Commonlit Enemies From Within Speech Answer Key

Name: _____   Class: _____

'Enemies from Within' Speech

Senator Joseph McCarthy's 1950 Lincoln Day Address

By Senator Joseph McCarthy
1950

Wisconsin Senator Joseph McCarthy delivered the following speech in Wheeling, West Virginia on February 20th, 1950. The senator claimed to possess a list of known communists within the state department. This was considered to be an attack on President Truman's foreign policies during the Cold War. While McCarthy continued to revise the number of names on the list, and in fact never made the list public, his claims nevertheless launched him into a position of fame and power as the driving force behind the Red Scare: the historic "witch hunt" of the 1950s. As you read, take notes on the evidence McCarthy uses to support his claims about communism in the United States.

[1] Tonight as we celebrate the 141st birthday of one of the great men in American history, I would like to be able to talk about what a glorious day today is in the history of the world. As we celebrate the birth of this man, who with his whole heart and soul hated war, I would like to be able to speak of peace in our time, of war being outlawed, and of worldwide disarmament.[1] These would be truly appropriate things to be able to mention as we celebrate the birthday of Abraham Lincoln.

Five years after a world war has been won, men's hearts should anticipate a long peace, and men's minds should be free from the heavy weight that comes with war. But this is not such a period — for this is not a period of peace. This is a time of the Cold War. This is a time when all the world is split into two vast, increasingly hostile armed camps — a time of a great armaments[2] race. Today we can almost physically hear the mutterings and rumblings of an invigorated god of war. You can see it, feel it, and hear it all the way from the hills of Indochina,[3] from the shores of Formosa[4] right over into the very heart of Europe itself...

"Joseph Raymond McCarthy" by United Press (source: Library of Congress) is in the public domain.

Today we are engaged in a final, all-out battle between communistic atheism and Christianity. The modern champions of communism have selected this as the time. And, ladies and gentlemen, the chips are down — they are truly down.

1. the reduction or withdrawal of military forces and weapons
2. military weapons and equipment
3. An outdated term used to describe the region now known as Southeast Asia.
4. the former name of the country of Taiwan

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CommonLit Enemies from Within Speech Answer Key is an invaluable resource for educators and students alike. This text, delivered by a prominent figure, addresses the critical issues of internal conflict and the challenges that arise within communities and individuals. Understanding the nuances of this speech not only enhances comprehension but also fosters critical thinking skills among students. In this article, we will delve into the themes, key concepts, and the significance of the "Enemies from Within" speech, as well as provide guidance on how to navigate the CommonLit answer key effectively.

Overview of the Speech

The "Enemies from Within" speech discusses the internal struggles that can undermine a community's strength and unity. It highlights how personal ambitions, fears, and prejudices can create divisions that are just as detrimental as external threats.

Key Themes

1. Self-Reflection and Accountability: The speech encourages individuals to engage in self-reflection. It calls for a collective accountability that recognizes how personal actions can impact the larger community.

2. Unity and Division: A significant focus is placed on the idea that division often stems from within. The speaker argues that unity is essential for overcoming challenges and that internal conflicts can be more damaging than external adversities.

3. The Power of Fear: Fear is identified as a principal enemy within. The speaker articulates how fear can lead to isolation, mistrust, and ultimately, the disintegration of community bonds.

4. The Role of Leadership: Leadership is discussed in terms of responsibility. The speech posits that true leaders must confront these internal conflicts and work to resolve them.

Navigating the CommonLit Answer Key

The CommonLit platform provides a structured approach to analyzing texts, including the "Enemies from Within" speech. Here's how to effectively use the answer key:

Understanding Question Types

CommonLit typically includes various question types that assess comprehension and critical thinking. Familiarizing yourself with these can enhance the learning experience.

1. Multiple Choice Questions: These questions often gauge basic understanding of the text. They may ask about specific details, themes, or the author's intent.

2. Short Answer Questions: Short answer questions require deeper engagement with the text. Students should provide evidence from the speech to support

their responses.

3. Discussion Questions: These questions encourage students to think critically about the themes and apply them to real-world scenarios.

Using the Answer Key Effectively

When utilizing the answer key for the "Enemies from Within" speech, consider the following tips:

1. Read the Speech Thoroughly: Before consulting the answer key, ensure that you have read and understood the speech. This foundational step is crucial for meaningful learning.

2. Cross-Reference Answers: Use the answer key as a guide to evaluate your own responses. Compare your answers with the key, and if there are discrepancies, revisit the relevant sections of the speech.

3. Discuss with Peers: Engaging in discussions with classmates can provide new insights and interpretations. Consider forming study groups to explore the themes more deeply.

4. Reflect on Personal Connections: After reviewing the answer key, reflect on how the themes of the speech relate to your own experiences or current events. This personal connection can enhance understanding and retention.

Significance of the Speech

The "Enemies from Within" speech is significant for several reasons:

Educational Value

1. Critical Thinking Development: The themes encourage students to think critically about their own roles within their communities.

2. Historical Context: Understanding the context in which the speech was delivered can enrich discussions. Students can explore how internal conflicts have historically affected societies.

3. Empowerment: The speech serves as a call to action, empowering individuals to take responsibility for both personal and collective growth.

Relevance to Modern Issues

The issues addressed in the speech are timeless. In a world where division seems prevalent, the lessons from "Enemies from Within" resonate deeply.

1. Social Media and Division: Today's digital landscape can amplify internal conflicts, making the speech's message even more pertinent.

2. Community Building: The need for unity in communities is more critical than ever. The speech encourages proactive measures to build bridges rather than walls.

3. Leadership in Crisis: The role of leaders in navigating internal conflicts remains essential, particularly in times of social unrest or political turmoil.

Conclusion

In summary, the CommonLit Enemies from Within Speech Answer Key serves as a crucial tool for educators and students in grasping the depth and significance of the speech. By understanding its key themes and effectively navigating the answer key, students can enhance their comprehension and critical thinking skills. The speech's exploration of internal conflict not only sheds light on personal accountability but also emphasizes the importance of unity in overcoming challenges. As we confront our own "enemies from within," we are reminded of the power of self-reflection and the collective responsibility we share in fostering a harmonious community.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main theme of the 'Enemies from Within' speech?

The main theme of the speech is the idea that internal conflicts and divisions can be more damaging than external threats, emphasizing the importance of unity and self-reflection.

Who is the speaker of the 'Enemies from Within' speech?

The speaker is often a prominent figure or leader addressing the challenges faced by a society, emphasizing the need to confront internal issues.

What historical context is referenced in the 'Enemies from Within' speech?

The speech references various historical instances where internal strife, such as civil wars or political turmoil, led to the downfall of nations.

What rhetorical devices are used in the 'Enemies from Within' speech?

The speech employs rhetorical devices such as metaphors, repetition, and parallelism to strengthen its message and engage the audience.

How does the speaker suggest addressing the 'enemies from within'?

The speaker suggests fostering open dialogue, promoting understanding, and emphasizing collective responsibility to address internal divisions.

What examples does the speaker use to illustrate internal conflict?

The speaker uses examples from history, literature, or current events to illustrate how internal conflicts have undermined unity and progress.

How does the speech relate to contemporary societal issues?

The speech relates to contemporary issues by highlighting ongoing divisions in politics, social justice, and community relations, urging listeners to reflect on their role in these challenges.

What call to action does the speaker make in the speech?

The speaker calls for individuals to take personal responsibility in overcoming divisions and to work towards a more united and harmonious society.

What emotional appeal is used in the 'Enemies from Within' speech?

The speech uses emotional appeals, such as invoking feelings of fear, hope, and determination, to resonate with the audience and inspire action.

What solutions does the speaker propose to combat the enemies from within?

The speaker proposes solutions such as education, community engagement, and

leadership that prioritizes unity over division to combat internal challenges.

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