A) A burgeoning private sector, federal spending, the baby boom, and technological developments helped spur economic growth.
 - B) As higher education opportunities and new technologies rapidly expanded, increasing social mobility encouraged the migration of the middle class to the suburbs and of many Americans to the South and West. The Sun Belt region emerged as a significant political and economic force.
- II. New demographic and social developments, along with anxieties over the Cold War, changed U.S. culture and led to significant political and moral debates that sharply divided the nation.
 - A) Mass culture became **increasingly homogeneous in the postwar years**, inspiring challenges to **conformity** by artists, intellectuals, and rebellious youth.

Directions:

1. Examine each of the five documents and complete your basic HIPP analysis. You do not have to write in complete sentences, just record your notes as you would when planning for a DBQ.
2. When you are finished analyzing the documents, address the prompt below by writing a clear, comprehensive, and analytical thesis (use your formula).

Explain the impact of postwar economic, demographic, and technological changes on American culture.

Little Boxes

by Malvina Reynolds, 1962

Little boxes on the hillside,
Little boxes made of ticky tacky,
Little boxes on the hillside,
Little boxes all the same.

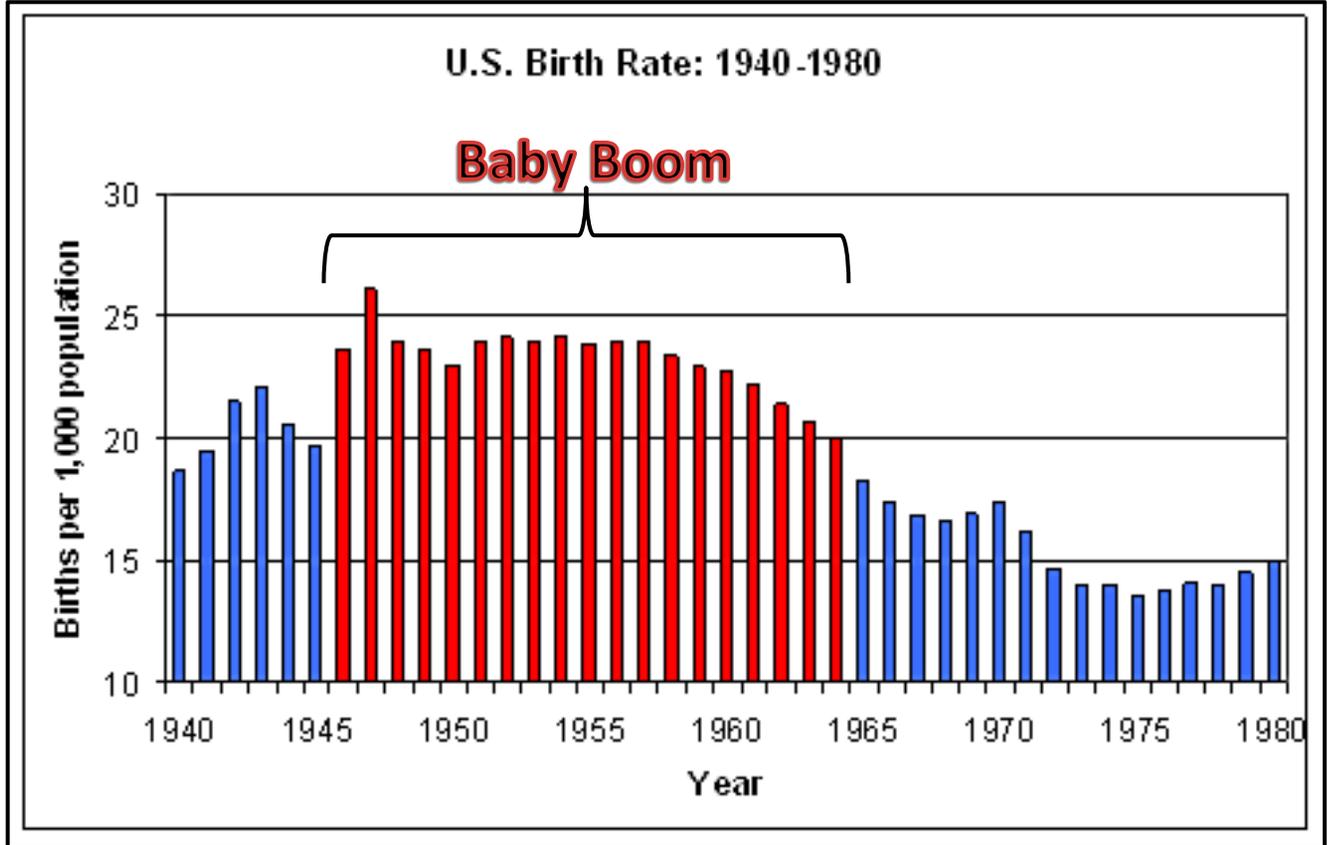
There's a green one and a pink one
And a blue one and a yellow one,
And they're all made out of ticky tacky
And they all look just the same.

And the people in the houses
All went to the university,
Where they were put in boxes
And they came out all the same.

And there's doctors and lawyers,
And business executives,
And they're all made out of ticky tacky
And they all look just the same.

And they all play on the golf course
And drink their martinis dry,
And they all have pretty children
And the children go to school,
And the children go to summer camp
And then to the university,
Where they're put into boxes
And they come out all the same.

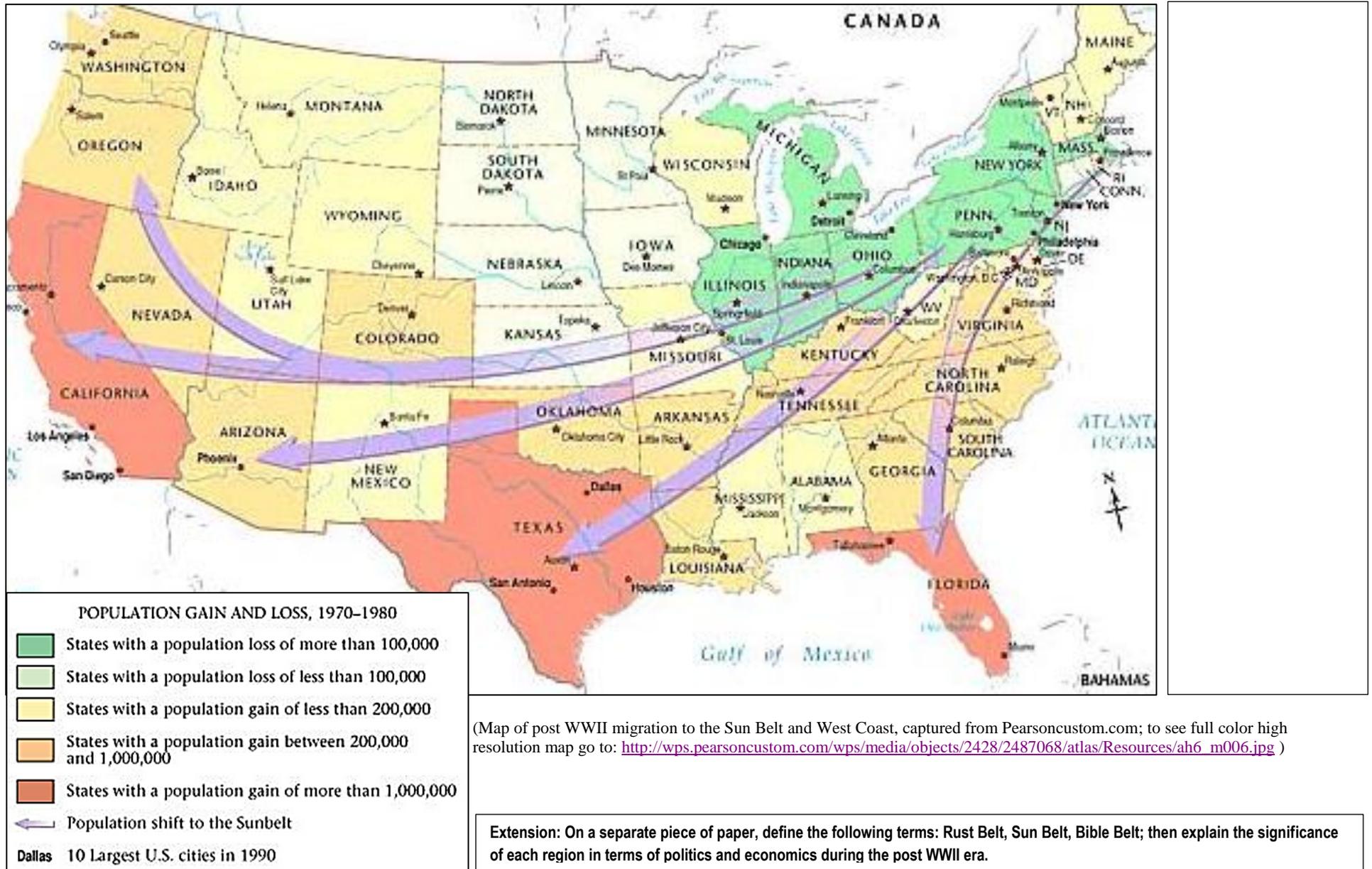
And the boys go into business
And marry and raise a family
In boxes made of ticky tacky
And they all look just the same.



(Birth Rate Graph adapted from graph found at profutures.com)

<u>Little Boxes</u>	<u>Birth Rate, 1940-1980</u>

Post War Internal Migration to Sun Belt and West Coast



Thursday Evening, October 5, 1957 (UP)—Mecha United Press PRICE: FIVE CENTS

Russians Win Race To Launch Earth Satellite

Man On Threshold Of Space Travel

By DANIEL F. GILMORE
United Press Staff Correspondent

LONDON (UP)—The pulsating radio "beep" of the first manmade earth satellite signalled today to the world that man had crossed the threshold into the age of travel through space.

The Soviet Union announced it had won the race into space by launching an earth satellite Friday, a 184-pound, 22-inch globe now orbiting the earth at 18,000 miles an hour, 560 miles up.

Millions of persons throughout the world heard the "beep...beep...beep..." rebroadcast today by local stations and realized that man had taken his first faltering steps into the new era.

Launching of the satellite was a tremendous victory for science. It was a more tremendous victory for Soviet propaganda to be able to trumpet to the world the Russians were the first to break through the frontiers of space.

How To Spot Satellite

By UNITED PRESS

Here's how to look for the Russian earth satellite which will be whizzing through the sky at 18,000 miles an hour.

The best time to spot it is at dawn or dusk when the sky is semi-dark. There is a chance that it could be seen if it travels across the face of the moon at night.

The best instruments to use are ordinary binoculars or telescopes. Powerful telescopes won't pick it up because of their narrow fields.

Through optical instruments, the satellite will look like the faintest star which can be seen with the naked eye.

Keep a sharp eye out. The satellite travels so fast it may appear on the horizon for only seconds and chances of spotting it have been estimated at one in a hundred.

U. S. May Speed Up Satellite Program

By JOSEPH L. MYLES
United Press Staff Correspondent

WASHINGTON (UP)—American scientists, caught flatfooted by Russia's epic launching of the man-made moon, indicated the United States may speed its own earth satellite program also said that it as Russia rocketed its heavy pound satellite into a globe-dling orbit with a rocket to an intercontinental ballistic missile.

That could mean Russia only has beaten this country in the frontiers of space, but also it has been called the "big weapon" for modern day war.

This country has a tested a successful ICBM.

WEATHER

WEST VIRGINIA—Partly cloudy with highest in the 60s today and Sunday. Lowest tonight 50 west and 40 east portions.

VIRGINIA—Fair with lowest 45 to 50 west and north and 50 to 55 southeast portions tonight, Sunday mostly sunny and a little warmer. Tides on the coast and lower bay

(Headline captured from coalwoodwestvirginia.com)

THE SERVICEMEN'S READJUSTMENT ACT OF 1944

(The GI Bill of Rights)

No legislative act is of more importance to prospective veterans than "The GI Bill of Rights," but still, no single law has been so misunderstood. Its provisions can be valuable to the future of the GI who realizes what they can do for him, but in the garbled form in which he has been receiving them, they can do him more harm than good.

"The GI Bill" offers four major kinds of help:

1. Education and job training.
2. Guaranty of loans.
3. Unemployment allowances, including aid for self-employed.
4. Job-finding assistance.

(GI Bill of rights document image captured from nationalww2museum.com)

<u>Russians Win Race...</u>	<u>GI Bill of Rights</u>