STUDY GUIDE
Conflict and Tension between East and West, 1945–1972
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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.
Conflict and Tension between East and West 1945-1972 is a wider world depth study that investigates international relations. The course focuses on the causes and course of the Cold War. It considers why the conflict occurred, as well as how it developed into a global conflict over the following quarter of a century.

**Purpose**
This study will help you to understand the complexities and diverse interests of different states and how this affects the relationship between them. The course will enable you to analyse cause and consequence, making links between, and assessing the importance of, events in their historical context. It will also develop your critical evaluation skills.

**Enquiries**
Conflict and Tension 1945-72 is split into 3 key enquiries:
- Enquiry 1 examines the long and short term causes of the Cold War.
- Enquiry 2 looks at the development of the Cold War and how it increased international tension.
- Finally, enquiry 3 is a study of how key events led to a relaxation of tension in the Cold War.

**Key Individuals**
Some of the key individuals studied on this course include:
- Joseph Stalin.
- Franklin Roosevelt.
- Winston Churchill.
- Harry Truman.
- Mao Zedong.
- Nikita Khrushchev.
- Alexander Dubček.
- John F Kennedy.
- Leonid Brezhnev.

**Key Events**
Some of the key events and developments you will study on this course include:
- The conferences after the Second World War.
- The development of US and Soviet foreign policies.
- The Berlin Blockade.
- The Korean War.
- The Vietnam War.
- The space race.
- The nuclear arms race.
- The Berlin Wall.
- The Cuban Missile Crisis.
- The Prague Spring.
- Detente.

**Assessment**
Conflict and Tension between East and West 1945-1972 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. This question will require you to examine a source, and explain its meaning in its historical context.
- Question 2 is worth 12 marks. This question will require 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.
Question 4 is worth 16 marks plus 4 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar. Here you will be required to make a judgement about the importance of an event or development in an extended response.
THIS IS A SAMPLE.
REVISION SECTION REMOVED.
October 1917 - Communist revolution in Russia (p.13)
1917-1921 - Russian Civil War (p.14)

1941 - Grand Alliance formed

June 1941 - German invasion of USSR

4-11 Feb 1945 - Yalta Conference (p.0)

July 1945 - USA tested atomic bomb (p.0)
17 July - 2 Aug 1945 - Potsdam Conference (p.0)
August 1945 - Atomic bombs dropped on Japan (p.0)
1945-1949 - Communist takeover of Eastern European states (p.0)

February 1946 - Long Telegram (p.0)

March 1946 - Iron Curtain' speech (p.0)

March 1947 - Truman Doctrine announced (p.0)
October 1947 - Cominform created (p.0)

April 1948 - Marshall Plan began (p.0)

June 1948 - May 1949 - Berlin Blockade & Airlift (p.0)
June 1948 - Yugoslavia expelled from Cominform (p.0)

January 1949 - Comecon created (p.0)
April 1949 - NATO created (p.0)
August 1949 - USSR tested atomic bomb (p.0)
October 1949 - People’s Republic of China formed (p.0)

June 1950 - July 1953 - Korean War (p.0)

USA tested hydrogen bomb (p.0)

March 1953 - Death of Stalin (p.0)
August 1953 - USSR tested hydrogen bomb (p.0)

Warsaw Pact created (p.0)

February 1956 - ‘Secret Speech’ began de-Stalinisation in USSR (p.0)
Oct - Nov 1956 - Hungarian Uprising (p.0)

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CONFlict AND TENSION BETWEEN EAST AND WEST, 1945-1972

- 1957: Launch of Sputnik began the Space Race
- 1959: Cuban Revolution
- May 1960: U2 spy plane incident
- May 1960: Paris Peace Summit
- April 1961: Bay of Pigs
- August 1961: Berlin Wall built
- October 1962: Cuban Missile Crisis
- US combat troops arrived in Vietnam
- Détente began
- Prague Spring
- 1968: Brezhnev Doctrine created
- May 1972: SALT I
- Vietnam War ended

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COLD WAR INTRODUCTION AND DEFINITION

‘Let us not be deceived — we are today in the midst of a cold war. Our enemies are to be found abroad and at home.’ 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 (p.14).
- 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 (p.0) 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 *(p.0)* 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: There is a lot of debate about when the Cold War really began - since it was never openly declared, we cannot put an exact date on it. Some suggest the American bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki; others suggest it goes right back to the Russian Revolution in 1917.

The Russian Revolution

What was the Russian Revolution?
In 1917 the Bolshevik Party overthrew the Russian government and created the world’s first **communist state**. Russia withdrew from the First World War and was plunged into civil war.

What was the impact of the Russian revolution on the Cold War?
The roots of the Cold War can be traced back to the Russian Revolution. It led to tension and distrust between the USSR and the USA which was brought to a head with the defeat of Hitler in 1945.
DID YOU KNOW?

There were actually two revolutions in 1917 in Russia – one in February, which got rid of the monarchy, and the second in October, which brought the Bolsheviks to power on their slogan of ‘Peace, Bread and Land’.

THE RUSSIAN CIVIL WAR

‘Every person present here knows that perhaps this very evening they will be fighting in front of their own house, that they will perhaps be killed, that if they are taken alive they will be hanged, or shot, or tortured.’ - Victor Serge

What was the Russian Civil War?

A civil war was triggered by opposition to the Bolsheviks from various groups, including monarchists who wanted the tsar back in power, anti-communists, groups angered by Brest-Litovsk and different nationalities who wanted their independence.

When was the Russian Civil War?

The Russian Civil War took place from 1918 to 1921.

Who fought in the Russian Civil War?

The Russian Civil War was fought between communist (Red) and anti-communist (White) forces. In addition, a number of countries, including Britain and the USA, sent troops to support the Whites. The Reds won.

What were the consequences of the Russian Civil War on international relations?

The Russian Civil War had 3 main consequences for international relations:

- It increased the Soviet Union’s suspicion that the capitalist West would always seek to overthrow communism.
- In order to protect the USSR from future foreign interference, Lenin, the leader of the USSR, pursued a policy of worldwide communist revolution.
- This in turn caused a ‘Red Scare’ in 1920s America as many feared the worldwide spread of communism.
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.
Ambassador - someone, often a diplomat, who represents their state, country or organisation in a different setting or place.
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.

Blacklist - the blocking of trade as a means to punish.
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.
Boycott - a way of protesting or bringing about change by refusing to buy something or use services.
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.

Cabinet - politically, the group of senior ministers responsible for controlling government policy.
Campain - 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.
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.
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.
Coexistence - living or existing together at the same time or in the same place.
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.
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.
Conservative - someone who dislikes change and prefers traditional values. It can also refer to a member of the Conservative Party.
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.
Cooperate, Cooperation - to work together to achieve a common aim. Frequently used in relation to politics, economics or law.
Currency - an umbrella term for any form of legal tender, but most commonly referring to money.

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.
Deport - to expel someone from a country and, usually, return them to their homeland.
Desegregation - a policy of removing racial segregation (separation).
Deterrent - something that discourages an action or behaviour.
Dictator - a ruler with absolute power over a country, often
acquired by force.

**Dictatorship** - a form of government where an individual or small group has total power, ruling without tolerance for other views or opposition.

**Disarmament** - the reduction or removal of weaponry.

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

**Dissent, Dissenting** - to hold or express views against an idea or policy, often in politics.

**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.

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

**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.

**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.

**Fascist** - one who believes in fascism.

**Federal** - in US politics this means ‘national’, referring to the whole country rather than any individual state.

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

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

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

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

**Hard line** - strict and uncompromising.

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

**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.

**Import** - to bring goods or services into a different country to sell.

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

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

**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.

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

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

**Liberal** - politically, someone who believes in allowing personal freedom without too much control by the government or state.

**Military force** - the use of armed forces.

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

**Monarchists** - people in favour of living in a country governed by a monarchy.

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

**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.

**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.

Quarantine - a period of isolation where a person or animal who has or may have a communicable disease is kept away from others.

Rebellion - armed resistance against a government or leader, or resistance to other authority or control.

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.

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.

Repressive - a harsh or authoritarian action; usually used to describe governmental abuse of power.

Republic - a state or country run by elected representatives and an elected/nominated president. There is no monarch.

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.

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.

Segregation - when people are kept separately from each other - often used in the context of race.

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

Socialism - a political and economic system where most resources, such as factories and businesses, are owned by the state or workers with the aim of achieving greater equality between rich and poor.

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.

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

Standard of living - level of wealth and goods available to an individual or group.

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

Tactic - a strategy or method of achieving a goal.

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

Thaw - the period of time where the relationship between the USSR and the USA improved.

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

Tsar - the Russian word for emperor; can also be spelled ‘czar’.

Veto - the right to reject a decision or proposal.

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

T
- Tensions during détente
- Truman Doctrine
- Truman, Harry

U
- U2 Crisis

V
- Vietnam War

W
- Warsaw Pact

Y
- Yalta Conference
- Yugoslavia and the Cold War