

STUDY GUIDE



International Relations: Who Was to Blame for the Cold War?

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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 16.

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?

The focus question of the fourth unit in the CiE Option B Core Content is 'Who was to blame for the Cold War?' This unit investigates the breakdown of the relationship between the USA and USSR after the Second World War, and the impact of events between 1945 and 1949 on the development of the Cold War.

Purpose

This unit focuses on international relations and the way in which different nation states interacted, and the change, continuity and significance of their relationships over time. You will study their priorities, agreements, disagreements and the key events that affected them.

Enquiries

This unit gives you the information you need to understand the following:

- ⇒i Why the US-Soviet alliance had begun to break down in 1945.
- ₿ How the USSR gained control of eastern Europe by 1948.
- ∃ How the US reacted to Soviet expansionism.
- 📄 The consequences of the Berlin Blockade.
- ₿ Whether the US or USSR was more to blame for the outbreak of the Cold War.

Topics

Topics covered in this course include:

- 🔡 The Grand Alliance of the Second World War.
- 🔡 The Tehran, Yalta and Potsdam conferences.
- 🔡 Churchill's 'Iron Curtain' speech.
- 🔡 The Long Telegram.
- 🔡 The Truman Doctrine.
- 🔡 The Marshall Plan.
- 🔡 Soviet expansion into eastern Europe.
- 🔡 The creation of Cominform and Comecon.
- 🔡 NATO and the Warsaw Pact.
- 🔡 The Berlin Blockade and Airlift.
- 🔡 The arms race.
- **H** The question of blame in the start of the Cold War.

Key Individuals

Key individuals studied in this course include:

- \rm Franklin S Roosevelt.
- 🤒 Harry S Truman.
- **9** Winston Churchill.
- \rm Joseph Stalin.
- \rm George Kennan.
- \rm George Marshall.

Assessment

This unit usually appears as one of four possible questions in Option B Core Content International Relations Since 1919 on the Paper 1 exam, of which you must complete two. Therefore, you will answer one question on the causes of the Cold War, if this appears as an option on your exam paper. The question is comprised of 3 sections; a), b), and c). However, check with your teacher to find out whether this unit will appear on the Paper 2 source paper in your exam.

- On the Paper 1 exam, you may choose to complete a three-part question on this topic, which will be divided into sections a), b) and c).
- Question a is worth 4 marks. This question will require you to describe key features of the time period. You will be asked to recall 2 relevant points and support them with details or provide at least four relevant points without supporting detail.

- Question b is worth 6 marks. This question will require you to explain a key event or development. You will need to identify two reasons, support those reasons with relevant factual detail and then explain how the reasons made the event occur.
- Question c is worth 10 marks. This question will require you to construct an argument to support and challenge an interpretation stated in the question. You will need to have a minimum of three explanations (two on one side of the argument and one on the other side) in total, fully evaluate the argument and come to a justified conclusion. You will have the opportunity to show your ability to explain and analyse historical events using 2nd order concepts such as causation, consequence, change, continuity, similarity and difference.
- If this topic appears on Paper 2, you will answer six questions on a range of source material about this topic. Check with your teacher to find out your Paper 2 topic.

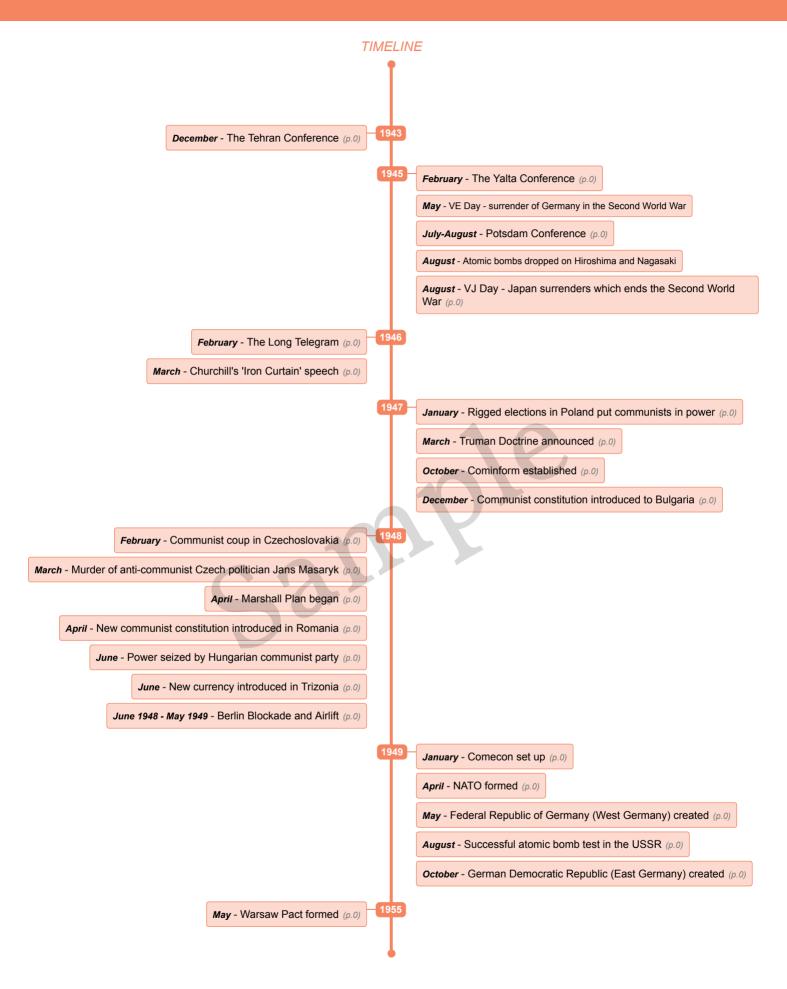
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WHO WAS TO BLAME FOR THE COLD WAR?



11

Sante



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.
- 0

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 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 y

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 by the English author, George Orwell.

He mentioned it in an essay entitled 'You and the Atomic Bomb', written in 1945.



THE GRAND ALLIANCE IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR

'If Hitler invaded Hell I would make at least a favourable reference to the Devil in the House of Commons.' Winston Churchill 1950

?

What was the Grand Alliance?

The Grand Alliance was a military and political coalition against the Axis powers of Nazi Germany, Italy, and Japan during the Second World War.

When was the Grand Alliance formed?

The Grand Alliance began after the USA entered the Second World War. The alliance was formally signed by the USA, the Soviet Union and Great Britain on New Year's Day, 1942, and lasted until 1945.





Who was part of the Grand Alliance?

The Grand Alliance consisted of the three major Allies of the Second World War - the Soviet Union, the United States, and Great Britain.



Why was the Grand Alliance formed?

The sole purpose of the Grand Alliance was to defeat the Axis powers - Nazi Germany, fascist Italy and Imperial Japan.

Why was there tension in the Grand Alliance?

Although they were fighting the Nazi threat together, there were 3 main reasons for tension between the countries of the Grand Alliance during the Second World War:

- Both sides kept secrets. Stalin refused to share battle plans with Britain and France; when German troops surrendered in Italy, Britain and the US did not include the USSR in the discussions.
- Stalin believed the USA had deliberately delayed opening a second front in France until 1944 so the USSR would be weakened fighting Nazi Germany on its own.
- The two sides had opposing ideologies and did not trust each other.

How did the Grand Alliance cooperate during the Second World War?

The public was presented with a positive image of the Grand Alliance, and the three countries did help each other in 3 key ways:

- British merchant ships helped take supplies to the USSR.
- America included the USSR in its Lend-Lease programme, which meant it lent and sold military equipment to help defeat Germany.
- The USSR lost 26 million people fighting the Nazis after 1941, but this meant Germany's army was tied down and allowed Britain and America to plan and launch D-Day.



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Α

Abdicate - to give up a position of power or a responsibility.

Abolish, Abolished - to stop something, or get rid of it.

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

Agricultural - relating to agriculture.

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.

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

B

Blockade - a way of blocking or sealing an area to prevent goods, supplies or people from entering or leaving. It often refers to blocking transport routes.

Brinkmanship - pushing a disagreement to its limits in the hope the other side backs down, especially pertaining to war.

Buffer - a protective barrier.

Buffer zone - a neutral area of land to separate hostile forces or nations and provide protection. In the Cold War, Eastern Europe was the buffer zone between Western Europe and the USSR.

С

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

Chancellor - a senior state official who, in some countries, is the head of the government and responsible for the day-to-day running of the nation.

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

Coalition government - a government formed by more than one political party.

Coalition, **Coalitions** - a temporary alliance, such as when a group of countries fights together.

Collective security - a policy adopted by the League of Nations, with the idea members should feel safe from attack as all nations agreed to defend each other.

Colonialism - when a country seeks to bring other territories under its control, often with the aim of dominating its economy. Religion and cultural practices may also be imposed.

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 by the people, and each person receives according to need.

Communist - a believer in communism.

Constitution - rules, laws or principles that set out how a country is governed.

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

Currency - an umbrella term for any form of legal tender, but most commonly referring to money.

D

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.

Deterrent - something that discourages an action or behaviour.

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.

Dollar imperialism - a phrase used by the Soviet Union's Foreign Minister, Molotov, in accusing the USA of using its economic strength to take over Europe through the Marshall Plan.

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.

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.

F

Fascist - one who believes in fascism.

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.

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

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.

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

Iron Curtain - a phrase used by Winston Churchill to describe the non-physical divide created by Stalin between Eastern Europe and the West.

L

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

Μ

Merchant ships - unarmed ships used for carrying supplies and goods.

Military force - the use of armed forces.

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

Monarchy - a form of government in which the head of state is a monarch, a king or queen.

0

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

Ρ

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

Poverty - the state of being extremely poor.

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

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

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.

Purged, **Purging** - abrupt and often violent removal of a group of people from a place or organisation; medically, to make someone sick or induce diarrhoea as a treatment to rid them of illness.

R

Reparations - payments made by the defeated countries in a war to the victors to help pay for the cost of and damage from the fighting.

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

т

W

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

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.

Sphere of influence - an area or country under the influence of another country.

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

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.

Tactic - a strategy or method of achieving a goal.

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

Western powers - a group term used to describe developed capitalist nations, such as Britain and the USA.

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