

Paper 2A: Period study

SUPERPOWER RELATIONS AND THE COLD WAR, 1941–91

Key Topic	Topic & Enquiry	Assessment Opportunities	Links to PLC
Key Topic 1: The origins of the Cold War, 1941–58	Early tension between East and West <i>What were the ideological differences between the superpowers?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low-stakes practice questions (8m) HH MCQ Test 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early tension between East and West (including ideological differences between the superpowers and the Grand Alliance)
	The Grand Alliance, 1943–45 <i>How important was the Grand Alliance for relations between East and West?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low-stakes practice questions (8m) HH MCQ Test 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early tension between East and West (including ideological differences between the superpowers and the Grand Alliance)
	The creation of Soviet satellite states <i>How was Soviet control carried out between 1945–47?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low-stakes practice questions (8m) HH MCQ Test 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The development of the Cold War (including the creation of Soviet satellite states and the Long and Novikov telegrams)
	US policy of containment, 1947 <i>How did US policy of containment impact on relations between the superpowers?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low-stakes practice questions (8m) HH MCQ Test 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Cold War intensifies (including the Truman Doctrine; The Marshall Plan, 1947; Cominform and Comecon)
	Cominform and Comecon, 1947–49 <i>How did the Soviet Union retaliate against US policy of containment?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low-stakes practice questions (8m) HH MCQ Test 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Cold War intensifies (including the Truman Doctrine; The Marshall Plan, 1947; Cominform and Comecon)
	The Berlin Crisis, 1948–49 <i>What were the consequences of the Berlin Crisis in the development of the Cold War?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low-stakes practice questions (8m) HH MCQ Test 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased tension over Berlin (including the Berlin Crisis, 1948-49 and the formation of NATO, 1949)
	NATO and the Warsaw Pact, 1949 & 1955 <i>Why was the NATO and Warsaw Pact important in the development of the Cold War?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low-stakes practice questions (8m) HH MCQ Tests 2 and 3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased tension over Berlin (including the Berlin Crisis, 1948-49 and the formation of NATO, 1949) The Cold War intensifies 1 (including the Warsaw Pact, 1955; and the Arms Race)
	The Cold War intensifies, 1949–58 <i>How did the arms race intensify relations between the superpowers?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low-stakes practice questions (8m) HH MCQ Test 3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Cold War intensifies 1 (including the Warsaw Pact, 1955; and the Arms Race)
The Hungarian Uprising, 1956 <i>What were the consequences of the Hungarian Uprising?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low-stakes practice questions (8m) AP1: Explaining importance (16m) HH MCQ Tests 1, 2, 3 HH MCQ Test 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Cold War intensifies 2 (including the Hungarian uprising, 1956 and international reaction) 	

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Key Topic 2: Cold War crises, 1958–70	The Berlin Crisis, 1961 <i>What were the key events in the 1961 Berlin Crisis?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low-stakes practice questions (8m) • HH MCQ Test 5 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased tension over Berlin, 1958-61 (including problems in East Germany, Berlin Ultimatum and the Berlin Wall, 1961)
	The crisis over Cuba, 1962 <i>How did increased tensions over Cuba almost bring the superpowers to the point of MAD?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low-stakes practice questions (8m) • HH MCQ Test 6 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Cuban Missile Crisis (including increased tension over Cuba; and the Events of the Cuban Missile Crisis)
	Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia, 1968 <i>What were the key events of the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low-stakes practice questions (8m) • AP2: Explaining importance (16m) • HH MCQ Test 7 • HH MCQ Tests, 5, 6 and 7 • HH MCQ Test 8 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia (including Increased tension over Czechoslovakia; the Prague Spring; Re-establishing Soviet Control and International reaction)

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Key Topic 3: The end of the Cold War, 1970–91	Détente in the 1970s <i>How did the superpowers attempt to reduce tensions?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low-stakes practice questions (8m) • HH MCQ Test 9 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attempts to reduce tension between East and West 1 (including Détente in the 1970s; SALT 1; the Helsinki Agreements; SALT 2)
	Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, 1979 <i>What was the significance of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low-stakes practice questions (8m) • HH MCQ Test 10 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flashpoint 1: The Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan 1979
	Reagan and the second Cold War <i>Why was there a 'Second Cold War'?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low-stakes practice questions (8m) • HH MCQ Test 10 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flashpoint 2: Reagan and the 'Second Cold War'
	Gorbachev's 'New Thinking' <i>What was the impact of Gorbachev's 'New Thinking' on Eastern Europe?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low-stakes practice questions (8m) • HH MCQ Test 11 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attempts to reduce tension between East and West 2 (including Gorbachev's 'new thinking'; the summit conferences; the INF Treaty, 1987)
	The Fall of the Berlin Wall, 1989 <i>How significant was the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low-stakes practice questions (8m) • HH MCQ Test 11 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The collapse of Soviet control of Eastern Europe 1 (including the impact of Gorbachev's 'new thinking' on Eastern Europe)
	The collapse of the Soviet Union, 1991 <i>What were the key events that led to the collapse of the Soviet Union by 1991?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low-stakes practice questions (8m) • AP3: Explaining importance (16m) • HH MCQ Tests 9, 10 and 11 • HH MCQ Test 12 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The collapse of Soviet control of Eastern Europe 2 (including the fall of the Berlin Wall; the collapse of the Soviet Union and the end of the Warsaw Pact and Cold War)