

# HISTORICAL ANALYSIS – Contextualization and Periodization... *Post World War II America*

## **From the 2015 Revised Framework:**

**Periodization...**Historical thinking involves the ability to describe, analyze, and evaluate different ways that historians divide history into discrete and definable periods. Historians construct and debate different, sometimes competing models of periodization; the choice of specific turning points or starting and ending dates might accord a higher value to one narrative, region, or group than to another.

### **Students will be able to...**

1. Explain ways historical events and processes can be organized into discrete, different, and definable historical periods.
2. Evaluate whether a particular event or date could or could not be a turning point between different, definable historical periods, when considered in terms of particular historical evidence.
3. Analyze different and/or competing models of periodization.

**Contextualizing...**Situate historical events, developments, or processes within the broader regional, national, or global context in which they occurred in order to draw conclusions about their relative significance.

## **Main Idea for Period 8 (from 2012 Content Outline)**

**After World War II, the United States grappled with prosperity and unfamiliar international responsibilities, while struggling to live up to its ideals.**

## **Key Concept 8.1 (from 2015 Revised Content Outline)**

**The United States responded to an uncertain and unstable postwar world by asserting and working to maintain a position of global leadership, with far-reaching domestic and international consequences.**

## **Explaining the Historical Context**

What does it mean to “grapple with prosperity?”

What were the “unfamiliar international responsibilities?”

What are the essential American “ideals?” Which ones were still “struggles?”

Why was the postwar world “uncertain and unstable?”

How did the United States work “to maintain a position of global leadership,” and what were the “far-reaching domestic and international consequences?”

