



Source: *The American Journey: Time Line Activities*, Glencoe/McGraw-Hill (adapted)

1. The events shown on the time line occurred as a result of
- (1) the bombing of Pearl Harbor
 - (2) the launching of Sputnik
 - (3) a need for collective security
 - (4) a fear of communism

2. Which civil liberty was most seriously threatened during the period shown on the time line?
- (1) freedom of speech
 - (2) freedom of religion
 - (3) the right to bear arms
 - (4) the right to petition the government

3. Select one of the events from above and explain why it happened and how it impacted life in America.

Communists and Public Opinion

[T]he Communists have endeavored to penetrate the general press, radio, book and magazine publishing, motion pictures, and lecture fields. Details of their success would consume too much space, but the sampling given in the *Chicago Journal of Commerce* booklet "The Communist Fifth Column" leaves little doubt that their accomplishments are real.

Communists have worked hard to use the motion pictures and the legitimate theater as propaganda weapons. . . . Dalton Trumbo, a leading Communist scenarist, has listed pictures which they have sponsored and others which they have blocked. . . . Some of the best propaganda brains of the Party are employed by our entertainment industry.

One of the most interesting attempts at totalitarian control of thought is the plan issued in July, 1946, for an American Authors' Authority. The Authority is to be a marketing monopoly which will copyright and lease to users all writings by American authors. It is to begin with scripts for screen and radio and articles for magazines. By controlling this lucrative field, it will be the exclusive agent for America's most successful writers. . . . The grip on the publishers will then force recalcitrant authors into the Authority and the related guilds.

—Chamber of Commerce of the United States, *Communist Infiltration in the United States: Its Nature and How to Combat It* (1946)

1. Which of the following is a fact?

- A *The Chicago Journal of Commerce* has published a booklet "The Communist Fifth Column."
- B The Communists have tried to control the entertainment industry.
- C The booklet presents evidence of the Communists' attempts to influence public opinion.
- D All of the above

2. Overall this passage reflects

- A the opinions of the United States Chamber of Commerce.
- B charges about Communist influence in the entertainment industry.
- C little factual information.
- D All of the above

3. Based on the passage and your prior knowledge, why was Hollywood (the movie industry) a target for anti-communists like HUAC and Senator McCarthy?