

Typical exam questions for Paper 2
Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941–91

Q1 Explain two consequences of... (2 x 4 marks)

- the decisions made by the Grand Alliance at the Yalta Conference in February 1945
- the Potsdam conference of July 1945
- the Truman Doctrine
- the Marshall Plan
- the setting up of Cominform and Comecon
- the Berlin Crisis of 1948-49
- the Warsaw Pact
- the Hungarian Uprising
- the building of the Berlin Wall in 1961
- the Cuban Revolution of 1959
- the Cuban Missile Crisis (1962)
- on international relations of the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia
- the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan
- for relations between the USA and the Soviet of Regan becoming President
- Gorbachev's 'new thinking' on eastern Europe

Q2 Write a narrative account analysing... (8 marks)

Write a narrative account analysing the key events of the peace conferences in the years 1943 – 45.

You may use the following in your answer:

- The Tehran Conference, 1945
- The Potsdam Conference, 1945

You must also use information of your own

Write a narrative account analysing the main developments in US- Soviet relations in the years 1945 – 47.

You may use the following in your answer:

- The Yalta Conference, 1945
- The Truman Doctrine 1947

You must also use information of your own

Write a narrative account analysing the main developments in US- Soviet relations in the years 1947 – 49.

You may use the following in your answer:

- The Truman Doctrine 1947
- Cominform 1947

You must also use information of your own

Write a narrative account analysing the key events of the Soviet expansion in Eastern Europe in the years 1945 – 48. You may use the following in your answer:

- The Soviet Union re – establishes control
- Hungary and Czechoslovakia

You must also use information of your own

Write a narrative account that explains the key events of the Soviet takeover of the satellite states in the Cold War in the period 1944 – 48. You may use the following in your answer:

- The Warsaw Uprising
- The Soviet communist takeover of Czechoslovakia

You must also use information of your own

Write an account analysing the key events in the Cold War in the years 1949 – 56. You may use the following in your answer:

- The Warsaw Pact, 1955
- The Soviet invasion of Hungary 1956

You must also use information of your own

Write a narrative account analysing the main events in East-West rivalry over Berlin, 1958 – 61. You may use the following in your answer:

- The Summit meetings
- The building of the Berlin Wall

You must also use information of your own

Write a narrative account analysing the key events of the Berlin Crisis, 1948 – 49. You may use the following in your answer:

- Stalin's fears
- The Airlift

You must also use information of your own

Write a narrative account analysing the main events in East-West Superpower rivalry in Cuba in the years 1959 – 62. You may use the following in your answer:

- The Bay of Pigs invasion, 1961
- The Cuban Missile crisis, 1962

You must also use information of your own

Write a narrative account analysing the key events of the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968. You may use the following in your answer:

- The Prague Spring
- The Soviet Union re – establishes control

You must also use information of your own

Write a narrative account analysing the key events in attempts to reduce tension between East and West in the 1970s and 1980s. You may use the following in your answer:

- The Helsinki Agreements
- Gorbachev's 'new thinking'

You must also use information of your own

Write a narrative account analysing the key events in the Soviet Union and eastern Europe in the years 1989 and 1991. You may use the following in your answer:

- The impact of 'new thinking'
- The fall of the Berlin Wall

You must also use information of your own

Q3 Explain the importance of two... (2 x 8 marks)

Explain two of the following;

- The importance of the Truman Doctrine for the development of the Cold War in the years 1947-55
- The importance of the Berlin Blockade for the future of Germany
- The importance of the formation of NATO for relations between the USA and the Soviet Union

Explain two of the following;

- The importance of the Berlin Crisis (1948-49) for the development of the Cold War
- The importance of the arms race of the 1950s for relations between the superpowers.
- The importance of the formation of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan (1979) for the development of the Cold War

Explain two of the following;

- The importance of the Potsdam Conference (1945) for the development of the Cold War
- The importance of the building of the Berlin Wall (1961) for relations between the USA and the Soviet Union
- The importance of the Cuban Missile crisis (1962) for relations between the USA and the Soviet Union

Explain two of the following;

- The importance of the events in Hungary in 1956 for the development of the Cold War
- The importance of the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia (1968) for relations between the US and the Soviet Union
- The importance of Gorbachev's 'new thinking' for Soviet control of Eastern Europe

- Explain the importance of the Grand Alliance for relations between Stalin, Churchill and Roosevelt in the years 1941-45

- Explain the importance of Soviet expansion in Eastern Europe for the development of the Cold War

- Explain the importance of the Marshall Plan in the development of the Cold War

- Explain the importance of the summit conferences for the problem of Berlin

- Explain the importance of the Bay of Pigs invasion in the development of the Cold War

- Explain the importance of SALT I for the development of the Cold War

- Explain the importance of the Helsinki Agreement for relations between the USA and the Soviet Union

- Explain the importance of the INF Treaty for relations between the USA and the Soviet Union

- Explain the importance of the of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979 for relations between the USA and the Soviet Union