

CUBAN REVOLUTION PROPAGANDA: SYNTHESIS

You have read a variety of material regarding both Castro's use of propaganda and Batista's suppression of the press. Complete these brief activities to help bring it all together.

Task 1: Evaluating Castro's use of propaganda

- You have a total of **15 "Che Points"** to allocate to different examples of Castro's use of propaganda. The more points you give a particular example, the more important you think it was in influencing Castro's ultimate victory.



MATTHEWS NYT
ARTICLES AND
CASTRO'S USE OF
FOREIGN JOURNALISTS



**RADIO
REBELDE**

**"HEADLINE
GRABBERS" LIKE
KIDNAPPINGS OR
FAKE MILITARY
OPERATIONS**

**CASTRO'S 1953
"HISTORY WILL
ABSOLVE ME"
SPEECH, WHICH
WAS PUBLISHED
AFTER THE
TRIAL**

Task 2: Thinking like Batista

- If you were Batista, how would you treat the press? How would you have responded to rising public criticism, strikes, vocal student groups, influence from foreign journalists, and ideas spread by rebel factions?
- A. List 3 examples for both his "carrot" approach and his "stick" approach:

- B. Which approach would you have taken? Which do you think was more effective? Discuss with a partner.

- C. To what extent do you believe Batista when he said *“censorship has been more uncomfortable perhaps for my government than for you newsmen and it was imposed only to avoid greater evils.”*

Answer with a brief paragraph (show reasoning):

Task 3: Essay plan

- Create a brief essay outline for the following P2 style question:

“Evaluate the role of propaganda in the Cuban Revolution”

Thesis:

Outline: