



**Directions:** Both of the following items relate to the changing life in the United States in the 1950s. Please complete the provided questions to better understand this development.

**Levittown, PA c. 1959**



Define Levittown:

**Little Boxes by Malvina Reynolds,  
performed by Pete Seeger (1963)**

*Little boxes on the hillside  
Little boxes made of ticky tacky  
Little boxes, little boxes, little boxes all the same  
There's a green one and a pink one  
And a blue one and a yellow one  
And they're all made out of ticky tacky  
And they all look just the same*

*And the people in the houses  
All go to the university  
And they all get put in boxes  
Little boxes all the same  
And there's doctors and there's lawyers  
And business executives  
And they're all made out of ticky tacky  
And they all look just the same*

*And they all play on the golf course  
And drink their martini dry  
And they all have pretty children  
And the children go to school  
And the children go to summer camp  
And then to the university  
And they all get put in boxes  
And they all come out the same*

*And the boys go into business  
And marry and raise a family  
And they all get put in boxes  
Little boxes all the same  
There's a green one and a pink one  
And a blue one and a yellow one  
And they're all made out of ticky tacky  
And they all look just the same*

Mark any words, phrases, or verses that represent **consumerism**, the **baby boom**, **suburbia**, or **the changing workforce**. Color coding would be good here!



**MHS USH Honors**  
**1950s Society Activity**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **Period** \_\_\_\_

1. Where in the song does it allude to consumerism? Why do you think that?
2. Where in the song does it mention the suburbs? Give an example from the song.
3. Where in the song does it allude to the baby boom of the post-war era? Why do you think that?
4. Where do you see allusion to the changing workforce from blue-collar jobs to white-collar jobs? Who do you think is going to the university and becoming doctors, lawyers, and business executives?
5. What message do you think this song is trying to convey about suburban life in the 1950s?
6. What attitude does this song have towards the “American Dream”? Explain.