

## Inquiry Assessment

Directions: Read the passage (below) and then answer the questions.  
Please select the most correct answer from the options listed.

### Text of Khrushchev Message to Kennedy

10/27/1962

Papers of President Kennedy: National Security Files

National Archives Identifier: 193377

Translation of message from Khrushchev to Kennedy concerning proposal put forth by U Thant to resolve Cuban Missile Crisis.

#### Selected Modified Text

#### Original Text

<p><b>1</b> Mr. President: Thank you for your reply. I am pleased to hear that you prefer to avoid conflict and do not plan to attack us. It appears that we both we prefer peace over war.</p>	<p>MOSCOW DOMESTIC SERVICE IN RUSSIAN 1430 27 OCT 62 L</p> <p>(TEXT) ESTABLISHED MR. PRESIDENT: I HAVE ACQUAINTED MYSELF WITH MUCH SATISFACTION WITH YOUR REPLY TO U THANT TO THE EFFECT THAT STEPS WILL BE TAKEN TO EXCLUDE CONTACT BETWEEN OUR SHIPS AND THUS AVOID IRREMEDABLE FATEFUL CONSEQUENCES. THIS REASONABLE STEP ON YOUR PART STRENGTHENS MY (BELIEF) THAT YOU ARE SHOWING CONCERN TO SAFEGUARD PEACE, AND I NOTE THIS WITH SATISFACTION.</p> <p>I HAVE ALREADY SAID THAT OUR PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT AND I PERSONALLY, AS CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, ARE CONCERNED SOLELY THAT OUR COUNTRIES SHOULD DEVELOP AND OCCUPY A WORTHY PLACE AMONG PEOPLE OF THE WORLD IN ECONOMIC COMPETITION, THE DEVELOPMENT OF CULTURE AND ARTS, AND THE RAISING OF THE WELL-BEING OF PEOPLE. THIS IS THE MOST NOBLE AND NECESSARY FIELD FOR COMPETITION, AND VICTORS AND VANQUISHED WILL ONLY (WORD INDISTINCT) FROM IT, BECAUSE THIS MEANS PEACE AND INCREASED COMMODITIES FOR THE LIFE AND ENJOYMENT OF MAN.</p> <p>IN YOUR STATEMENT, YOU SUPPORTED THE OPINION THAT THE MAIN AIM WAS NOT ONLY TO COME TO AN AGREEMENT AND TAKE MEASURES TO PREVENT CONTACT BETWEEN OUR SHIPS--AND THEREFORE THE DEEPENING OF THE CRISIS WHICH MAY AS A RESULT OF SUCH A CONTACT STRIKE THE F RE OF A MILITARY CONFLICT AFTER WHICH ALL TALKS WOULD BE SUPERFLUOUS, BECAUSE OTHER FORCES AND LAWS WOULD COME INTO FORCE--THE LAWS OF WAR. I AGREE WITH YOU THAT THIS IS ONLY THE FIRST STEP. THE MAIN THING THAT MUST BE DONE IS TO NORMALIZE AND STABILIZE THE STATE OF PEACE AMONG STATES AND PEOPLE.</p> <p>I UNDERSTAND YOUR CONCERN FOR THE SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATE, MR. PRESIDENT, BECAUSE THIS IS THE FIRST DUTY OF A PRESIDENT. HOWEVER, WE ARE WORRIED ABOUT THE SAME QUESTIONS, AND I BEAR THE SAME OBLIGATIONS AS CHAIRMAN OF THE USSR COUNCIL OF MINISTERS.</p>
<p><b>2</b> You said you want come to an agreement in order to avoid war and all the consequences of war. An agreement between us to prevent conflict between our countries is a good first step toward keeping the peace.</p>	<p>YOU ARE WORRIED BY CUBA. YOU SAY THAT IT WORRIES YOU BECAUSE IT IS A DISTANCE OF 90 MILES BY SEA FROM THE AMERICAN COAST. HOWEVER, TURKEY IS NEXT TO US. YOUR SENTRIES WALK UP AND DOWN AND LOOK AT EACH OTHER. WHAT DO YOU CONSIDER THEN--THAT YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO DEMAND SECURITY FOR YOUR OWN COUNTRY AND THE REMOVAL OF THOSE WEAPONS WHICH YOU CALL OFFENSIVE AND DO NOT ACKNOWLEDGE THE SAME RIGHT FOR US?</p> <p>YOU HAVE PLACED DESTRUCTIVE ROCKET WEAPONS, WHICH YOU CALL OFFENSIVE, IN TURKEY, LITERALLY AT OUR ELBOW. HOW THEN DOES ADMISSION OF OUR EQUAL MILITARY CAPACITIES TALLY WITH SUCH UNEQUAL RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR GREAT STATES? THIS CANNOT BE MADE TO AGREE IN ANY WAY.</p> <p>IT IS WELL, MR. PRESIDENT, THAT YOU HAVE AGREED TO OUR REPRESENTATIVES MEETING AND BEGINNING TALKS, APPARENTLY THROUGH THE INTERMEDIARY OF U.N. ACTING SECRETARY GENERAL U THANT. HENCE HE, TO SOME DEGREE, ASSUMES THE ROLE OF A MEDIATOR, AND WE CONSIDER THAT HE IS ABLE TO COPE WITH THIS RESPONSIBLE MISSION IF, OF COURSE, EACH SIDE WHICH IS DRAWN INTO THIS CONFLICT SHOWS GOOD WILL. I THINK THAT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO END THE CONFLICT QUICKLY AND NORMALIZE THE SITUATION, AND THEN PEOPLE WOULD BREATHE MORE EASILY, CONSIDERING THAT THE STATESMEN WHO ARE VESTED WITH RESPONSIBILITY, HAVE GOOD SENSE, AN AWARENESS OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITY, AND THE ABILITY TO SOLVE COMPLEX QUESTIONS AND NOT BRING THINGS TO THE CATASTROPHE OF WAR.</p> <p>I THEREFORE MAKE THIS PROPOSAL. WE AGREE TO REMOVE FROM CUBA THOSE MEANS WHICH YOU REGARD AS OFFENSIVE MEANS. WE AGREE TO CARRY THIS OUT AND DECLARE THIS PLEDGE IN THE UNITED NATIONS. YOUR REPRESENTATIVES WILL MAKE A DECLARATION TO THE EFFECT THAT THE UNITED STATES ON ITS PART, CONSIDERING THE UNEASINESS AND ANXIETY OF THE SOVIET STATE, WILL REMOVE ITS ANALOGOUS MEANS FROM TURKEY.</p>
<p><b>3</b> I understand your concern for the security of the United States. You are their leader. I share these same concerns as the leader of the USSR.</p>	<p>IT IS WELL, MR. PRESIDENT, THAT YOU HAVE AGREED TO OUR REPRESENTATIVES MEETING AND BEGINNING TALKS, APPARENTLY THROUGH THE INTERMEDIARY OF U.N. ACTING SECRETARY GENERAL U THANT. HENCE HE, TO SOME DEGREE, ASSUMES THE ROLE OF A MEDIATOR, AND WE CONSIDER THAT HE IS ABLE TO COPE WITH THIS RESPONSIBLE MISSION IF, OF COURSE, EACH SIDE WHICH IS DRAWN INTO THIS CONFLICT SHOWS GOOD WILL. I THINK THAT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO END THE CONFLICT QUICKLY AND NORMALIZE THE SITUATION, AND THEN PEOPLE WOULD BREATHE MORE EASILY, CONSIDERING THAT THE STATESMEN WHO ARE VESTED WITH RESPONSIBILITY, HAVE GOOD SENSE, AN AWARENESS OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITY, AND THE ABILITY TO SOLVE COMPLEX QUESTIONS AND NOT BRING THINGS TO THE CATASTROPHE OF WAR.</p> <p>I THEREFORE MAKE THIS PROPOSAL. WE AGREE TO REMOVE FROM CUBA THOSE MEANS WHICH YOU REGARD AS OFFENSIVE MEANS. WE AGREE TO CARRY THIS OUT AND DECLARE THIS PLEDGE IN THE UNITED NATIONS. YOUR REPRESENTATIVES WILL MAKE A DECLARATION TO THE EFFECT THAT THE UNITED STATES ON ITS PART, CONSIDERING THE UNEASINESS AND ANXIETY OF THE SOVIET STATE, WILL REMOVE ITS ANALOGOUS MEANS FROM TURKEY.</p>
<p><b>4</b> You say you are worried about Cuba because it is only 90 miles from America's coast. However, Turkey is just as close to us and you have missiles in Turkey. Why do you think you have the right to demand security for your country, but ignore our right to demand the same thing?</p>	<p>IT IS WELL, MR. PRESIDENT, THAT YOU HAVE AGREED TO OUR REPRESENTATIVES MEETING AND BEGINNING TALKS, APPARENTLY THROUGH THE INTERMEDIARY OF U.N. ACTING SECRETARY GENERAL U THANT. HENCE HE, TO SOME DEGREE, ASSUMES THE ROLE OF A MEDIATOR, AND WE CONSIDER THAT HE IS ABLE TO COPE WITH THIS RESPONSIBLE MISSION IF, OF COURSE, EACH SIDE WHICH IS DRAWN INTO THIS CONFLICT SHOWS GOOD WILL. I THINK THAT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO END THE CONFLICT QUICKLY AND NORMALIZE THE SITUATION, AND THEN PEOPLE WOULD BREATHE MORE EASILY, CONSIDERING THAT THE STATESMEN WHO ARE VESTED WITH RESPONSIBILITY, HAVE GOOD SENSE, AN AWARENESS OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITY, AND THE ABILITY TO SOLVE COMPLEX QUESTIONS AND NOT BRING THINGS TO THE CATASTROPHE OF WAR.</p> <p>I THEREFORE MAKE THIS PROPOSAL. WE AGREE TO REMOVE FROM CUBA THOSE MEANS WHICH YOU REGARD AS OFFENSIVE MEANS. WE AGREE TO CARRY THIS OUT AND DECLARE THIS PLEDGE IN THE UNITED NATIONS. YOUR REPRESENTATIVES WILL MAKE A DECLARATION TO THE EFFECT THAT THE UNITED STATES ON ITS PART, CONSIDERING THE UNEASINESS AND ANXIETY OF THE SOVIET STATE, WILL REMOVE ITS ANALOGOUS MEANS FROM TURKEY.</p>
<p><b>5</b> I propose this: We will agree to remove our missiles from Cuba. We publicly agree do so at the United Nations. You will also publicly agree to remove your missiles from Turkey.</p>	<p>IT IS WELL, MR. PRESIDENT, THAT YOU HAVE AGREED TO OUR REPRESENTATIVES MEETING AND BEGINNING TALKS, APPARENTLY THROUGH THE INTERMEDIARY OF U.N. ACTING SECRETARY GENERAL U THANT. HENCE HE, TO SOME DEGREE, ASSUMES THE ROLE OF A MEDIATOR, AND WE CONSIDER THAT HE IS ABLE TO COPE WITH THIS RESPONSIBLE MISSION IF, OF COURSE, EACH SIDE WHICH IS DRAWN INTO THIS CONFLICT SHOWS GOOD WILL. I THINK THAT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO END THE CONFLICT QUICKLY AND NORMALIZE THE SITUATION, AND THEN PEOPLE WOULD BREATHE MORE EASILY, CONSIDERING THAT THE STATESMEN WHO ARE VESTED WITH RESPONSIBILITY, HAVE GOOD SENSE, AN AWARENESS OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITY, AND THE ABILITY TO SOLVE COMPLEX QUESTIONS AND NOT BRING THINGS TO THE CATASTROPHE OF WAR.</p> <p>I THEREFORE MAKE THIS PROPOSAL. WE AGREE TO REMOVE FROM CUBA THOSE MEANS WHICH YOU REGARD AS OFFENSIVE MEANS. WE AGREE TO CARRY THIS OUT AND DECLARE THIS PLEDGE IN THE UNITED NATIONS. YOUR REPRESENTATIVES WILL MAKE A DECLARATION TO THE EFFECT THAT THE UNITED STATES ON ITS PART, CONSIDERING THE UNEASINESS AND ANXIETY OF THE SOVIET STATE, WILL REMOVE ITS ANALOGOUS MEANS FROM TURKEY.</p>

## I. Passage Questions

*Directions: For the questions below, please select the best possible answer according to the text above.*

**1a) What kind of source is this? \* Mark only one oval.**

- A. a letter
- B. A presidential paper from the National Archives
- C. A message from Premier Khrushchev to President Kennedy
- D. a primary source

**1b) Who is the author of this source? \* Mark only one oval.**

- A. Khrushchev, premier of the USSR
- B. Kennedy, president of the United States
- C. Khrushchev, president of the United States
- D. Kennedy, president of the Soviet State

**2) What is Khrushchev's primary purpose for writing this memo? \* Mark only one oval.**

- A. Khrushchev wants the missiles removed from Turkey.
- B. Khrushchev wants to be friends with Kennedy.
- C. Khrushchev is trying to challenge the United States.
- D. Khrushchev is seeking a compromise.

**3) Which numbered passage from the selected modified text best supports the claim that both the United States and the Soviet Union were concerned about the threat of security to their nations? \* Mark only one oval.**

- A. Passage 1
- B. Passage 2
- C. Passage 3
- D. Passage 4

**4) Based on the message, which response best explains why the placement of missiles in Cuba were the cause of international tension? \* Mark only one oval.**

- A. Soviet nuclear war heads were in extremely close to the United States, threatening its security.
- B. The USSR was responding to a threat from the United States and were preparing for war.
- C. Citizens were afraid because Cuba is only 90 miles from Florida.
- D. Cuba was a territory of the United States and the USSR was invading.

**5) Toward the end of his memo, Khrushchev writes "I think that it would be possible to end the conflict quickly and normalize the situation, and then people would breathe more easily, considering that the statesmen who are vested with responsibility, have good sense, an awareness of their responsibility, and the ability to solve complex questions and not bring the catastrophe of war." Which claim is best supported by this quote? \* Mark only one oval.**

- A. Khrushchev preferred peaceful resolution over war.
- B. Khrushchev believed it was possible to solve the problem.
- C. Khrushchev was taking responsibility for the conflict.
- D. Khrushchev wanted Kennedy to show he was a statesmen too.

**6) Which passage best supports the claim that US missiles in Turkey were a threat to the USSR?**

*\* Mark only one oval.*

- A. passage 2
- B. passage 3
- C. passage 4
- D. passage 5

**7) In a memo, which was written three days later by the U.S. Attorney General, Robert Kennedy stated, "there could be no quid pro quo – no deal of this kind could be made." Based on his statement, what does "quid pro quo" mean? *\* Mark only one oval.***

- A. a kind of memo
- B. a compromise or resolution between two parties.
- C. a deal or something done in exchange for something else.
- D. a legal statement or official declaration

**8) Which statement best explains why the United States might be unwilling to compromise? *\* Mark only one oval.***

- A. The United States wanted to defeat the Soviet Union at all costs.
- B. The United States did not want to appear weak to the rest of the world.
- C. The Soviet Union was weak and the US President and Attorney General knew it.
- D. The Soviet Union was unwilling to negotiate with the United States.

**9) Which statement best explains why Khrushchev's memo and Kennedy's statement provide two different narratives of the Cuban Missile Crisis? *\* Mark only one oval.***

- A. Sometimes primary sources contradict each other and each helps shed light on what really happened.
- B. The United States was attempting to appear strong and uncompromising, while secretly negotiating.
- C. All of the above
- D. None of the above

**10) Would attorney general Kennedy's statement support or refute the claim that WWII was avoided because of compromise? *\* Mark only one oval.***

- A. support
- B. refute

**11) Which statement best describes what really happened during the Cuban Missile Crisis? *\* Mark only one oval.***

- A. Both sides publicly agreed to a peaceful solution.
- B. The USSR scared the United States into making peace.
- C. The United States pretended not to make any deals, but they actually made a compromise.
- D. The United States refused to compromise and forced the Soviet Union to remove its missiles.

## II. General Knowledge Questions

**Sourcing is *\* Mark only one oval.***

- knowing the name of the author
- finding the date, author, and origins of a source
- identifying where a source came from
- finding the date and type of source

**Contextualization is \*** *Mark only one oval.*

- having background knowledge on the author
- thinking about the context of the time period
- drawing on the background knowledge about the source
- all of the above

**Corroboration is \*** *Mark only one oval.*

- comparing and contrasting
- determining bias
- establishing chronology
- understanding the purpose

### **III. Survey Questions**

**1) I enjoy learning through inquiry.**

	1	2	3	4	5	
Strongly Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Strongly Agree

**2) Learning through inquiry is useful to my education.**

	1	2	3	4	5	
Strongly Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Strongly Agree

**3) Learning about history is useful to my education.**

	1	2	3	4	5	
Strongly Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Strongly Agree

**4) Sourcing documents, speeches, and/or images is important.**

	1	2	3	4	5	
Strongly Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Strongly Agree

**5) Accurately Interpreting documents, speeches, and/or images is important.**

	1	2	3	4	5	
Strongly Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Strongly Agree

**6) Understanding the context of documents, speeches, and/or images is important.**

	1	2	3	4	5	
Strongly Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Strongly Agree

**7) Knowing the reliability or truthfulness of documents, speeches, and/or images is important.**

	1	2	3	4	5	
Strongly Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Strongly Agree

**8) Understanding how to cite evidence to support a claim is important.**

	1	2	3	4	5	
Strongly Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Strongly Agree

**9) History requires interpretation. \*** *Mark only one oval.*

	1	2	3	4	5	
Strongly Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Strongly Agree

## Epistemology Survey

1.) In history, most work has only one right answer.

	1	2	3	4	5	
Strongly Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Strongly Agree

2.) All history professors would probably come up with the same answers to questions about the past.

	1	2	3	4	5	
Strongly Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Strongly Agree

3.) All historians have a bias.

	1	2	3	4	5	
Strongly Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Strongly Agree

4.) If you read something in a history textbook, you can be sure it's true.

	1	2	3	4	5	
Strongly Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Strongly Agree

5.) Historians can ultimately get to the truth.

	1	2	3	4	5	
Strongly Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Strongly Agree

6.) What I learn in history is useful to me outside of school. \*

	1	2	3	4	5	
Strongly Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Strongly Agree

7.) Most people can do well in history. \*

	1	2	3	4	5	
Strongly Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Strongly Agree

8.) If a student is NOT naturally gifted in history, they can still learn the content well. \*

	1	2	3	4	5	
Strongly Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Strongly Agree

9.) All sources have a bias. \*

	1	2	3	4	5	
Strongly Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Strongly Agree

10.) History concepts are often ambiguous (i.e., have double meanings). \*

	1	2	3	4	5	
Strongly Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Strongly Agree