The Red Scare

1. Using an online dictionary, define each of the following terms:

Xenophobia

Succumb

Radicalism

Bolshevism

Dissent

Sedition

2. After WWI, there was “a growing climate of xenophobia, anti-radicalism, and nativism.” What does this mean?

3. Identify at least three symbols in the cartoon “Come Unto Me, Ye Opprest!”

4. In the article “The Most Brainiest Man”, what is required to convict someone of sedition under the Connecticut Sedition Law?

5. Who is the ‘most brainiest man’?

6. Do you think Yenowsky was guilty of sedition? Why?

7. Who was the Attorney General of the United States at the end of WWI?

8. Did Palmer believe that Congress did an adequate job deporting seditious aliens?

9. What simile is used to describe the spread of sedition in the third paragraph of “The Case Against the ‘Reds’”?

10. What might Palmer mean when he says robbery is the ideal of communism?

11. Does Palmer believe radical thinking should be treated the same or differently from breaking the law?

12. What is the contradiction between what really happened and the statement “the evidence was examined with the utmost care, with a personal leaning toward freedom of thought and word”?

13. According to Palmer, what is the future of the US if Bolshivism (Communism) is allowed to grow?

14. How does Palmer justify the arrest and deportation of the “Reds”?

15. What is meant by “he never chafed under the realization that there were others who possessed great wealth”?

16. What got Peters in trouble and how did the story of his sedition change over time?

17. How did Peters’ friends respond to him after his name was published in the local paper, and how did their respond change him?

18. How are Palmer’s and Benchley’s perspectives different?