



Content of GCSE course – Cold War 1941-91

Specification content			
<p>Key topic 1.1 Early tension between East and West</p> <p>The Grand Alliance. The outcomes of the Tehran, Yalta and Potsdam conferences.</p> <p>The ideological differences between the superpowers and the attitudes of Stalin, Truman and Churchill.</p>			
<p>The impact on US-Soviet relations of the development of the atomic bomb, the Long and Novikov telegrams and the creation of Soviet satellite states in Eastern Europe.</p> <p>Key topic 1.2 The development of the Cold War</p> <p>The impact on US-Soviet relations of the Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan, 1947.</p> <p>The significance of Cominform (1947), Comecon (1949) and the formation of NATO (1949).</p>			
<p>Berlin: its division into zones. The Berlin Crisis (blockade and airlift) and its impact. The formation of the Federal Republic of Germany and German Democratic Republic.</p> <p>Key topic 1.3 The Cold War intensifies</p> <p>The significance of the arms race and the formation of the Warsaw Pact.</p>			
<p>Events in 1956 leading to the Hungarian Uprising, and Khrushchev's response.</p> <p>The international reaction to the Soviet invasion of Hungary.</p>			
<p>Key topics 2.1-2.3 Cold War crises, 1958–70 (Berlin, Cuba, Czechoslovakia)</p> <p>The refugee problem in Berlin, Khrushchev's Berlin ultimatum (1958), and the summit meetings of 1959–61.</p> <p>The construction of the Berlin Wall, 1961.</p> <p>Impact of the construction of the Berlin Wall on US-Soviet relations. Kennedy's visit to Berlin in 1963.</p>			
<p>Soviet relations with Cuba, the Cuban Revolution and the refusal of the USA to recognise Castro's government. The significance of the Bay of Pigs incident.</p> <p>The events of the Cuban Missile Crisis.</p>			
<p>The consequences of the Cuban Missile Crisis: the 'hotline', the Limited Test Ban Treaty 1963, the Outer Space Treaty 1967, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty 1968.</p> <p>Opposition in Czechoslovakia to Soviet control: the Prague Spring.</p>			
<p>The Brezhnev Doctrine and the re-establishment of Soviet control in Czechoslovakia.</p> <p>International reaction to Soviet measures in Czechoslovakia.</p>			
<p>Key topic 3.1 Attempts to reduce tension between East and West</p> <p>Détente in the 1970s, SALT 1, Helsinki, SALT 2.</p> <p>The significance of Reagan and Gorbachev's changing attitudes.</p> <p>Gorbachev's 'new thinking' and the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Force (INF) Treaty 1987.</p>			
<p>Key topic 3.2 Flashpoints</p> <p>The significance of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, the Carter Doctrine and the Olympic boycotts.</p> <p>Reagan and the 'Second Cold War', the Strategic Defence Initiative.</p>			

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<p>Key topic 3.3 The collapse of Soviet control of Eastern Europe</p> <p>The impact of Gorbachev's 'new thinking' in Eastern Europe: the loosening Soviet grip on Eastern Europe.</p> <p>The significance of the fall of the Berlin Wall.</p> <p>The collapse of the Soviet Union and its significance in bringing about the end of the Warsaw Pact.</p>			