



### Cold War Political Cartoon Questions

1. Who are the two figures depicted and which nations do they represent?
2. What are they sitting on?
3. What activity are they engaged in?
4. Do the figures look relaxed? Explain.
5. Based on this cartoon do you believe their relationship to be friendly? Why or why not?
6. Describe what their fingers are pointed at and what might happen if they press it.
7. What is the overall message of this cartoon? Explain your answer.

## Answers

1. Khrushchev from the USSR and Kennedy from the US.
2. Hydrogen bombs.
3. Arm wrestling.
4. No, they are both sweating and have tense expressions on their faces.
5. Answers will vary but might include: It looks unfriendly as they are in a win-lose competition, are sitting on bombs which could kill each other, and they are not smiling.
6. Buttons which will presumably detonate the bombs they are sitting on and kill their opponent.
7. Answers will vary but might include: the US and the USSR were locked in a struggle that seems to be evenly matched in the cartoon, no one is depicted as stronger or more powerful than the other. The stakes are quite high as they are sitting on deadly weapons which will end lives. There does not appear to be an end in sight as neither seem to be dominant, however when it does end it does not look to be a positive result.