

Key Vocabulary...		Timeline			Important People	
<b>USSR (Soviet Union)</b>	A collection of nations including Russia which were all governed by a single communist government from 1917-1991.	<b>Yalta Conference</b>	1945	A conference in February where Churchill, Stalin and Roosevelt met to discuss post-war Europe.	<b>Josef Stalin</b>	Communist leader of the USSR from 1923 until his death in 1953. Led the country during WWII.
<b>Dictatorship</b>	A system of government in which one person has absolute power to make all decisions.	<b>Potsdam Conference</b>	1945	A conference in July where Attlee, Stalin and Truman met to discuss post-war Europe.	<b>Winston Churchill</b>	British politician and statesman who was the Prime Minister during WWII.
<b>Communist</b>	A political system in which the government controls everything including all wages and businesses.	<b>First use of nuclear bomb.</b>	1945	In August the USA dropped two nuclear weapons on Japan.	<b>Franklin D. Roosevelt</b>	Longest serving US President of all time until his death in 1945. Led the USA during WWII.
<b>Capitalist</b>	Political ideas which are focussed little government intervention, and the right to freely trade to make money.	<b>Iron Curtain Speech</b>	1946	Churchill gives a speech in the US in which he says that Europe has been divided by an 'Iron Curtain'.	<b>Harry S. Truman</b>	Was Roosevelt's vice president and became the president on his death and served from 1945-53.
<b>Cold War</b>	A state of mistrust and tension between two or more countries. Not an actual war but the threat of war.	<b>US intervention in Greece and Turkey</b>	1947	The defeated Germany is forced to accept harsh terms for peace after losing WWI.		
<b>Conflict</b>	Opposing actions between two different groups, if violent it can be called a war.	<b>Truman Doctrine</b>	1947	Truman unveils his new policy which is aimed at stopping the spread of communism.		
<b>Tension</b>	The potential for disagreements and opposing ideas to turn into conflict.	<b>Berlin Blockade</b>	1948-9	Stalin blocks land access to West Berlin, the West supplies it by air		
<b>Democracy</b>	The idea that a nation should choose its own leaders.	<b>Formation of NATO</b>	1949	NATO, the alliance of capitalist countries is created to help defend the West.		
What changed over the period?		Always Remember...			Exam Questions	
<p>In 1945, the United States along with Britain were in a successful wartime alliance against Nazi Germany. As soon as this war was won, the Grand Alliance started to break down as disagreements over the future of Europe allowed old enmities to resurface.</p> <p>By 1949, the USA and the USSR were locked in a state of Cold War, not daring to attack each other directly for fear of nuclear weapons but working against each other's interests wherever possible around the world.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The alliance between the USA and USSR was a marriage of convenience, it only worked whilst they had a common enemy: Nazi Germany.</li> <li>The USA was capitalist and the USSR was communist. These are opposite systems and incompatible with each other.</li> <li>Europe was divided between countries in the Soviet 'sphere of influence' and 'Western' countries, which had capitalist democratic governments. This divide was called the 'Iron Curtain'.</li> </ul>			<p><b>Write a narrative account of how the conferences of 1945 led to an increase in tension between East and West. (8)</b></p> <p><b>The Berlin Blockade was the main cause of tension in the 1940s. How far do you agree with this statement? (16)</b></p>	

## Key Vocabulary...

<b>USSR (Soviet Union)</b>	A collection of nations including Russia which were all governed by a single communist government from 1917-1991.
<b>De-Stalinisation</b>	A process of change after the death of Stalin where the USSR would pursue a more peaceful approach beginning in 1953.
<b>Sputnik</b>	The world's first man-made satellite, launched by the USSR in 1957, starting the Space Race.
<b>Brinkmanship</b>	A risky game of pushing the threat level to the limits to encourage the other side to back down.
<b>Arms Race</b>	A continual build-up of weapons and soldiers to gain an advantage over the other side.
<b>Intelligence</b>	Information about the enemy gained by spying or some other secret way.
<b>ICBM</b>	Inter-continental ballistic missile, developed in the 1950s to launch nuclear weapons across the world.
<b>Summit</b>	A meeting between the overall leaders of different countries.

## Timeline

<b>NATO formed</b>	1949	The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, an alliance of capitalist countries.
<b>Death of Stalin</b>	1953	The leader of the USSR dies leading to a power struggle amongst his possible successors.
<b>West Germany joins NATO</b>	1955	The USSR feels threatened as West Germany brought into the alliance.
<b>Warsaw Pact formed.</b>	1955	An alliance of communist countries formed to oppose NATO.
<b>The Secret Speech</b>	1956	Khruschev gives a speech in which he signals de-Stalinisation.
<b>The Hungarian Uprising</b>	1956	Led by Imre Nagy, the Hungarian people rebel against communism.
<b>Development of ICBMs</b>	1957	The USSR develops the technology to use nuclear weapons without dropping them from planes.
<b>Launch of Sputnik I</b>	1957	Both sides fear weapons orbiting over their territories in satellites.
<b>U2 Spy Plane Crisis</b>	1960	A US plane is shot down in the USSR derailing the Paris Peace Summit.
<b>Berlin Wall Built</b>	1961	A wall is built overnight separating West Berlin from East Germany.

## Important People

<b>Josef Stalin</b>	Communist leader of the USSR from 1923 until his death in 1953. Controlled the Eastern Bloc with harsh measures.
<b>Nikita Khruschev</b>	By 1956 he had become the successor to Stalin and tried to take a more peaceful approach until the Hungarian Uprising.
<b>Dwight D. Eisenhower</b>	President of the USA from 1953 until 1961. Refused to apologise for the US spying on the USSR and lying about it.
<b>John F. Kennedy</b>	President of the USA from 1961 until his assassination in 1963. Failed to respond to the Berlin Wall but dealt with the Cuban Missile Crisis well.

## What changed over the period?

After the death of Stalin, Khruschev became the Soviet leader and gave his 'Secret Speech' which signalled that the USSR would take a more peaceful approach and try to coexist with the West. This was proven to be false when Khruschev sent tanks into Hungary in 1956 to deal with the uprising there. By the late 1950s the Space Race was well underway and ICBMs had made the Cold War even more serious. When Kennedy took office in the USA in 1961 he inherited a very poor relationship with the East which was immediately worsened by the building of the Berlin Wall.

## Always Remember...

- The leaders of the USSR and the USA changed but the differences between their political and economic systems did not.
- NATO was formed in 1949 but the Warsaw Pact was not formed until 1955, when West Germany was invited into NATO. The USSR had fought a brutal war against Germany which had killed tens of millions, to allow Germany into the enemy alliance was too close for the USSR.
- The nuclear arms race was well underway by the 1950s but the development of H-bombs and ICBMs only increased the perceived threat.

## Exam questions

**Write a narrative account of how the Hungarian Uprising led to an increase in tension between East and West. (8)**

**The Space Race was the main cause of tension in the 1950s. How far do you agree with this statement? (16)**