

Name:

Date:

H Am Studies II

Joint American Studies II 1950s Dinner Party

Directions:

You will be creating a skit on a topic from the 1950s in groups of 5-6 students. Your task overall is to blend information from history into discussions that would occur around a dinner table in different areas of the country. You and your group will be “average people” from this era who are observing and commenting upon the changing landscape of 1950s life.

Topics: The locations and subtopics are suggestions--you should include the big ones, but also do your own research and focus on what was important for your group in your place at your time.

1. NYC Loft- Countercurrents (Beatniks, Music, Art, Literature)
2. NJ Suburbs- Role of Men and Women (1950s Consumer Culture, Corporate Culture, Conformity, Levittowns, American Dream)
3. Washington DC- Foreign Policy: Communism Abroad (CIA operations, Korea, Vietnam, Hungarian Revolution, Suez War)
4. Los Angeles- Communism at Home (Army-McCarthy, Blacklists, Bomb Shelter, Impact on Elections)
5. Arkansas- Civil Rights 1950s (Emmett Till, Brown v. Board of Education, Little Rock Nine, Montgomery Bus Boycott)

Requirements:

1. Write a script (in correct format)--include opening stage directions to establish setting and scene; stage directions in text to indicate movement/give other information; and a character list in which you make up a persona and write a one-line character bio.
2. Use 3 outside sources (beyond the textbook and class notes) to support your performance. These will be written up on a Works Consulted page.
3. The performance should last between 10-12 minutes- You should be enthusiastic, in character, and it should demonstrate that you have practiced.
4. Each group performance should use at least 10 key terms, people, events, movements, places, etc to demonstrate understanding and knowledge of the time period and topic.
 - a. You should submit a list of these terms with your Works Consulted page
5. Create a question worksheet of important info for your classmates to answer while watching (5 questions)
6. Dress the part! We will provide a basic table setting, but your group should add to the scene. Your group’s dress, speech, and props should reflect the setting of your discussion. Hats, aprons, jackets, personal artifacts, table settings, and food are up to you. You may bring in an appropriate beverage and some food (at teacher discretion).

Groupings:

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5
Lauren Gabby Sachin Kayleigh Krish V Jasmine	Richard Marisa Krish P Danielle MJ Jessie	Chris Sarah Kayla Kristin Rohit	Ashley Kaitlyn Nemao Parth Suraj	Affan Mara Alessia Samip Alyssa

Important Dates:

This project is due on **Friday, March 9** (B day). You will have a few classes spread between Social Studies and LAL to work with your groups, but you will also have to work on your own.

Rubric: Please keep this handy and be ready to hand it in when your group presents

- Script- _____/20 points
- Key Terms- _____/10 points
- Works Consulted- _____/5 points
- Performance/Props/Dress- _____/10 points
- Question Worksheet- _____/5 points

Total: _____50 points
Project Grade in both SS and LAL