



45

AQA - GCSE (Grade 9-1)

STUDY GUIDE

Conflict and Tension in Asia, 1950-1975



45

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Conflict and Tension in Asia, 1950-1975

AQA - GCSE





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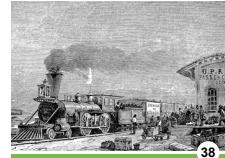
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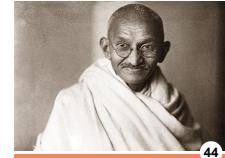
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Sample

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

In this study guide, you will see a series of icons, highlighted words and page references. The key below will help you quickly establish what these mean and where to go for more information.

Icons

-  **WHAT** questions cover the key events and themes.
-  **WHO** questions cover the key people involved.
-  **WHEN** questions cover the timings of key events.
-  **WHERE** questions cover the locations of key moments.
-  **WHY** questions cover the reasons behind key events.
-  **HOW** questions take a closer look at the way in which events, situations and trends occur.
-  **IMPORTANCE** questions take a closer look at the significance of events, situations, and recurrent trends and themes.
-  **DECISIONS** questions take a closer look at choices made at events and situations during this era.

Highlighted words

Abdicate - occasionally, you will see certain words highlighted within an answer. This means that, if you need it, you'll find an explanation of the word or phrase in the glossary which starts on [page 17](#).

Page references

Tudor ([p. 7](#)) - occasionally, a certain subject within an answer is covered in more depth on a different page. If you'd like to learn more about it, you can go directly to the page indicated.

WHAT IS THIS BOOK ABOUT?

Conflict and Tension in Asia, 1950 - 1975 is a wider world depth study that investigates international relations. The course focuses on the causes and course of the Cold War in Asia. It considers why conflict occurred in this region, as well as how it developed, and why it proved difficult to find a resolution to the tensions. The course examines the roles of key individuals and groups in influencing change, and how they were impacted by international affairs.

Purpose

This study will help you to interpret the intricacies and diverse interests of different individuals and states. You will investigate themes such as capitalism and communism, international diplomacy, the causes and impact of warfare, and the challenges of bringing an end to war. This course will enable you to develop historical thinking, to identify and analyse causation and consequence, and encourage you to critically question sources.

Enquiries

Conflict and Tension in Asia, 1950 - 1975 is split into 3 key enquiries:

- ☒ Enquiry 1 examines the conflict in Korea.
- ☒ Enquiry 2 examines the escalation of the conflict in Vietnam.
- ☒ Enquiry 3 examines the ending of the conflict in Vietnam.

Key Individuals

Some key individuals studied on this course include:

- 👤 Ngo Dinh Diem.
- 👤 Dwight D Eisenhower.
- 👤 John F Kennedy.
- 👤 Lyndon B Johnson.
- 👤 General Douglas MacArthur.
- 👤 Ho Chi Minh.
- 👤 Richard Nixon.
- 👤 Kim II-Sung.
- 👤 Harry Truman.

Key Events

Some of the key events and developments you will study on this course include:

- 📅 The origins of the Cold War.
- 📅 The invasion of South Korea.
- 📅 The stalemate in the Korean War.
- 📅 The first Indo-China war.
- 📅 The civil war in South Vietnam.
- 📅 The Gulf of Tonkin incident.
- 📅 Operation Rolling Thunder.
- 📅 The Tet Offensive.
- 📅 The My Lai Massacre.
- 📅 Events at the Kent State University.
- 📅 The USA withdrawal from Vietnam.

Assessment

The Conflict and Tension in Asia, 1950 - 1975 course is part of paper 1 (2 hours). You should spend 1 hour on this section of the paper. There will be 4 exam questions which will assess what you have learned from the course.

- ❖ Question 1 is worth 4 marks. It requires you to examine a source and explain its meaning in its historical context.
- ❖ Question 2 is worth 12 marks. It requires you to examine 2 sources and assesses your ability to evaluate sources for a particular purpose.
- ❖ Question 3 is worth 8 marks. It requires you to explain and analyse historical events in relation to cause and consequence.

WHAT IS THIS BOOK ABOUT?

 Question 4 is worth 16 marks, plus 4 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar. You are required to make a judgement about the importance of an event or development in an extended response.

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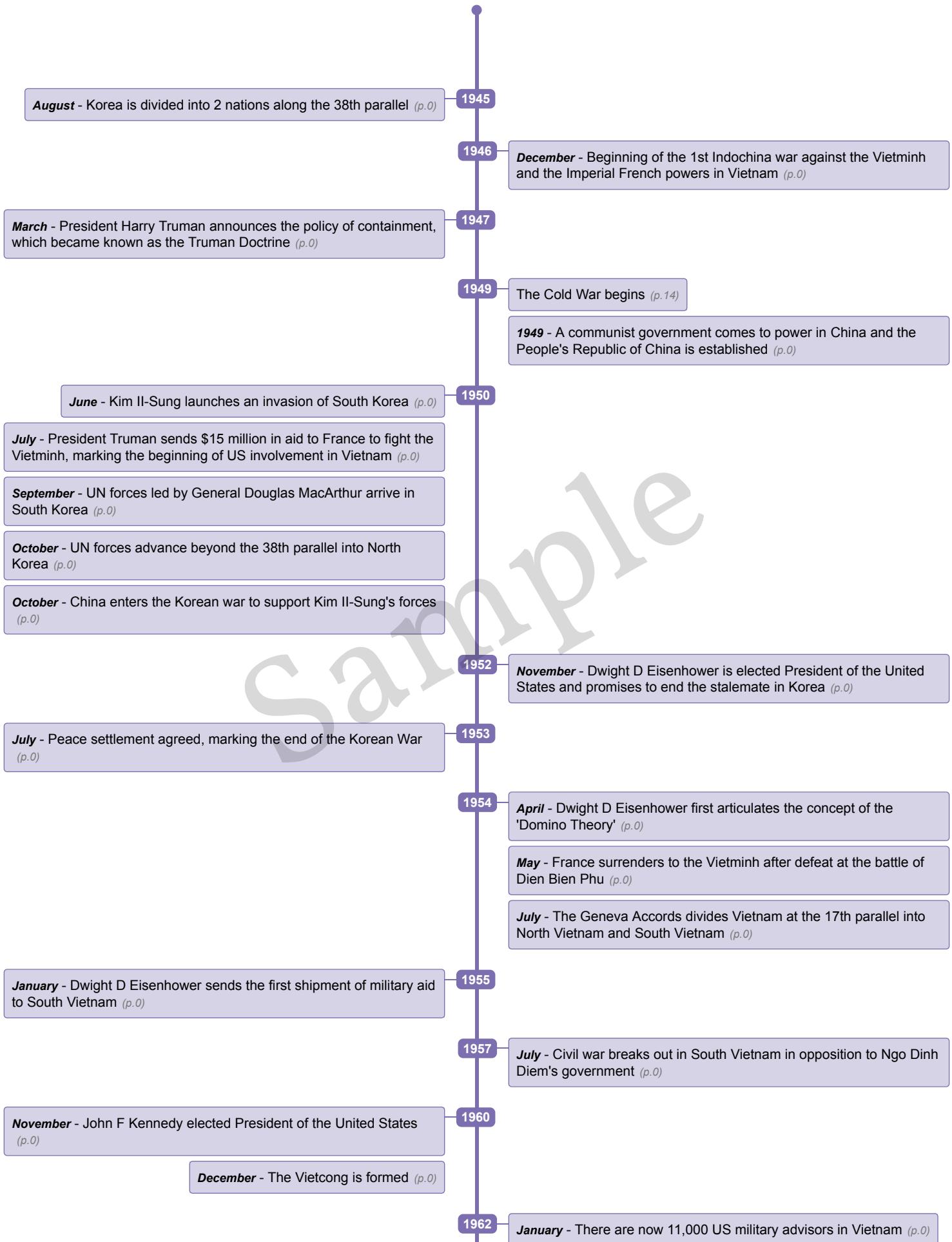


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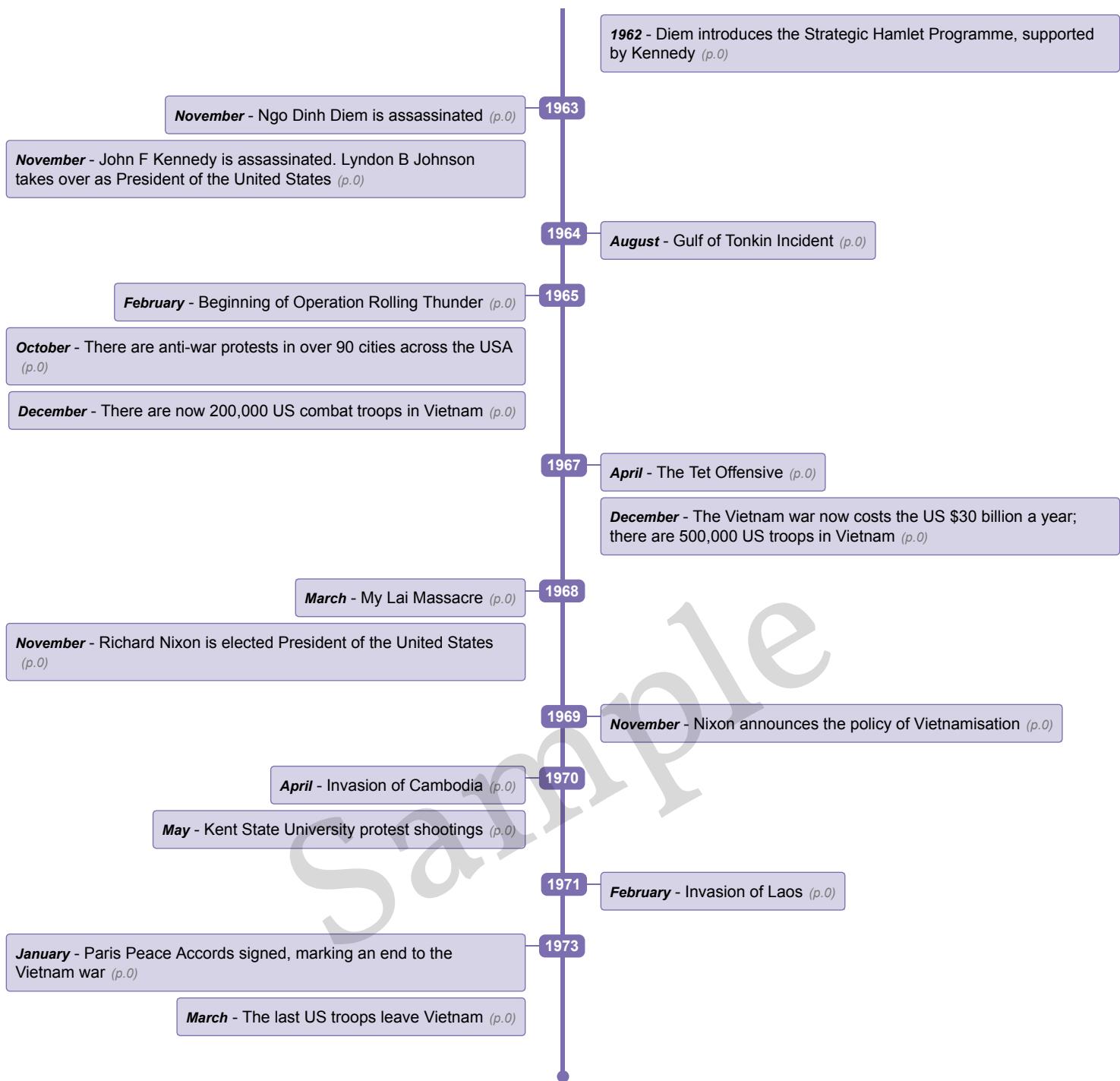
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CONFLICT AND TENSION IN ASIA, 1950-1975

TIMELINE



CONFLICT AND TENSION IN ASIA, 1950-1975



Sample



THE COLD WAR

'Although the shooting war is over, we are in the midst of a cold war which is getting warmer.'
Bernard Baruch, 1947



What was the Cold War?

The Cold War was a state of hostility that existed between the USSR and the USA in the second half of the 20th century.



What is the definition of a cold war?

A cold war is a conflict in which there is no direct fighting between the two sides. It is fought through economic and political actions.



When was the Cold War?

The Cold War lasted from 1945 to 1991.



Who was involved in the Cold War?

The Cold War was between the USA and its allies, and the Soviet Union, its satellite states and its allies.



What were the long-term causes of the Cold War?

There are 7 main reasons the Cold War happened:

- In October 1917, the Bolsheviks seized power in Russia. By 1921 they had created the first communist state. They were anti-capitalism and wanted to spread the communist revolution across the world.
- America and Britain did not trust the USSR as Russia had withdrawn from the First World War in 1917, despite being a member of the Triple Entente with Britain and France.
- The USSR did not trust the USA, France and Britain because they sent troops to fight against the Bolsheviks in the Russian Civil War.
- In the 1920s, the USA suffered from the First Red Scare and was hostile towards the USSR.
- The USSR was angry it was not recognised as a country by the USA until 1933.
- The relationship between the USSR and the West deteriorated before the Second World War. The Soviet Union was angry at not being invited to the Munich Conference in 1938.
- When the USSR signed the Nazi-Soviet Pact in 1939, Britain and France were horrified.



How was the Cold War fought?

The Cold War was fought in 7 key ways:

- Propaganda.
- Spying or espionage, such as using spy planes to take photographs.
- An arms race to have the most developed weapons, particularly nuclear missiles.
- A space race competing for success in space, such as being the first nation to put a man on the moon.
- Financial aid or loans to other countries to gain their support.
- Proxy wars, where the USA and the USSR became involved in conflicts in other countries. An example is the Korean War (p.0) of 1950-53.
- Threats made by either side.



What created tension between the Soviet Union and the USA at the beginning of the Cold War?

The ideological differences between the superpowers created tension between them. The Soviet Union supported communism, whereas the USA and Britain were capitalist countries.



What were the different ideologies in the Cold War?

The Cold War was a result of ideological differences between the two sides:

- The USSR was communist. Communism is a system where there is no private ownership of land, property or business. The aim is to achieve economic equality for the benefit of the people through central control of the state economy.
- The USA was capitalist. Capitalism is a system where individuals are free to own land, property and businesses to create wealth and accept there will be economic inequality as a result.



Why were the USA and the USSR considered superpowers during the Cold War?

The USSR and the USA were considered to be superpowers because they possessed 3 key things:

- Massive military might, including nuclear weapons.
- Economic might.
- The ability to dominate other countries.



Why was Stalin distrustful of Truman at the beginning at the Cold War?

Joseph Stalin was distrustful of Harry S Truman for 3 key reasons:

- Truman was anti-communist.
- He tried to control the Potsdam meeting.
- He successfully tested the atomic bomb without consulting Stalin and used it in the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings in the days after Potsdam.



Why did Britain ally closely with the USA at the beginning at the Cold War?

Britain was concerned about communism spreading. The nation's economy was severely impacted after the Second World War so it couldn't act against the Soviet Union alone.

DID YOU KNOW?

The first known mention of the term 'Cold War' was made by English author George Orwell in a 1945 essay titled, 'You and the Atomic Bomb'.



THE CAUSES OF THE COLD WAR

'There are at the present time two great nations in the world...the Russians and the Americans... Their starting point is different and their courses are not the same, yet each of them seems marked out by the will of Heaven to sway the destinies of half the globe.'

Historian Alexis de Tocqueville, 1831



Who caused the Cold War?

Historians debate whether the USA or USSR bore greater responsibility for the outbreak of the Cold War (p.14).



How did the USA cause the Cold War?

Some historians argue the USA was mainly responsible for the start of the Cold War (p.14) for 6 key reasons:

- The Marshall Plan, the Truman Doctrine (p.0), the policy of containment and the creation of NATO were seen as aggressive moves.



- President Truman was openly anti-communist, which caused greater tension. His relationship with Stalin was much worse than that of Roosevelt, his predecessor.
- The USA didn't inform the Soviets about their work on developing the atom bomb. The Soviets found out through their spies and felt betrayed.
- Stalin was not consulted over the formation of Trizonia or the adoption of the Deutschmark, despite agreement that decisions over Germany would be made jointly.
- Stalin saw the USA's refusal to leave West Berlin as a threat.
- Both sides participated in the nuclear arms race.



How did the USSR cause the Cold War?

Some historians argue the USSR was mainly responsible for causing the Cold War (p. 14) for 6 key reasons:

- Stalin went against some of the promises he made at Yalta, such as occupying Poland and refusing to allow eastern European countries to have free elections.
- Instead of free elections in eastern Europe, Stalin ensured communist puppet governments - which he could control - gained power. This happened in Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and East Germany. This was seen as a threat to capitalism.
- The Red Army's occupation of eastern Europe was seen as a threat, and an attempt to control the whole of Europe.
- Comecon, Cominform and the Warsaw Pact were seen as aggressive moves.
- The Berlin Blockade was an extremely aggressive act.
- Both sides participated in the nuclear arms race.

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GLOSSARY

A

Aggression - angry, hostile or violent behaviour displayed without provocation.

Agriculture - an umbrella term to do with farming, growing crops or raising animals.

Alliance - a union between groups or countries that benefits each member.

Allies - parties working together for a common objective, such as countries involved in a war. In both world wars, 'Allies' refers to those countries on the side of Great Britain.

Ammunition - collective term given to bullets and shells.

Amputate, Amputation - to surgically remove a limb from someone's body.

Armistice - an agreement between two or more opposing sides in a war to stop fighting.

Artillery - large guns used in warfare.

Assassinate - to murder someone, usually an important figure, often for religious or political reasons.

Assassination - the act of murdering someone, usually an important person.

Attrition - the act of wearing down an enemy until they collapse through continued attacks.

B

Booby traps - seemingly harmless devices concealing something that will kill, harm or surprise. Especially in warfare, booby traps were often set off by a wire and contained explosives.

Boycott - a way of protesting or bringing about change by refusing to buy something or use services.

Bribe, Bribery, Bribes - to dishonestly persuade someone to do something for you in return for money or other inducements.

Buffer - a protective barrier.

C

Campaign - a political movement to get something changed; in military terms, it refers to a series of operations to achieve a goal.

Capitalism - the idea of goods and services being exchanged for money, private ownership of property and businesses, and acceptance of a hierarchical society.

Casualties - people who have been injured or killed, such as during a war, accident or catastrophe.

Catholic - a Christian who belongs to the Roman Catholic Church.

Ceasefire - when the various sides involved in conflict agree to stop fighting.

Censorship - the control of information in the media by a government, whereby information considered obscene or unacceptable is suppressed.

Civil rights - the rights a citizen has to political or social freedoms, such as the right to vote or freedom of speech.

Civilian - a non-military person.

Claim - someone's assertion of their right to something - for example, a claim to the throne.

Colonies, Colony - a country or area controlled by another country and occupied by settlers.

Communism - the belief, based on the ideas of Karl Marx, that all people should be equal in society without government, money or private property. Everything is owned by the people, and each person receives according to need.

Communist - a believer in communism.

Conference - a formal meeting to discuss common issues of interest or concern.

Conscription - mandatory enlistment of people into a state service, usually the military.

Containment - meaning to keep something under control or within limits, it often refers to the American idea of stopping the spread of communism.

Cooperate, Cooperation - to work together to achieve a common aim. Frequently used in relation to politics, economics or law.

Corrupt - when someone is willing to act dishonestly for their own personal gain.

Coup - a sudden, violent and illegal overthrow of the government by a small group - for example, the chiefs of an army.

Culture - the ideas, customs, and social behaviour of a particular people or society.

D

Deadlock - a situation where no action can be taken and neither side can make progress against the other; effectively a draw.

Defect - the act of defection; to leave your country or cause for another.

Demilitarised - to remove all military forces from an area and forbid them to be stationed there.

Democracy - a political system where a population votes for its government on a regular basis. The word is Greek for 'the rule of people' or 'people power'.

Democratic - relating to or supporting the principles of democracy.

Deploy - to move military troops or equipment into position or a place so they are ready for action.

Discriminate, Discrimination - to treat a person or group of people differently and in an unfair way.

Dispute - a disagreement or argument; often used to describe conflict between different countries.

Doctrine - a stated principle of government policy; can also refer to a set of beliefs held and taught by a church, political party or other group.

GLOSSARY

Domino Theory - a popular idea during the Cold War that suggested if one country became communist, others nearby would follow suit.

Détente - the easing of tension, especially between two countries.

E

Economic - relating to the economy; also used when justifying something in terms of profitability.

Economy - a country, state or region's position in terms of production and consumption of goods and services, and the supply of money.

Electorate - a group of people who are eligible to vote.

Embassy - historically, a deputation sent by one ruler, state or country to another. More recently, it is also the accepted name for the official residence or offices of an ambassador.

Empire - a group of states or countries ruled over and controlled by a single monarch.

Exile - to be banned from one's original country, usually as a punishment or for political reasons.

Export - to transport goods for sale to another country.

F

Fatalities, Fatality - Deaths.

Foreign policy - a government's strategy for dealing with other nations.

Free elections - elections in which voters are free to vote without interference.

Front - in war, the area where fighting is taking place.

G

GDP, Gross domestic product - the total annual value of a country's goods and services.

Guerrilla tactics, Guerrilla warfare - a way of fighting that typically involves hit-and-run style tactics.

Guerrillas - groups of small, independent fighters usually involved in a war against larger, regular military forces.

H

Harvest - the process of gathering and collecting crops.

Hippies - Groups of Americans who 'dropped out' of traditional life. Most did not go to college or work and travelled around the country, organising music festivals and protests against the Vietnam war and campaigning for world peace.

I

Ideology - a set of ideas and ideals, particularly around political ideas or economic policy, often shared by a group of people.

Impeach, Impeachment - to charge someone, usually a

high-ranking government official, with treason or a crime against the state.

Imperial, Imperialisation, Imperialism, Imperialist - is the practice or policy of taking possession of, and extending political and economic control over other areas or territories. Imperialism always requires the use of military, political or economic power by a stronger nation over that of a weaker one. An imperialist is someone who supports or practices imperialism and imperial relates to a system of empire, for example the British Empire.

Independence, Independent - to be free of control, often meaning by another country, allowing the people of a nation the ability to govern themselves.

Industrial - related to industry, manufacturing and/or production.

Industry - the part of the economy concerned with turning raw materials into manufactured goods, for example making furniture from wood.

Infrastructure - the basic physical and organisational facilities a society or country needs to function, such as transport networks, communications and power.

Intercontinental ballistic missile - a guided ballistic missile with a minimum range of 5,500km or 3,400 miles.

International relations - the relationships between different countries.

L

Left wing - used to describe political groups or individuals with beliefs that are usually centered around socialism and the idea of reform.

Legislation - a term for laws when they are considered collectively, for example housing legislation.

Legitimacy, Legitimate - accepted by law or conforming to the rules; can be defended as valid.

Limb - an arm or leg.

M

Mandate - authority to carry out a policy.

Mass - an act of worship in the Catholic Church.

Massacre - the deliberate and brutal slaughter of many people.

Mercenary - someone who takes action in order to earn money, rather than out of principle.

Middle class - refers to the socio-economic group which includes people who are educated and have professional jobs, such as teachers or lawyers.

Military force - the use of armed forces.

Militia - an army created from the general population.

Mine - an explosive device usually hidden underground or underwater.

Minister - a senior member of government, usually responsible for a particular area such as education or finance.

GLOSSARY

Monk - a member of a religious community, often living a simple life of poverty, chastity and work.

Morale - general mood of a group of people.

Morals - a person's set of rules about what they consider right and wrong, used to guide their actions and behaviour.

Morass - an area of swampy or very wet and muddy ground which is difficult to cross.

N

Napalm - a petrol based chemical, used to devastating effect in conflict as it sticks to skin and causes terrible burns.

Nationalism, Nationalist, Nationalistic - identifying with your own nation and supporting its interests, often to the detriment or exclusion of other nations.

Nepotism - the practice of people in power favouring friends and family, often by giving them jobs or influence. Historically, this was especially common in government and the Church.

O

Occupation - the action, state or period when somewhere is taken over and occupied by a military force.

Offensive - another way of saying an attack or campaign.

P

POW, Prisoner of war, Prisoners of war - somebody who has been captured and taken prisoner by enemy forces.

Pacification - Making something, or someone, peaceful.

Parliament - a group of politicians who make the laws of their country, usually elected by the population.

Peasant - a poor farmer.

Persecution - hostility towards or harassment of someone, usually due to their race, religion or political beliefs.

Phonetic Alphabet - A series of code words to indicate different letters of the alphabet, E.G 'Alpha' to mean 'A'.

Poll - a vote or survey.

Population - the number of people who live in a specified place.

Poverty - the state of being extremely poor.

Predecessor - the person who came before; the previous person to fill a role or position.

President - the elected head of state of a republic.

Prevent, Preventative, Preventive - steps taken to stop something from happening.

Production - a term used to describe how much of something is made, for example saying a factory has a high production rate.

Propaganda - biased information aimed at persuading people to think a certain way.

Prosecute - to institute or conduct legal proceedings against a person or organisation.

Proxy war - a conflict between two sides acting on behalf of other parties who are not directly involved, but who have usually supplied equipment, arms and/or money.

Psychological - referring to a person's mental or emotional state.

Q

Quagmire - an area of swampy or very wet and muddy ground which is difficult to cross.

R

Raid - a quick surprise attack on the enemy.

Rallies, Rally - a political event with speakers and a crowd, designed to increase support for a politician, political party or an idea.

Rational - when something is based on reason or logic, like science.

Rebels - people who rise in opposition or armed resistance against an established government or leader.

Reform, Reforming - change, usually in order to improve an institution or practice.

Refugee, Refugees - a person who has been forced to leave where they live due to war, disaster or persecution.

Restoration - to return something to its former owner, place or condition; this includes returning a monarch to the throne or a head of state to government.

Revolution - the forced overthrow of a government or social system by its own people.

Rig, Rigged - politically, to interfere in or fix an election to determine the winner.

S

Sanctions - actions taken against states who break international laws, such as a refusal to trade with them or supply necessary commodities.

Satellite state - a country under the control of another, such as countries under USSR control during the Cold War.

Scandal, Scandalous - something that angers or shocks people because rules or accepted standards of behaviour have been broken.

Search and destroy, Seek and destroy - a tactic used by the US in Vietnam. Helicopters brought in soldiers who searched out the enemy in a specific area, such as a village, destroyed them, and then left.

Sino - is a reference to China or something relating to China. It is a prefix which is used instead of China.

Soviet - an elected workers' council at local, regional or national level in the former Soviet Union. It can also be a reference to the Soviet Union or the USSR.

GLOSSARY

Stalemate - a situation where no action can be taken and neither side can make progress against the other; effectively a draw.

State, States - an area of land or a territory ruled by one government.

Strategy - a plan of action outlining how a goal will be achieved.

Strike - a refusal by employees to work as a form of protest, usually to bring about change in their working conditions. It puts pressure on their employer, who cannot run the business without workers.

Submission, Submit - a formal surrender and acceptance of a new authority.

Superior - better or higher in rank, status or quality.

T

Tactic - a strategy or method of achieving a goal.

Terrain - a stretch of land and usually used to refer to its physical features, eg mountainous, jungle etc.

Territories, Territory - an area of land under the control of a ruler/country.

Treaty - a formal agreement, signed and ratified by two or more parties.

V

Veteran, Veterans - an ex-soldier.

Veto - the right to reject a decision or proposal.

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