

NATIONAL VIETNAM EXAMINATION

Distributed by: Students for a Democratic Society
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Debate on Foreign Policy

Instructions: This examination has been prepared to allow you to check your understanding of the war in Vietnam. For each question, indicate the correct answer or correct answers in the space provided. We believe in the importance in a democracy of putting the facts in the hands of every citizen to enable him to participate in decision-making. This is particularly true where the question is war and peace, and where the citizens are the young men who are called upon to fight.

1. The following statements were made by leading figures involved in the Vietnamese conflict. Match the quotations below with the author (more than one quotation can be attributed to the same individual).
- 8 A) "I would like to see American students develop as much fanaticism about the U. S. political system as young Nazis did about their system during the war."
- 2 B) "For years now in Southeast Asia, the only people who have been doing anything about the little man at the grassroots -- to lift him up -- have been the Communists."
- 5 C) "The C.I.A. has employed some South Vietnamese and they have been instructed to claim they are Vietcong and to work accordingly. Several of these executed two village leaders and raped some women."
- 2 D) "Do you think those (American) demonstrations were organized by some fine little social club? They were organized by an international apparatus: 95 per cent of the demonstrators are no more Communists than you and I, but the international Communist movement organized it and masterminded it."
- 4 E) "The fever chart of every successful revolution... reveals a rising temperature of terrorism and counter-terrorism, but this does not of itself invalidate the legitimate goals that fired the original revolution. Most political revolutions--including our own--have been buoyed by outside aid in men, weapons and ideas."
- 3 F) "... The Communists are closer to the people's yearning for social justice and an independent life than (my) own government."
- 6 G) "The major part of the U. S. military task can be completed by the end of 1965, although there may be a continuing requirement for a limited number of U. S. training personnel."
- 3 H) "I have only one (hero). Hitler."
- 1) John F. Kennedy
2) Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge
3) Premier Nguyen Cao Ky
4) Barry Goldwater
5) Senator Stephen Young of Ohio
6) Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara
7) Vice-President Hubert H. Humphrey
8) President Lyndon B. Johnson
9) Ho Chi Minh
2. Free elections are a major issue in South Vietnam today. The earliest time at which free elections were (are) supposed to take place was (is).
- 2 (A) August, 1945
2 (B) July, 1956
1 (C) January, 1959
1 (D) November, 1963
1 (E) sometime in 1966
3. Which of the following accurately describe(s) the cause(s) of unrest in South Vietnam after 1956?
- 1 (A) Saigon dissolved elected village councils and replaced them with appointed, often corrupt officials, many of whom were not from the villages they administered.
1 (B) Saigon took land from farmers who had seized it during the war with the French (1946-54), and returned it to the former landlords who restored land rents.
1 (C) Saigon cracked down on political dissidents.
1 (D) From 1954 to 1956, the Saigon government gained substantial support and restored the economy to prosperity. Seeing no other way to gain control of South Vietnam, the North Vietnamese government ordered its agents in the South to begin a campaign of terror.
4. Which of the following statements about military operations in Vietnam, is (are) true?
- 1 (A) American counter-insurgency forces arrived in South Vietnam as early as 1955.
1 (B) South Vietnamese and American soldiers have infiltrated North Vietnam.
1 (C) About three-quarters of the infiltrators from North Vietnam into South Vietnam from 1959 through 1964 were native Southerners.
1 (D) In South Vietnam anti-Diem guerrillas were active long before infiltrated North Vietnamese elements joined the fray.
5. According to Mike Mansfield, majority leader of the Senate, there are 230,000 Viet Cong troops inside South Vietnam--of whom 73,000 are main force regulars including 14,000 North Vietnamese people's army men. Using these figures, what percentage of the total Viet Cong force is made up of North Vietnamese People's Army men?
- 1 (A) 20%
1 (B) 6%
1 (C) 20%
1 (D) 100%
6. There were approximately 540,000 South Vietnamese in all branches of the Saigon government's fighting forces in 1965. About how many South Vietnamese deserted during 1965?
- 1 (A) 57
1 (B) 500
1 (C) 20,000
1 (D) 82,000
1 (E) 113,000