

RS#11 Assessment Option 1

Interpreting *Gloriosa Victoria*

Directions: Using your acquired knowledge from the History Lab, answer the following questions about Diego Rivera's painting, *Gloriosa Victoria*. Reference the numbered boxes to help guide your answers, and be sure to read the context box below.

Context: The painting, *Gloriosa Victoria* (Glorious Victory), was created by the prominent Mexican artist, Diego Rivera, in 1954, shortly after overthrow of President Jacobo Arbenz. Rivera was an active member of the Communist party in Mexico.

1. United Fruit Company worker

2. U.S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles shaking the hand of Castillo Armas

3. U.S. ambassador to Guatemala, John Peurifoy, standing with Guatemalan military officers and handing them money

4. Guatemalan people protesting



5. Allen Dulles, Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, is whispering in the ear of his brother, U.S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles. Allen Dulles is also holding onto a chair with a bundle of bananas.

6. The smiling face of President Dwight D. Eisenhower appears on a bomb being held by Secretary of State John Foster Dulles.

7. Mariano Rossell Arellano, the Catholic Archbishop of Guatemala, is blessing the officials, while the Guatemalan people protest. At the request of the American government, an unnamed American archbishop sent warnings on the evils of Communism to his counterpart in Guatemala.

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1. How does Rivera portray United Fruit Company workers (**Box # 1**)? Why do you think Rivera chose to illustrate workers in this way?

2. What is Rivera implying about the relationship between John Foster Dulles and Castillo Armas relationship? (**Box # 2**)

3. Why would the U.S. Ambassador give money to military officers in Guatemala (**Box # 3**)?

4. According to the painting, how do the Guatemalan people feel about the intervention by the United States (**Box # 4**)?

5. Why do you think Rivera included the head of the CIA, Allen Dulles, with his hand on a bundle of bananas (**Box #5**)? What does this reveal about Allen Dulles' motivations in Guatemala, according to Rivera?

6. Why do you think Rivera chose to portray Eisenhower's face on a bomb, and why is he smiling down on dead Guatemalans (**Box # 6**)?

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7. Below circle which major “player” in the Guatemalan Coup would most likely **AGREE** with Rivera’s interpretation of the events that occurred in Guatemala during the summer of 1954. Justify your choice.

President Eisenhower

Jacobo Arbenz

Secretary of State John Foster Dulles

Justify your choice:

8. Create your OWN title for Rivera’s *Gloriosa Victoria*. Your title should reflect your understanding of the work.

9. Do you **AGREE** or **DISAGREE** with Rivera’s interpretation of the Guatemalan Coup? **EXPLAIN**.
