



Paper 2: Superpower Relations and the Cold War, 1941-91







1. The Origins of the Cold War, 1941-58 (how it started)

1.1 Early Tension Between East and West	☺	☹	☹
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Grand Alliance/Big 3 • Ideological differences between the Big 3 (Communism vs Capitalism) • The Attitudes of Stalin, Roosevelt and Churchill 			
<p>Outcomes (results) of the Conferences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tehran Conference, 1943 • Yalta Conference, February 1945 • Potsdam Conference, July/August 1945 			
<p>How early events had an impact on the relationship between the USA and USSR:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of the atomic bomb • Soviet Occupation of Eastern Europe and the creation of satellite states • Long and Novikov Telegrams 			
1.2 The Development of the Cold War, 1947-49	☺	☹	☹
<p>US Actions (Containment)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Truman Doctrine, 1947 • The Marshall Plan 			
<p>Soviet Reactions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cominform • Comecon 			
<p>The Berlin Crisis, 1948-49 (Blockade and Airlift)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What caused the Crisis? • The Berlin Blockade • The Berlin Airlift • Consequences of the Berlin Crisis: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Formation of NATO ➢ Division of Germany into Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany) and the German Democratic Republic (East Germany) 			
1.3 The Cold War Intensifies, 1949-58	☺	☹	☹
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Formation of the Warsaw Pact, 1955 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Arms Race (competition to build nuclear weapons and delivery systems for nuclear weapons). 			
<p>The Hungarian Uprising, 1956</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Causes • What happened? • How did Khrushchev respond? • How did other countries respond to the Uprising? 			

2. Cold War Crises, 1958-70

2.1 The Berlin Crisis, 1958-61	☺	☹	☹

Causes of the Crisis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Refugee Problem • Khrushchev's Berlin Ultimatum (1958) • Summit Meetings, 1959-61 (Paris, Vienna) 			
Construction of the Berlin Wall, 1961			
Consequences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact on US-Soviet Relations • Impact for Germans • Kennedy's Visit to Berlin, 1963 			
2.2. The Cuban Missile Crisis	😊	😐	😞
Causes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Cuban Revolution and America's reactions to it • Soviet Relations with Cuba • The Bay of Pigs, April 1961 			
Events of the Cuban Missile Crisis (or October Crisis), 1962			
Consequences of the Cuban Missile Crisis: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact on the reputations of Kennedy and Khrushchev • the 'hotline' • the Limited Test Ban Treaty 1963 • the Outer Space Treaty 1967 • the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty 1968. 			
2.3 Czechoslovakia, 1968	😊	😐	😞
Background – why were people in Czechoslovakia unhappy by 1968?			
The Prague Spring, 1968 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What were Dubcek's reforms (changes)? • How did people in Czechoslovakia react to the reforms? 			
Soviet Reaction to the Prague Spring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invasion, August 1968 • The Brezhnev Doctrine 			
Consequences of the Soviet Invasion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did the US and Western Europe react? • Protests in Czechoslovakia (Jan Palach) • Reaction of other communist countries 			
3. The End of the Cold War, 1970-91			
3.1. Attempts to reduce tension between East and West	😊	😐	😞
Détente <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What was détente? • What were the reasons for détente? 			
SALT I (Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty) (1972)			
The Helsinki Agreements			
SALT II (1974)			

Mikhail Gorbachev's 'new thinking'			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why did Gorbachev want to make changes in the USSR? • perestroika • glasnost • Other Changes 			
Gorbachev and Reagan's Changing Attitudes			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summit Conferences 1985-86 • Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF), 1987 			
3.2 Flashpoints			
Afghanistan			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background • Soviet Invasion, 1979 			
Responses to the Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carter Doctrine • The Olympic Boycotts 			
Reagan and the 'Second Cold War'			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reagan's Foreign policy – fighting communism • Reagan's Defence Policy • Impact of his policy 			
The Strategic Defence Initiative (Star Wars)			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What was it? • Soviet Response 			
3.3 The Collapse of Soviet Control of Eastern Europe			
The Impact of Gorbachev's 'new thinking' on Eastern Europe			
The Fall of the Berlin Wall and its Significance			
The Collapse of the Soviet Union			
The End of the Warsaw Pact and the Cold War			