

The Cold War

Headings	Notes
<p>THE CAUSES OF THE COLD WAR</p> <p>COMMUNISM VS CAPITALISM</p> <p>CONFLICT AND MISTRUST DURING WORLD WAR II</p> <p>THE IRON CURTAIN</p> <p>CONTAINMENT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Soviet Union was a communist country; the state owned all the property and businesses and there were no political freedoms. A single party ruled where there were no elections, no free speech or free media. • The US is a capitalist economy: individuals are free to acquire wealth, own private property and profit from business with little to no interference from the government. • The US is also a democracy: there are more than one political parties, people can vote in elections while the free press and free speech are protected. • Tensions existed between the Allies even though they were on the same side in World War II. • Stalin believed that Britain and the US had deliberately delayed the D-Day landings so that the Soviet Red Army would suffer more. • The US also refused to share the secrets of the atomic bomb with the Soviets. • Stalin wanted to create a 'buffer zone' to protect the Soviet Union from future invasions. To do this, he imposed communist governments on East Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria – the 'satellite states' controlled by Moscow. The line that divided these countries from the rest of Europe became known as the Iron Curtain. • The Western Allies feared that the Soviets would try to take over the rest of Europe. • In 1947, US President Harry Truman announced the Truman Doctrine, a policy declaring that the US would aid other countries to resist the spread of communism. It promised to provide military aid to any country that was fighting communist forces within its own state. • The US also announced it would provide funds to help Europe rebuild after World War II. This was called the Marshall Plan. The US believed that economically prosperous countries would be better able to resist communism: Stalin refused to allow the Eastern Bloc countries to receive this aid. • Truman understood he could not remove communism but could limit it (containment).
<p>Keywords</p> <p>Communism</p> <p>Capitalism</p> <p>Democracy</p> <p>D-Day</p> <p>Atomic Bomb</p> <p>Buffer Zone</p> <p>Iron Curtain</p> <p>Truman Doctrine</p> <p>Marshall Plan</p>	<p>Summary</p>

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<p>THE BERLINE BLOCKADE, 1948 - 1949</p> <p>GERMANY AFTER WWII</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Before the war ended, the Allies leader had decided how to deal with Germany: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Germany would be divided into four zones, occupied by the Americans, Soviets, British and French – Berlin would also be divided into the same four zones. • This division was to be temporary in order to stabilize the country. • After the war, Germany was left a devastated country while the Allies disagreed about its future. The Soviet Union wanted to permanently weaken Germany while the Western Allies wanted to create a strong, prosperous, democratic Germany.
<p>THE BERLIN BLOCKADE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Western Allies introduced a new currency (the Deutschmark) to their zones of Germany and sectors of Berlin; the Soviets refused to allow the new currency in their zone and sector. • On the 24th June 1948, the Soviets cut off all road, rail and canal links to West Berlin, leaving it isolated within the Soviet zone of Germany, making the beginning of the first major confrontation of the Cold War. • The Western Allies decided that they would supply Berlin by air. Under Operation Vittels, cargo planes containing food, clothing, medical supplies and fuel were flown into the three air-ports of Berlin. • The Berlin Blockade and Airlift continued for 323 days, finally ending on the 12th May 1949.
<p>CONSEQUENCES OF THE BERLIN BLOCKADE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Soviets were willing to put pressure on the West but did not want a direct military confrontation (open-war). • The divisions of Germany became permanent; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The three Western zones became the Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany), which was democratic and capitalist while the Soviet zone became the German Democratic Republic (East Germany), which was communist. • In 1949, the Soviet Union accelerated its nuclear weapons programme and denoteded their atomic bomb. The two superpowers now had nuclear weapons at their disposal. • The Berlin Wall was constructed in 1961, becoming a symbol of the Iron Curtain.
Keywords	Summary
<p>Berlin Blockade</p> <p>Deutschmark</p> <p>Cold War</p> <p>Operation Vittels</p> <p>Federal Republic Of Germany</p> <p>West Germany</p> <p>German Democratic Republic</p> <p>East Germany</p> <p>Nuclear Weapons</p>	

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<p>CONSEQUENCES OF THE BLOCKADE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Soviets' development also meant the beginning of an arms race between the US and the USSR. Both sides would go on to spend billions every year to build more powerful nuclear weapons with the power to wipe out the other side. • In 1949, 12 Western countries (including the US, Britain and France) established a military alliance, the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO). • In 1955, the Soviet Union set up its own military alliance in Eastern Europe with the Warsaw Pact, the Soviet's response to NATO.
<p>THE KOREAN WAR, 1950-1953</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Korea was divided along a map line called the 38th parallel at the end of World War II. • In North Korea, the Soviets established a communist government. South Korea had a US-backed government. • 1949 saw several military clashes along the border before the North Korean army invaded the South, armed with Soviet weapons. • President Truman ordered US military support for the South and persuaded the United Nations (UN) to send an army to help them. • The war eventually settled into a stalemate along the 38th parallel, with the two sides agreeing to a truce in June 1953 with the Korean Armistice Agreement.
<p>CONSEQUENCES OF THE KOREAN WAR</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Korea became a brutal communist dictatorship while the South became a prosperous, industrialised capitalist society. • The US policy of containment had gained its second success as communism had not spread to South Korea. However, the Cold War was now dividing Asia as it had already done to Europe. Some countries would follow a capitalist democracy while others chose communism: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capitalists – South Korea, Japan, the Philippines, Australia, South Korea and New Zealand • Communists – China (1949), North Vietnam (1954), Cambodia (1975) and Laos (1975) • The 1953 Agreement continued up until 2018 when the Panmunjom Declaration formally ended the Korean War after 65 years with the agreement converted to a full peace treaty.
<p><i>Keywords</i></p> <p>Arms race Panmunjom Declaration</p> <p>NATO</p> <p>Warsaw Pact</p> <p>Korean War</p> <p>38th Parallel</p> <p>North Korea</p> <p>South Korea</p> <p>United Nations</p> <p>Korean Armistice Agreement</p>	<p><i>Summary</i></p>

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THE CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS, 1962	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In 1959, Fidel Castro led a communist revolution to overthrow the US-backed government of Cuba. He was backed by the Soviet Union who agreed to buy Cuban sugar and to sell weapons to Cuba. As a result, the US cut off trade to Cuba through a trade embargo.	
THE CUBAN REVOLUTION		
THE BAY OF PIGS		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• US President John F. Kennedy gave the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) permission to plan an invasion of Cuba by anti-Castro Cuban exiles in April 1961. They were easily defeated by Castro's forces.• Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev was worried about the nuclear missiles that the US had in Europe. Khrushchev offered to build missile bases in Cuba within striking range of the US.
ON THE BRINK OF NUCLEAR WAR		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In October 1962, an American U-2 spy plane photographed a missile base being built in Cuba. Kennedy immediately announced a naval blockade of Cuba; he would prevent any ship from landing in Cuba until the Soviets agreed to remove the missiles.• The world held its breath as Soviet ships continued to sail towards Cuba; nuclear war had become a real threat.• After several days of tense stand-off, the Cuban Missile Crisis came to an end when the two sides came to an agreement in which:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The US publicly declared that it would not invade Cuba while Kennedy privately promised Khrushchev that he would remove US missiles from Turkey.• In return the Soviets agreed to dismantle and remove the missiles from Cuba.• The Soviet ships turned around and returned to Russia.
CONSEQUENCES OF THE CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A telephone hotline was set up between Moscow and Washington to deal with potential crisis.• The Nuclear Test Ban Treaty was agreed which banned atomic testing on land, at sea or in space.	
Keywords	Summary	
Communist Revolution Trade Embargo John F. Kennedy Central Intelligence Agency Bay of Pigs Nikita Khrushchev Cuban Missile Crisis Telephone hotline Nuclear Test Ban Treaty		

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<p>THE VIETNAM WAR, 1964-1975</p> <p>VIETNAM AFTER WWII</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Until World War II, Vietnam had been a French colony. During the war, it came under Japanese occupation. • By 1945, local nationalist forces (the Viet Minh under communist leader Ho Chi Minh) had driven the Japanese out of the northern half of the country. • The French tried to return after the war, but by 1954 the Viet Ming had forced them out. • Vietnam was partitioned; the North was under Communist rule while the South was under a pro-Western government. • When promised elections to unify the country did not take place, the north invaded the south.
<p>US INVOLVEMENT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under its policy of containment, the US sent aid and troops to help the south. Under Kennedy, troop numbers rose to 16,000. • President Lyndon Johnson would go onto send US troops into direct combat in Vietnam in 1965 and continued to increase troop numbers, reaching 500,000 in 1968.
<p>WAR IN VIETNAM</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The North Vietnamese fighters, the Vietcong, used guerrilla tactics against the US soldiers and their South Vietnamese allies. They had support from people in rural areas who hid the fighters and their weapons. • The US Army struggled to deal with these tactics. They used chemicals (such as napalm and "Agent Orange"), committed massacres of civilian villages (Mỹ Lai massacre and Sơn Thắng massacre) and bombed the North heavily. • Over 58,000 US soldiers were killed and tens of thousands were injured while Vietnamese casualties numbered in the millions. • From 1967, as reports from Vietnam surfaced, the anti-war movement in the US involved huge protests.

Keywords	Summary
<p>Vietnam</p> <p>Viet Ming</p> <p>Ho Chi Ming</p> <p>Containment</p> <p>Lyndon Johnson</p> <p>Vietcong</p> <p>Guerrilla tactics</p> <p>Napalm</p> <p>Agent Orange</p> <p>Mỹ Lai massacre</p> <p>Sơn Thắng massacre</p> <p>Anti-war movement</p>	

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<p>THE END OF THE WAR</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The US Forces and the Vietcong had fought to a stalemate and protests in the US called for their soldiers to come home. A ceasefire agreement was signed between the US, the North Vietnamese and South Vietnamese governments in 1972 with US troops withdrawn in 1793. Two years later, in 1975, North Vietnam launched a full-scale invasion of South Vietnam. The Southern capital of Saigon fell by April.
<p>CONSEQUENCES OF THE VIETNAM WAR</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policy of containment failed in Vietnam; South Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia all became communist. The US became more cautious about sending its army overseas during the Cold War. Deep divisions arose in American society about its involvement in the war.
<p>EASTERN EUROPE UNDER THE SOVIETS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After World War II, communist governments were set up in Eastern European countries. Alongside the Soviet Union, these countries were known as the Eastern Bloc. The Soviet Union
<p>CONTROLLING EASTERN EUROPE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> retained control over these countries by various means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic: The Soviet Union launched Comecon in 1949 to give aid to other communist countries. It also allowed Moscow to control their economies. Military: The Warsaw Pact (Soviet answer to NATO) was established in 1955. It brought the armies of the satellite states under direct Soviet control. Political: An organisation called Cominform coordinated the activities of local communist parties and ensured local leaders' loyalty to Moscow.
<p>SOVIET CONTROL IN ACTION</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Soviet Union controlled the satellite states for over 40 years and intervened directly to reinforce its control a number of times, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Hungarian Uprising (1956): Mass protests against the Soviet Union and the local communist government were crushed by a Soviet invasion after 13 days. The Prague Spring (1968): The Czechoslovakian government tried to introduce more freedoms for its people. Moscow feared that the country would try to leave and sent in tanks.
Keywords	Summary
<p>Stalemate The Hungarian Uprising</p> <p>Ceasefire</p> <p>Saigon The Prague Spring</p> <p>Containment</p> <p>Communist</p> <p>Eastern Bloc</p> <p>Comecon</p> <p>Warsaw Pact</p> <p>Cominform</p>	

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THE COLLAPSE OF COMMUNISM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mikhail Gorbachev was appointed Soviet Leader in 1985. He believed that the Cold War was too costly and wanted to reduce military spending and improve the lives of Soviet citizens.• Gorbachev and US President Ronald Reagan built a relationship based on trust. They made nuclear disarmament agreements which reduced nuclear weaponry and tensions between East and West.• In 1988, Gorbachev declared that the Soviet army would no longer be used to keep communist governments in power in Eastern Europe.• In 1989, protests broke out in all the countries under communist rule. Without the Soviet military to back them up, each of these governments fell.• In November 1989, the Berlin Wall was opened and communist rule came to an end in Europe.• The Soviet economy continued to decline.• By the end of 1991;<ul style="list-style-type: none">• states such as Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Ukraine began to break away from the USSR• the Soviet Union ceased to exist• the Cold War had come to an end
Keywords Mikhail Gorbachev Ronald Reagan nuclear disarmament Berlin Wall Cold War Estonia Latvia Lithuania Ukraine Soviet Union	Summary

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<i>Keywords</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Arms Race	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Competition between countries to have the most deadly and effective weapons.
Atomic Bombs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A nuclear weapon that the USE used against Japan at Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945.
Blockade	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The sealing off of a place to prevent people or goods from entering or leaving.
Capitalist economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An economic and political system that allows businesses and their profits to be privately owned and controlled.
Checkpoint Charlie	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A crossing point in the Berlin Wall between East Berlin and West Berlin.
Communist Country	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An economic and political system in which business and their profits are owned and controlled by the state.
Containment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• US foreign policy of not allowing communism to spread into Western Europe and beyond.
Democracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A system of government under which there are various political parties, people can vote in elections, and the free press and free speech are protected.
Détente	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A period of improved relations between countries. For example, between the USA and USSR from 1967 to 1979.
Domino Theory	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The belief that if one country fell to communism, it would cause nearby countries to fall as well.
International Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The political relations between two or more countries, based on each country's foreign policy.
Glasnost	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Openness' to public debate in the USSR about political and economic policies.
Marshall Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A US scheme that provided billions of dollars to countries in Europe to help them recover after World War II.
Perestroika	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Restructuring' of Soviet political and economic policy to give businesses the power to decide what products to produce and what prices to change.
Proxy Wars	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wars encouraged or supported by the superpowers in which they did not directly fight each other; e.g. the Korean War.
Satellite States	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Countries that were under the control of Moscow: East Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria.
Superpowers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Extremely powerful and influential countries with superior economic and/or military strength; USA and USSR after World War II.
The Cold War	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An intense rivalry between countries that may include political and economic action, propaganda and proxy wars but does not involve direct warfare.
Truman Doctrine	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A policy that military and economic aid should be given to the government of any country that is in danger of becoming communist.