

Answers

Superpower Relations and the Cold War 1941–91

Answers to the EDEXCEL exam-style questions are indicative only and highlight the key things that should be included in your response. You may cover other points. It's how your answer is written and how it fits with the mark scheme that will determine the quality of your answer.

PART ONE: THE ORIGINS OF THE COLD WAR 1941–58

p.12 Do it!



1 Example answers:

Under communism the needs of the state are more important than the individual and the communist party is very powerful.

Under capitalism the individual is left alone by the government as much as possible and people are free to take part in politics and make money.

2 This question requires your personal response.

p.14 Stretch it!



This task requires your personal response.

p.15 Do it!



1 This question requires your personal response. Possible suggestions include:

Tehran: All smiles at Tehran but Stalin demands a second front

Yalta: The Big Three look forward to a better post-war world.

Potsdam: The end of the Grand Alliance.

2 This question requires your personal response.

p.17 Do it!



This task requires your personal response.

p.18 Do it!



Suggested answers:

- They both felt that the other side posed a serious threat to their own country.
- They both believed that the other side was aiming for world domination.
- They both believed that a confrontation between the USA and Soviet Union was highly likely.

p.20 Do it!



Suggested answers:

Positive: it was offered to the whole of Europe; the aid was desperately needed; it made a positive difference to the countries that received it.

Negative: the aid was not just a gift because it had the political aim of stopping communism; all of the goods supplied under Marshall Aid had to come from the USA, so it benefited the US economy greatly.

p.20 Stretch it!

This task requires your personal response.

p.21 Do it!

Similarity: both were created by the Soviet Union as a direct consequence of Marshall Aid.

Difference: the aim of the Cominform was to increase the Soviet Union's political control over the communist parties of Eastern Europe whereas aim of Comecon was to increase the Soviet Union's economic control over Eastern Europe.

2

The Truman Doctrine said the USA would stop communist expansion.



£13 billion of Marshall Aid was provided to Western Europe to stop it falling to the communists.



Stalin saw Marshall Aid as a threat.



Stalin created Cominform partly to spread propaganda against Marshall Aid.



Stalin set up Comecon to act as the Soviet version of Marshall Aid.



Both organisations were disliked in the West because they increased the Soviet Union's control over Eastern Europe.

p.23 Do it! (top)

Use force to break the blockade: this was a dangerous strategy because it could lead to all-out war with the Soviet Union. However it would show that the USA was serious about standing up to the Soviet Union.

Do nothing: this would avoid the risk of war but it would make Truman look weak internationally.

Airlift: while a huge undertaking, it was not likely to lead to war.

p.23 Do it! (bottom)

Causes: Stalin's fears of a powerful Germany; creation of Bizonia; granting of Marshall Aid to Western Germany.

Events: lasted 11 months; planes mainly carried food and fuel; Soviets did not shoot any planes because Stalin did not want to risk war.

Impacts: increased Cold War tensions; permanent division of Germany; formation of NATO.

p.24 Stretch it!

This task requires your own research.

p.25 Do it!

Example answer:

Hydrogen bombs were developed from atomic bombs. When ICMBs were developed, MAD became a danger.

p.27 Stretch it!

This task requires your own research.

p.27 Do it!

This task requires your personal response.

p.27 CHECK IT!

- 1 Three reasons for the Grand Alliance falling apart are: Truman, the USA's new leader, hated communism; Stalin felt threatened because the USA had developed the atomic bomb; Britain and the USA were angry that Stalin was not allowing free elections to take place in Eastern Europe.
- 2 The Soviet Union portrayed Comecon as a helpful economic organisation designed to increase trade between Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. In reality it was used by the Soviet Union to gain much greater control over the economies of Eastern Europe.
- 3 The Warsaw Pact meant that Europe was divided into two armed groups – NATO and the Warsaw Pact. It led to an intensification of the arms race. Both sides tried to create bigger armies and more powerful weapons.
- 4 The USA did not want to provoke a war with the Soviet Union, in case it turned into a nuclear conflict. There was little the USA could do to help the Hungarian rebels. The USA was also busy trying to sort out the Suez Crisis in Egypt.

PART TWO: COLD WAR CRISES 1958–70**p.28 Do it!**

Khrushchev wanted the West out of Berlin mainly because of the refugee crisis. Huge numbers of East Germans were leaving for a new life in the West. Their escape route was through Berlin. The loss of so many people was threatening East Germany with economic collapse. Khrushchev was unhappy at the way West Berlin had been turned into an advert for capitalism. He also disliked the fact that the West used it as a base from which to spy on East Germany.

p.28 Stretch it!

This task requires your own research.

p.30 Do it!

Example answer:

- The wall was 96 miles long in total.
- It surrounded the whole of West Berlin.
- The Wall developed over time to include watchtowers, a death strip and a high concrete wall.

p.32 Do it!

Students own work

Answers could include some of the following points:

- For the people of East Germany the Wall blocked an escape route to the West. It also meant families and friends living on either side of the Wall were separated.
- The impact on superpower relations was mixed. Briefly, relations got very bad in the October 1961 tank stand-off. The Wall became a powerful symbol of the Cold War, which Kennedy highlighted when he visited the city in 1963.
- In some ways the Wall reduced superpower tensions by stopping the refugee problem and the economic crisis in East Germany. There was no further attempt by the Soviet Union to force the West out of Berlin after the Wall was built.

p.33 Do it!

Suggested answer:

- The USA stopped buying Cuban sugar, which threatened the whole Cuban economy.
- The Soviet Union agreed to buy Cuban sugar and supply Cuba with other aid.
- Khrushchev put a lot of effort into winning Castro as an ally because he saw the strategic benefits for the Soviet Union.

p.34 Do it!

Kennedy hoped that the Bay of Pigs incident would lead to a popular uprising against Castro and to his removal from power. Instead, the attempted invasion made Castro more powerful than ever. The Cuban people saw the Bay of Pigs incident as a hostile invasion and so rallied behind Castro. Castro was also seen as a hero for managing to defeat the USA.

p.36 Do it!

1 Suggested answer:

14 October – the missile sites were first discovered by a U2 spy plane.

20 October – Kennedy took the decision to blockade Cuba rather than invade.

24 October – Khrushchev ordered the Soviet ships not to cross the blockade line. This averted the immediate risk of war and provided time to find a peaceful solution to the crisis.

26 October – Khrushchev sent a telegram to Kennedy with his first offer of a deal to end the crisis. This showed that Khrushchev was actively seeking a way to end the crisis.

28 October – The final deal was agreed and the crisis ended.

2 There is no right or wrong answer but 23 October is a strong contender. The Soviet ships were approaching the blockade line on this date and nobody knew what would happen next. Kennedy had publicly indicated that if the ships did cross the blockade line, war may result.

It can only be speculated when Kennedy knew that he did not need to go to war with the USSR. One possible suggestion is 24 October, when Khrushchev ordered the Soviet ships not to cross the blockade line. This was a clear sign that Khrushchev did not want the crisis to lead to war. Dean Rusk, one of the US advisors, summed it up when he famously said that the other guy had just blinked.

p.37 Do it!

1 Example headlines:

Top Secret - Jupiter Missiles are out of Turkey

Kennedy promises Cuba – no US invasion

Ban on nuclear tests agreed

The moon is off limits to the Cold War

2 This task requires your own personal response.

Possible points to cover for this question:

Causes

- The deterioration in relations between the USA and Cuba between 1959–1962.
- The development of an alliance between Cuba and the Soviet Union in the same period.
- The presence of US Jupiter Missiles in Turkey, threatening the Soviet Union.
- The discovery by the US of Soviet missile sites under construction in Cuba.

Main Events

14 October: A U2 spyplane discovered Intermediate range missile sites under construction in Cuba.

20 October. After considering all options including invading Cuba, Kennedy decided to blockade the island.

24 October: Khrushchev ordered the missile ships heading to Cuba not to cross the blockade line, thereby avoiding direct confrontation.

28 October: Khrushchev and Kennedy agreed a solution, with both compromising in some form.

Consequences

- Soviet Missile sites were dismantled in Cuba and US missiles were removed from Turkey.
- Cuba remained a communist nation.
- Khrushchev's reputation was damaged but Kennedy's was enhanced.
- Important agreements were made including the Hotline Agreement, 1963, Limited Test Ban Treaty, 1963, Outer Space Treaty, 1967, Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, 1968.

p.37 Stretch it!



This message has every letter of the alphabet and all the numbers so was a good test.

p.41 Do it!



1 This question requires your own personal response.

2 Suggested answers:

Similarities:

- Nagy in Hungary and Dubcek in Czechoslovakia wanted to extend basic freedoms to their people, including freedom of speech and assembly.
- Both countries were unhappy with communist rule because of repressive secret police forces and declining living standards.
- On both occasions the USA condemned the Soviet response but provided no support to the rebels.

Differences:

- Nagy said he would take Hungary out of the Warsaw Pact, but Dubcek said he would keep Czechoslovakia in it.
- In Hungary there was violent resistance to the Soviet invasion, whereas the Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia met with passive resistance.
- Nagy was murdered by the Soviets, whereas Dubček was arrested and then removed from power.

p.41 CHECK IT!



- 1 There were many push factors including lack of political freedom, fear of the East German secret police and low living standards. The pull factors from the West included higher living standards and political freedom.
- 2 Kennedy and Khrushchev met for the first time at this conference and nothing was agreed about Berlin. In fact, relations deteriorated. Khrushchev reissued the Berlin Ultimatum. After the conference Kennedy increased US defence spending.
- 3 The USA promised not to invade Cuba and agreed to remove its Jupiter missiles from Turkey. The Soviet Union agreed to dismantle their missile bases in Cuba.
- 4 Not all East European countries supported the Warsaw Pact invasion: Romania refused to send troops to join the invasion and Albania withdrew from the Warsaw Pact in protest.

PART THREE: THE END OF THE COLD WAR 1970–91

p.42 Do it!



1

- Both sides had been scared by how close they had come to war in the Cuban missile crisis.
- Both sides were experiencing economic difficulties and wanted to spend less on weapons.

2

- A five-year freeze on the number of ICBM and SLBM launchers
- Each side limited to two ABM sites
- A basic principles agreement, where each side pledged to avoid aggressive confrontations which could lead to war.

p.43 Do it!



Positives: it slowed the arms race by placing upper limits on the number of ICBM and SLBM launchers; it led on to SALT 2.

Negatives: it did not impose any actual cuts in ICMB and SLBM launchers; strategic bombers and MIRVs were not included in the treaty.

SALT 1 could be seen as a success as it was the first serious attempt to slow the pace of the arms race. It also led to more arms control talks called SALT 2.

p.44 Do it!



This task requires your own personal response.

p.45 Do it! (top)



They are all serious problems and so there is no right or wrong answer. A strong case can be made for the Soviet Union's high military budget because this prevented money being invested in raising the living standards of the Soviet people: poor living standards was a major reason for the unpopularity of communism.

p.45 Do it! (bottom)



Example answer:

Gorbachev wanted to make communism work for everyone. He knew communism had problems but he still believed it was the best political system. Gorbachev tried to improve communism by extending freedom of speech, reforming the economy, cutting military spending and ending the rigid Soviet control over Eastern Europe.

p.48 Stretch it!



This task requires your own research.

p.48 Do it!



- It led to the scrapping of SALT 2.
- It led to the Carter Doctrine. The US said it would use military force to protect its interests in the Persian Gulf.
- It led to the US boycott of the 1980 Moscow Olympic Games.

p.49 Do it!

This task requires your personal response.

The following are some good points to include on how Reagan restarted the Cold War:

- A massive increase in defence spending, which included building new Trident class submarines and Peacekeeper nuclear missiles.
- The Reagan Doctrine said the US would aid any country or group that opposed communism.
- Stinger missiles were sent to the mujaheddin in Afghanistan.
- Secret support was given to the Polish anti-communist group called Solidarity.
- The Strategic Defence Initiative was a plan to shoot down Soviet nuclear missiles from space

p.50 Do it! (bottom)

- Maintaining Soviet control over Eastern Europe was expensive.
- Gorbachev believed that maintaining strict Soviet control over Eastern Europe was unjust.
- Gorbachev wanted to improve relations with the West and the Brezhnev Doctrine got in the way of this.

p.51 Stretch it!

This task requires your own research.

p.51 Do it!

- 1 Poland was the first country to remove communist rule; Czechoslovakia had a peaceful revolution; Romania had a violent revolution.
- 2 In 1989 ordinary people took to the streets all over Eastern Europe to oppose communism. The huge public demonstrations across East Germany, for example, placed the communist government under huge pressure to allow free elections. Ordinary people took a role in tearing down the Berlin Wall.

p.52 Stretch it!

This task requires your own research.

p.54 Do it!

- 1 Your diagram should cover the following points:
 - The collapse of communism in Eastern Europe and how this led many national groups within the Soviet Union to demand independence.
 - The impact of Glasnost and how this gave people the freedom to openly criticise the communist party.
 - The dire state of the Soviet economy.
 - The impact of the attempted 1991 coup. This weakened both Gorbachev and the communist party.
- 2 Example answer:
The collapse of the Soviet Union led to the end of the communist system and the ideological struggle between the Soviet Union and the USA. As a result, the Cold War came to an end. In the new world order that followed, the USA was left as the world's only superpower and NATO expanded into Eastern Europe. The Soviet Union turned into a much weaker entity called the Commonwealth of Independent States.

p.54 CHECK IT!



- 1 An acceptance of Europe's borders; greater scientific, cultural and economic cooperation between the USA and the Soviet Union; greater respect for human rights by the Soviet Union
- 2 Secret support was given to Solidarity, a trade union movement in Poland; Stinger missiles, capable of shooting down aircraft, were sent to the mujahideen in Afghanistan.
- 3 He thought it was morally unjustified. He believed that if he allowed the people of Eastern Europe greater freedom and control, they would choose to play a constructive role in improving the communist system.
- 4 In Czechoslovakia the transfer of power was relatively peaceful, earning the nickname 'Velvet Revolution'. In Romania there were several weeks of fighting between the government forces and the anti-communist rebels. This is because the hard-line communist dictator, Ceausescu, did not want to give up power.

HOW TO ANSWER THE EXAM QUESTIONS

p.57 Do it!



1C; 2H; 3G; 4A; 5I; 6L; 7B; 8K; 9F; 10E; 11J; 12D

p.58 Do it!



Causes C; F; G, Events A; I, Consequences B; D; E; H; J

p.59 Do it!



- 1 Sample answer 1 consequence 1 = level 2; sample answer 1 consequence 2 = level 3
- 2 This answer requires your own personal response.

p.60 Do it!



This answer requires your own personal response.

p.64 Do it!



Early tensions between East and West, 1943–47: F, J, K, B, N

Tensions over Berlin 1958–63: O, C, H, M, G

The collapse of Soviet control over Eastern Europe, 1985–91: A, L, I, D, E

p.65 Do it!



Chain 3:

In response to the Berlin Blockade, the USA, with the help of Britain, launched an airlift in order to keep the western half of Berlin supplied with food and fuel. It lasted for 11 months and, by its end, US-Soviet relations had deteriorated significantly.

Chain 4:

As a result of the collapse of communist government across Eastern Europe, the Warsaw Pact became pointless. There was no longer a need for a military alliance between the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe and so it was formally dissolved in 1991.

2 Suggested answers:

The development of the Cold War, 1947–49

The 1947 Truman Doctrine said the USA would stand up to the Soviet Union around the world and stop any further communist expansion.

In 1948 the Truman Doctrine was put to the test when Stalin blockaded Berlin. Truman responded with an 11-month airlift.

The poor relations caused by the Berlin Blockade deteriorated further when the Soviet Union detonated its first atomic bomb, in 1949.

The key events of the Prague Spring, 1968

Since the 1950s Czechoslovakia had been ruled by a hardline communist called Novotny, but he was deeply unpopular. In 1968 he was replaced by a new reformist leader called Dubček.

In order to make communism popular again, Dubček spoke about creating ‘socialism with a human face’ as well as extending freedom of speech and assembly.

Brezhnev was worried that Dubček’s reforms would lead to Czechoslovakia leaving the Warsaw Pact. As a result, he invaded the country and removed Dubček from power.

p.66 Do it!



This answer requires your own personal response.

p.67 Do it!



This answer requires your own personal response.

p.70 Do it!



1 Suggested answers:

Creation of Soviet satellite states, 1945–48:

- The USA was angry that Stalin had failed to hold free elections in Eastern Europe, despite promising to do so at the Yalta Conference.
- It led Churchill to make his famous ‘Iron Curtain’ speech, which led to a hardening of attitudes in the West against the Soviet Union.

Marshall Plan, 1947:

- In response to the Marshall Plan, the Soviets created a lot of anti-American propaganda, which increased hostility between the two sides.
- Stalin established Comecon as his version of the Marshall Plan, but the West disliked this because it increased Soviet control over the economies of Eastern Europe.

Formation of NATO, 1949:

- The US increased their military presence in Europe as a result of NATO, which angered the Soviets.
- In response to NATO, the Soviet Union formed its own military alliance called the Warsaw Pact, which further increased tensions.

Building of the Berlin Wall, 1961:

- This led to a tense tank stand-off between the US and Soviet Union in October 1961.
- It helped to reduce tensions by stopping the refugee crisis in East Germany.

Cuban Missile Crisis, 1962:

- Both sides showed a desire not to go to war. The Soviets agreed to dismantle the nuclear missiles in Cuba and the US agreed to move its Jupiter nuclear missiles from Turkey.
- In the more positive atmosphere after the Crisis, a whole series of agreements were made including the Test Ban Treaty (1963), Outer Space Treaty (1967) and Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (1968).

Prague Spring, 1968:

- Images of Soviet tanks in the streets of Prague increased US hostility to the Soviet Union.
- The Brezhnev Doctrine, which was put in place after the crushing of the Prague Spring, angered the USA because it prevented any reform happening in Eastern Europe.

Gorbachev's 'new thinking':

- Glasnost, which gave greater freedom of speech to people in Eastern Europe, was welcomed by the West.
- The Sinatra Doctrine led to the collapse of communist governments in Eastern Europe in 1989, which improved superpower relations.

Strategic Defence Initiative, 1983:

- SDI angered the Soviets because they said it threatened the principles of mutually assured destruction (MAD).
- SDI proved a major obstacle in nuclear arms reduction talks. This was seen in the 1986 summit meeting in Reykjavik, which ended without agreement because of SDI.

Fall of the Berlin Wall, 1989:

- The fall of the Berlin Wall removed one of the most powerful symbols of the Cold War, which had been in existence since 1961. This improved relations between the superpowers.
- Soon after this, the East German communist government agreed to give up power and hold democratic elections. This was further evidence that the Cold War was coming to an end, which led to an improvement in relations.

p.71 Do it! (top)



1 A, B, J

2 E, A, I, C, J, F, H, B, G, D

3 Possible answers:

- The invasion was important because it led the USA to boycott the 1980 Moscow Olympics. This angered the Soviet Union and they boycotted the Los Angeles games in 1984.
- The invasion was important because it led to indirect fighting between the Soviet Union and the USA. In a secret CIA programme, the US supplied the anti-Soviet rebels in Afghanistan with weapons including Stinger Missiles.

p.71 Do it! (bottom)



The ten factual mistakes are shown in bold below and the correct words are shown in square brackets after each emboldened word:

The incident mattered a lot for superpower relations mainly because it made relations **better** [worse]. This is because, firstly, it led **Batista** [Castro] to become a **capitalist** [communist]. Cuba and the Soviet Union then became close allies. This angered the USA because they did not want a communist state in their 'backyard'. Secondly, **Brezhnev** [Khrushchev] started a military build-up in Cuba following the incident. He said he wanted to protect the island from **Soviet** [US] aggression. He sent Cuba lots of weapons including **aircraft carriers** [nuclear missiles]. Their discovery by American **UB40** [U2] spy planes sparked the **Cuban Naval Crisis** [Cuban Missile Crisis]. Finally, **Truman** [Kennedy] was made to look foolish for allowing the Bay of Pigs invasion to happen. As a result, he became more determined to stand up to the USSR to prove himself. For example, when Soviet missile sites were found on Cuba in **1965** [1962], he was determined to win the crisis, even though it pushed the world to the brink of nuclear war.

p.72 Do it!



This answer requires your own personal response.

p.73 Do it!



This answer requires your own personal response.

p.74 Do it!



This answer requires your own personal response.

PRACTICE PAPERS



p.75 Practice paper 1: Section A

- 1 Explain **two** consequences of Gorbachev's 'new thinking' on Eastern Europe.
Two points from:
 - Gorbachev's 'Sinatra Doctrine' stated that the Soviet Union would no longer interfere in the internal affairs of Eastern Europe. This gave the people of Eastern Europe the freedom to remove their communist governments in a series of revolutions in 1989.
 - In October 1989 Gorbachev visited East Germany and said he would not support the use of force against protestors. This led to the resignation of the hardline leader of East Germany, Erich Honecker. Shortly after, the Berlin Wall was destroyed and the communist system in East Germany fell.
 - With the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe in 1989, the Warsaw Pact became redundant. Military cooperation between its members ceased in 1990, and in 1991 it was formally dissolved.
- 2 Write a narrative account analysing the main developments in US-Soviet relations in the years 1947–49.
Relevant points may include:
 - By 1947 President Truman was growing increasingly worried about communist expansion in Eastern Europe. Truman said that the USA would use its economic and military power to contain its spread. This became known as the Truman Doctrine.
 - The economic arm of the Truman Doctrine was more fully developed in the Marshall Plan of 1947. This stated that the USA would supply aid to Europe in order to raise living standards and in so doing make communism less attractive. The Soviets reacted angrily to this, claiming it was 'dollar imperialism'.
 - The first big test of the Truman Doctrine was Stalin's blockade of West Berlin in 1948. Truman could not let West Berlin fall to the communists and so he kept it supplied through the Berlin Airlift.
 - As a result of the Berlin blockade and airlift, the West decided to form a military alliance in 1949 in order to protect themselves from further Soviet aggression.
 - The poor state of US-Soviet relations after the Berlin blockade was shown by the permanent division of Germany into the Federal Republic of Germany and the Democratic Republic of Germany in 1949.
 - US-Soviet relations became even more tense when the Soviet Union detonated its first atomic bomb in 1949. This came as a surprise to the Americans and meant they had lost their nuclear monopoly. Each side now engaged in an arms race to build more powerful bombs.
- 3 Explain **two** of the following:
 - The importance of the Potsdam Conference (1945) for the early development of the Cold War
 - The importance of the events in Hungary in 1956 for international relations
 - The importance of the Cuban Missile Crisis (1962) for superpower relations.



The importance of the Potsdam Conference (1945) for the early development of the Cold War

Relevant points may include:

- Cold War tensions developed at Potsdam because the USA's new President, Truman, disliked communism and Stalin. This contrasted with the previous US President, Roosevelt, who had always tried to get on with Stalin.
- Relations deteriorated because of disagreements about reparations. Stalin wanted Germany to pay a huge sum in compensation, but this was opposed by Truman.
- Tensions increased because of Western concern about Soviet actions in Eastern Europe. The West were not happy with the composition of Poland's provisional government as it was dominated by communists. Truman wanted free elections to take place in Eastern Europe but Stalin refused to agree.
- Divisions increased when Truman told Stalin about the successful test of a US atomic bomb. Stalin was angry that he had not been told about this weapons programme. He also felt under threat from the USA.

The importance of the events in Hungary in 1956 for international relations

Relevant points may include:

- Tensions increased between the West and the Soviet Union. The West were angry at the Soviet Union for the brutal way it crushed the uprising, with around 2500 Hungarians killed.
- The flight of 200,000 refugees to the West in the months after the Hungarian uprising further highlighted to the West the repressive nature of Soviet rule.
- It significantly damaged Khrushchev's reputation in the West and ended a brief thaw in the Cold War. When Khrushchev became leader following Stalin's death, the West initially saw him as somebody they could work with because he introduced de-Stalinisation and talked of peaceful co-existence. After the invasion, this was no longer the case.
- The reputation of the USA suffered. Despite pleas for help from the Hungarian rebels, the USA did nothing to help. It did not want to risk war with the Soviet Union, but the USA's moral authority was damaged.
- The Soviet Union's dominance over Eastern Europe increased. Its brutal response showed that it would not let any East European country leave the Warsaw Pact.

The importance of the Cuban Missile Crisis (1962) for superpower relations

Relevant points may include:

- In the short-term, the superpowers came close to war. During the 13-day crisis, the US military was placed on a very high state of readiness. If Soviet ships had crossed the blockade line, or the US had invaded Cuba, war may have resulted.
- After the crisis, the superpowers were keen to work together. A hotline was set up to improve communications between the two sides and allow problems to be sorted out far more quickly.
- As a sign of improved superpower relations after the Missile Crisis, a Test Ban Treaty was signed by the United States, Soviet Union and Great Britain in 1963. This banned the testing of nuclear weapons in outer space, under water or in the atmosphere.
- Further agreements followed in the more positive atmosphere after the Missile Crisis. In 1967 the Outer Space Treaty was signed. The superpowers agreed not to use space for military purposes. In 1968 the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty was signed to stop the spread of nuclear weapons.



p.76 Practice paper 2: Section A

1 Explain **two** consequences of the 1959 Cuban Revolution.

Relevant points may include:

- Cuba's relations with the USA deteriorated significantly. Cuba's new leader, Castro, took over US-owned businesses and, in response, the US stopped importing Cuban sugar.
- Cuba became a firm ally of the Soviet Union. As a result of US sanctions, Castro asked Khrushchev for help and the Soviet Union started buying Cuban sugar and supplying military aid.
- Concern at the growing friendship between Cuba and the Soviet Union led to the US-backed invasion of Cuba known as the Bay of Pigs Incident. The US were aiming to remove Castro from power.

2 Write a narrative account analysing the key developments in the collapse of Soviet control over Eastern Europe in the years 1988–91.

Relevant points may include:

- In 1988 Gorbachev stated that the Soviet Union would no longer become involved in the internal affairs of Eastern European countries. This meant that the Soviet Union would no longer use tanks to crush reform movements, as they had done in Hungary in 1956 and Czechoslovakia in 1968.
- The Sinatra Doctrine led to the collapse of communism across Eastern Europe in 1989. The first country to remove its communist government was Poland. Solidarity, a trade union movement, was elected into power.
- As a further sign that communism was collapsing, Hungary opened its borders. This allowed East Germans to travel freely to the West. This made the Berlin Wall redundant and it was dismantled in November 1988.
- The only country to undergo a violent revolution was Romania. Its communist leader Ceausescu did not want to give up power. He was eventually arrested and shot by anti-communist forces.
- By 1990 not a single communist government remained in Eastern Europe. The Warsaw Pact, which was a defensive alliance between the Soviet Union and its communist satellite states, was therefore pointless and it was disbanded in 1991.

3 Explain **two** of the following:

- The importance of NATO for the development of the Cold War
- The importance of the construction of the Berlin Wall (1961) for tensions between East and West
- The importance of SALT 1 for relations between the USA and the Soviet Union.

The importance of NATO for the development of the Cold War

Relevant points may include:

- Stalin saw NATO as an aggressive alliance of 12 Western nations, which threatened the Soviet Union. He rejected Truman's claim that it was a 'shield against aggression'.
- The expansion of NATO in the 1950s, to include Greece, Turkey and West Germany, led to the formation of the Warsaw Pact in 1955. This meant that Europe was now divided on military as well as political and economic lines.
- NATO was based on the military principle of 'Massive Retaliation'. This meant that if war broke out with the Soviet Union, NATO would use nuclear weapons.
- NATO led to the militarisation of Europe. The USA increased its military presence in Europe.
- It was important because it helped keep the peace of Europe. The founding principle of 'an attack against one is an attack against all' possibly deterred Soviet aggression towards Western Europe.



The importance of the construction of the Berlin Wall (1961) for tensions between East and West

Relevant points may include:

- Tensions increased because shortly after the Wall was built, there was a 16-hour stand-off at Checkpoint Charlie, between US and Soviet tanks. War seemed very close, although the tanks of both sides eventually withdrew.
- The Wall made Kennedy become more determined than ever to stand up to the Soviets. In 1963 he visited West Berlin and promised the US would protect them.
- The human suffering caused by the Wall angered the West and increased tensions because, for example, friends and families were separated, 140 people were shot whilst trying to escape over the Wall.
- The Wall became a powerful symbol of how bad the Cold War was and showed how the USA and USSR could not work together over Berlin.
- It could also be pointed out that the Berlin Wall was also important in reducing tensions: it stopped the flow of refugees to the West and so the economic crisis in East Germany passed.

The importance of SALT 1 for relations between the USA and the Soviet Union

Relevant points may include:

- SALT 1 showed that a new spirit of cooperation existed between the USA and the Soviet Union. This was known as détente and would last until 1979.
- It slowed the arms race by imposing a five-year freeze on the number of ICMB and SLBM launchers.
- The Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty limited both sides to two ABM sites. This ensured that each superpower remained vulnerable to the other's nuclear weapons, therefore deterring either side from launching an attack.
- After signing SALT 1, the USA and the Soviet Union started further talks on arms control, aimed at securing real cuts in the number of nuclear missile launchers. Although never ratified, the SALT 2 Treaty of 1979 limited each side to 2400 launchers.
- It led to efforts to improve relations in other areas. For example, as part of the Helsinki Agreement of 1975, the Soviet Union pledged to respect human rights.