Critical Question #3 in modern American history: To what extent did involvement in foreign affairs influence the United States internationally, socially, technologically, economically, and politically (ISTEP) from 1941 to the 1960’s? Consider three areas (one cannot be international itself).

Rewrite CQ #3 in your own words here:

Source A: Life on the Home Front

Home Front workers faced many challenges and many of which would lead to change. Working conditions on the Home Front were difficult and dangerous. Between the bombing of Pearl Harbor in December of 1941 and the D-Day Invasion of Europe in June of 1944, there were more Home Front industrial casualties than military casualties. This high number of industrial casualties would lead to improved workplace safety and regulations. Another challenge faced by working women on the Home Front was childcare, as mothers comprised a significant portion of the workforce. In some progressive communities and businesses this led to the establishment of child development centers, although nationwide only 10% of women had access to professional childcare.

In addition to Home Front workers, everyone was expected to be an active participant in the war effort. Rationing was a way of life as twenty commodities were rationed and people were asked to, “Use it up – Wear it out – Make it do – or Do without.” Materials vital to the war effort were collected, often by youth groups, and recycled. Many Americans supported the war effort by purchasing war bonds. Women replaced men in sports leagues, orchestras and community institutions. Americans grew 60% of the produce they consumed in “Victory Gardens.” The war effort on the United States Home Front was a total effort.

Source B: One World War II veteran’s “welcome” home

Discrimination Greet GI Hero

HOUSTON, Tex., Sept. 25. (U.P.)—When Staff Sgt. Marcario Garcia, 25, of Sugarland, Tex., winner of the Congressional Medal of Honor for valor in combat, returns from Washington with his discharge, he will find himself liable to arrest for assault and battery and aggravated assault.

The charges were filed as a result of a fight when a Richmond, Tex., cafe owner refused to serve Sgt. Garcia because he is of Mexican decent.

Sgt. Garcia, according to witnesses, became angered when he was refused a cup of coffee and was told that “we don’t serve Mexicans in here.”


http://1-22infantry.org/moh/moh4.htm

Source C: excerpt from the Marshall Plan

*I need not tell you gentlemen that the world situation is very serious . . . I think one difficulty is that the problem is one of such enormous complexity that the very mass of facts presented to the public by press and radio make it exceedingly difficult for the man in the street to reach a clear appraisement of the situation. Furthermore, the people of this country are distant from the troubled areas of the earth and it is hard for them to comprehend the plight and consequent reactions of the long-suffering peoples, and the effect of those reactions on their governments in connection with our efforts to promote peace in the world . . .*
Aside from the demoralizing effect on the world at large and the possibilities of disturbances arising as a result of the desperation of the people concerned, the consequences to the economy of the United States should be apparent to all. It is logical that the United States should do whatever it is able to do to assist in the return of normal economic health in the world, without which there can be no political stability and no assured peace. Our policy is directed not against any country or doctrine but against hunger, poverty, desperation and chaos. Its purpose should be the revival of a working economy in the world so as to permit the emergence of political and social conditions in which free institutions can exist . . .

. . . Any government which maneuvers to block the recovery of other countries cannot expect help from us. Furthermore, governments, political parties or groups which seek to perpetuate human misery in order to profit therefrom politically or otherwise will encounter the opposition of the United States . . .

An essential part of any successful action on the part of the United States is an understanding on the part of the people of America of the character of the problem and the remedies to be applied. Political passion and prejudice should have no part. With foresight, and a willingness on the part of our people to face up to the vast responsibility which history has clearly placed upon our country, the difficulties I have outlined can and will be overcome.

Source: speech, Secretary of State George C. Marshall at Harvard University, June 5, 1947
https://www.marshallfoundation.org/marshall/the-marshall-plan/marshall-plan-speech/

Source D: Women’s portrayal in early television

Since the beginning of commercial movie theaters at the dawn of the 20th century and then commercial television in the late 1940s and 1950s and even through present day, women have been underrepresented in the media as well as portrayed in a flawed and sexist manner. As the media is both a reflection of the current times as well as a major influence on the viewing public, women being portrayed inaccurately only promotes and prolongs sexism in our culture, just as with any societal group that is not shown in a truthful manner to the public.

Television has remained an important part of American life since the 1950s, with almost half of all households in the US owning a television set by 1955. During this time period, women were seen in a household setting, with plot lines revolving around devoting their time to their husbands and children. The bigger conflicts that housewife Donna Stone saw on the popular comedy “The Donna Reed Show” included Donna finding herself overwhelmed by all of the community theater shows and charity drives that consumed the time she spent cooking and cleaning. Lucy Ricardo, another devoted housewife and mother on the sitcom “I Love Lucy,” was a character created out of the female stereotypes of the time, including being naïve, dumb, careless with money, and secretive about her true age and hair color.

**Source E: excerpt, “The Man in the Gray Flannel Suit”**

A thousand petty shabbiness bore witness to the negligence of the Rath [family]. The front door had been scratched by a dog which had been run over the year before. The hot-water faucet in the bathroom dripped. Almost all the furniture needed to be refinished, reupholstered, or cleaned. And besides that, the house was too small, ugly, and almost precisely like the houses on all sides of it.

The Raths had bought the house in 1946, shortly after Tom had got out of the army and, at the suggestion of his grandmother, become an assistant to the director of the Schanenhauser Foundation, an organization which an elderly millionaire had established to help finance scientific research and the arts. They had told each other that they probably would be in the house only one or two years before they could afford something better. It took them five years to realize that the expense of raising three children was likely to increase at least as fast as Tom’s salary at the charitable foundation . . . Without talking about it much, they both began to think of the house as a trap, and they no more enjoyed refurbishing it than a prisoner would delight in shining up the bars of his cell. Both of them were aware that their feelings about the house were not admirable.

"I don't know what's the matter with us," Betsy said one night. "Your job is plenty good enough. We've got three nice kids, and lots of people would be glad to have a house like this. We shouldn't be so discontented all the time."

"Of course we shouldn't!" Tom said.

Their words sounded hollow. It was curious to believe that that house with the crack in the form of a question mark on the wall and the ink stains on the wallpaper was probably the end of their personal road. It was impossible to believe. Somehow something would have to happen.

Document F: Lyrics to Roll and Rock music

Up in the mornin' and out to school
The teacher is teachin' the Golden Rule
American history and practical math
You studyin' hard and hopin' to pass
Workin' your fingers right down to the bone
And the guy behind you won't leave you alone . . .

Soon as three o'clock rolls around
You finally lay your burden down
Close up your books, get out of your seat
Down the halls and into the street
Up to the corner and 'round the bend
Right to the juke joint, you go in

Drop the coin right into the slot
You're gotta hear somethin' that's really hot
With the one you love, you're makin' romance
All day long you been wantin' to dance,
Feeling the music from head to toe
Round and round and round we go

Hail, hail rock and roll
Deliver me from the days of old
Long live rock and roll
The beat of the drums, loud and bold
Rock, rock, rock and roll
The feelin' is there, body and soul.


---

Document G: President Dwight Eisenhower: Farewell to the Nation, January 17, 1961

. . . America is today the strongest, the most influential and most productive nation in the world. Understandably proud of this pre-eminence, we yet realize that America’s leadership and prestige depend, not merely upon our unmatched material progress, riches and military strength, but on how we use our power in the interests of world peace and human betterment . . .

Any failure traceable to arrogance or our lack of comprehension or readiness to sacrifice would inflict upon us a grievous hurt, both at home and abroad.
Progress toward these noble goals is persistently threatened by the conflict now engulfing the world. It commands our whole attention, absorbs our very beings. We face a hostile ideology global in scope, atheistic in character, ruthless in purpose, and insidious in method . . .

[The] conjunction of an immense military establishment and a large arms industry is new in the American experience. The total influence – economic, political, even spiritual – is felt in every city, every Statehouse, every office of the Federal government. We recognize the imperative need for this development. Yet we must not fail to comprehend its grave implications . . .

In the councils of government, we must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex. The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists and will persist . . .

Akin to, and largely responsible for the sweeping changes in our industrial-military posture, has been the technological revolution during recent decades . . .

Today, the solitary inventor, tinkering in his shop, has been overshadowed by task forces of scientists in laboratories and testing fields. In the same fashion, the free university, historically the fountainhead of free ideas and scientific discovery, has experienced a revolution in the conduct of research. Partly because of the huge costs involved, a government contract becomes virtually a substitute for intellectual curiosity. For every old blackboard there are now hundreds of new electronic computers.

The prospect of domination of the nation’s scholars by Federal employment, project allocations, and the power of money is ever present – and is gravely to be regarded.


Source: https://nexvucapital.wordpress.com/2012/12/15/debt-to-gdp-us-history/usgs_line-1/

Document I: Malcolm X: Human rights versus civil rights

When we begin to get in this area, we need new friends, we need new allies. We need to expand the civil-rights struggle to a higher level—to the level of human rights. Whenever you are in a civil-rights struggle, whether you know it or not, you are confining yourself to the jurisdiction of Uncle Sam [the United States government]. No one from the outside world can speak out in your behalf as long as your struggle is a civil-rights struggle . . . All of our African brothers and our Asian brothers and our Latin-American brothers cannot open their mouths and interfere in the domestic affairs of the United States. And as long as it’s civil rights, this comes under the jurisdiction of Uncle Sam.

. . . When you expand the civil-rights struggle to the level of human rights, you can then take the case of the black man in this country before the nations in the UN [United Nations] . . . . You can take Uncle Sam before a world court. But the only level you can do it on is the level of human rights. Civil rights keeps you under his restrictions, under his jurisdiction. Civil rights keeps you in his pocket . . . Uncle Sam’s hands are dripping with blood, dripping with the blood of the black man in this country. He’s the earth’s number-one hypocrite.

. . . Let the world know how bloody his hands are. Let the world know the hypocrisy that’s practiced over here. Let it be the ballot or the bullet. Let him know that it must be the ballot or the bullet.
When you take your case to Washington, D.C., you’re taking it to the criminal who’s responsible; it’s like running from the wolf to the fox. They’re all in cahoots together. They all work political chicanery and make you look like a chump before the eyes of the world. Here you are walking around in America, getting ready to be drafted and sent abroad, like a tin soldier, and when you get over there, people ask you what are you fighting for, and you have to stick your tongue in your cheek. No, take Uncle Sam to court, take him before the world.


Source J: Statistics on the American Family, then and now

The classic nuclear family, the kind imprinted on the American imagination by TV shows like Leave It To Beaver, has been left behind. In 1960, 37% of households included a married couple raising their own children. More than a half-century later, just 16% of households look like that . . .

1. **Americans are putting off life’s big milestones.** Today, the median age at first marriage is 29 for men and 27 for women—the highest in modern history. (In 2013, more than one-in-four (26%) of people ages 18 to 32 were married. But in 1960, well over half (65%) of Americans were.) Mothers are also waiting longer to have children. In 1960, women ages 15 to 24 accounted for 40% of mothers with infants. By 2011, that number had dropped to 22%.

2. **Today, an American woman, on average, is expected to have 1.9 children,** compared with a total fertility rate of 3.7 children in 1960. Current levels are below the “replacement rate” of about 2.1 children, the number of births needed for children to replace their parents in the population. Some European countries have lower total fertility rates . . .

4. **Families today are more blended and differently constructed.** Nearly half (44%) of young people ages 18 to 29 have a step sibling. About half as many (23%) of those ages 50 to 64—and just 16% of those 65 or older—have a step sibling.

5. **More babies are born to unmarried mothers than ever before.** Unmarried women accounted for 41% of births in 2011, up from just 5% in 1960. In 2011, 72% of births to black women were to unmarried mothers, compared with 53% of births to Hispanic women and 29% of births to white women. (The sample size was too small to analyze results among Asians.) But just 9% of new mothers with a bachelor’s degree, regardless of race, were unmarried when they gave birth . . .

Source K: Apollo 8 moon landing


Source L: Overview of 1960’s trends and events

"‘The Sixties,’ for conservatives, were an explosion of puerile irresponsibility and fashionable rebellion, the wellspring of today’s ubiquitous identity politics, debased high culture, sexual permissiveness, and censorious political correctness,” says social policy essayist Bruce Bawer. "For liberals, the period was a desperately needed corrective that drew attention to America’s injustices and started us down the road toward greater fairness and equality for all.”

By the end of the decade, television had gone from a novelty to the dominant medium of the age and one of the most profound communications tools ever. In 1961, the laser was perfected. In 1965, the Houston Astrodome, the world’s first roofed stadium, was built. In 1967, the first heart transplant was performed by Christiaan Barnard in Cape Town, South Africa, opening up remarkable new vistas in medicine. Also in 1967, the first hand-held calculator was invented by Texas Instruments, at a cost of $2,500 each.

In social terms, the number of college students doubled between 1940 and 1960 to 3.6 million, creating a huge pool of high-minded if sometimes misguided activists with the motivation and time to devote to political and social causes. Society moved ever more rapidly from the industrial age to an economy dominated by service and white-collar work, creating more dislocation and a profound sense of disorientation . . .

Source M: Dolores Huerta’s role with the United Farm Workers (UFW)

[Dolores] Huerta’s service to the union . . . has clearly been nontraditional. As a cofounder of the union with Cesar Chavez, . . . Huerta has held a decision-making post in the UFW from the outset. She was also the union’s first contract negotiator . . . directing it in the early years . . .

As she assumed responsibilities and stances that were traditionally held by white males, Huerta encountered criticism based on both gender and ethnic stereotypes. One grower representative reacted to Huerta’s forceful negotiating style and uncompromising positions, “Dolores Huerta is crazy. She is a violent woman, where women, especially Mexican women, are usually peaceful and calm.” Such comments indicate the depth of her challenge to the political, social and economic power of California agribusiness, as well as to the ideology of male dominance.


Source N: Proclamation of Earth Day

Our country is stealing from poorer nations and from generations yet unborn. We seem to have a reverse King Midas touch. Everything we touch turns to garbage—142 million tons of smoke, 7 million junked cars, 30 million tons of paper, 28 billion bottles, 48 billion cans each year. We waste riches in planned obsolescence and invest the overwhelming bulk of our national budget in ABMs and MIRVs [types of nuclear missiles] and other means of death. Russia can destroy every American twelve times; America can destroy every Russian forty times. I guess that is supposed to mean that we are ahead . . . You simply can't live an ecologically sound life in America. That is not one of the options open to you. Go shopping and you find dozens of laundry products; it seems like a tremendous array unless you know that most are made by three companies, and the differences in cleaning power are almost negligible. If you really want to be ecologically sound, you won't buy any detergents—just some old-fashioned laundry soap and a bit of soda. But there's nothing on those packages to tell you the phosphate [a toxic pollutant] content, and there's nothing in the supermarket to tell you, only meaningless advertising that keeps dunning you.
Things as we know them are falling apart. There is an unease across this country today. People know that something is wrong. The war is part of it, but most critics of the war have, from the beginning, known that the war is only a symptom of something much deeper. Poor people have long known what is wrong. Now the alley garbage, the crowding and the unhappiness and the crime have spread beyond the ghetto and a whole society is coming to realize that it must drastically change course. We are building a movement, a movement with a broad base, a movement which transcends traditional political boundaries. It is a movement that values people more than technology, people more than political boundaries and political ideologies, people more than profit. It will be a difficult fight. Earth Day is the beginning.


Using primary and secondary sources from this packet as well as outside information from the textbook, lecture and outside research, place information where it stands in relation to the extreme ends. Several examples will be given in class. This will help those that need it to visually form their thesis and help organize their facts into unified paragraphs and a cohesive essay.

Domestic events and trends in the United States from 1941 to the 1960’s were TOTALLY influenced by foreign affairs. Domestic events and trends in the United States from 1941 to the 1960’s were TOTALLY NOT influenced by foreign affairs.