

Cold War Distant Learning Packet



Name: _____

Week #1: Start of the Cold War:

1. Watch the following video clip <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ISilJzJhEM>

2. Read the information below and then answer the questions that follow:

The Cold War was a long period of tension between the democracies of the Western World and the communist countries of Eastern Europe. The west was led by the United States and Eastern Europe was led by the Soviet Union. These two countries became known as superpowers. The two countries were fighting over disagreements in government. The United States believed in a democratic government. While the Soviet Union believed in a communist government. Although the two superpowers never officially declared war on each other, they fought indirectly in proxy wars, the arms race, and the space race. There was no fighting during the Cold War. It was a war of words.

Time Period (1945 - 1991)

The Cold War began not too long after World War II ended in 1945. Although, the Soviet Union was an important member of the Allied Powers, there was great distrust between the Soviet Union and the rest of the Allies. The Allies were concerned with the brutal leadership of Joseph Stalin as well as the spread of communism.

The Cold War came to an end with the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991.

Proxy Wars

The Cold War was often fought between the superpowers of the United States and the Soviet Union in something called a proxy war. These were wars fought between other countries, but with each side getting support from a different superpower. Examples of proxy wars include the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Yom Kippur War, and the Soviet Afghanistan War.

Arms Race and Space Race

The United States and the Soviet Union also tried to fight the Cold War by demonstrating their power and technology. One example of this was the Arms Race where each side tried to have the best weapons and the most nuclear bombs. The idea was that a large stockpile of weapons would deter the other side from ever attacking. Another example was the Space Race, where each side tried to show that it had the better scientists and technology by accomplishing certain space missions first.

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Communism is a type of government as well as an economic system (a way of creating and sharing wealth). In a Communist system, individual people do not own land, factories, or machinery. Instead, the government or the whole community owns these things. Everyone is supposed to share the wealth that they create.

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The word democracy describes a form of government. The word comes from two Greek words that mean “rule by the people.” In a democracy the people have a say in how the government is run. They do this by voting, though there are usually rules about who can vote. Democracies are different from dictatorships. In a dictatorship one person called a dictator makes all the rules.

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1. Who was the Cold War between?
 - Why was the Cold War fought?

 - Did any fighting take place during the Cold War?

2. When did the Cold War occur?

3. What is the big difference between communism and democracy?
 - What country believed in communism during the Cold War?

 - What country wanted to stop the spread of communism?

Week 2: POLICIES OF THE COLD WAR:

1. Watch the following video clip <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tMXjsVLOznc>

2. Read the information below and then answer the questions that follow:

Soviet Expansion

The UN could not, however, prevent trouble between the West and the Soviets. It became clear that Stalin would not live up to his Yalta pledge. He set up Communist governments and kept Soviet forces in Eastern Europe. There were no free elections.

Winston Churchill feared Stalin's actions were permanent. In 1946 Churchill said that an **iron curtain** had come down on Europe. The iron curtain cut off much of Eastern Europe from the West. What's more, Churchill thought the Soviets would try to gain control of other parts of the world.

To address this threat, Truman turned to U.S. diplomat George F. Kennan. Kennan was an expert on the Soviet Union. He believed the two countries could not **cooperate**, or work together. The United States had to be firm with its new enemy. Kennan called for a policy of **containment** (kuhn • TAYN • muhnt), meaning the United States had to "contain," or hold the spread of communism.

U.S. Responses

The policy of containment soon went into effect. Civil war raged in Greece, as Communists attempted to overthrow the country's pro-Western government. At the same time, the Soviets pressured Turkey to give them naval bases that offered access to the Mediterranean Sea.

In March 1947, Truman asked Congress for money to help aid Greece and Turkey. In his request, Truman promised that the U.S. would help any free nation resisting Communist aggression. This promise came to be called the **Truman Doctrine**.

A few months later, U.S. Secretary of State George Marshall came up with a plan to aid Western Europe. Many areas were still struggling to recover from World War II. Many people were hungry and unable to work. Unrest was growing. From 1948 to 1951, the **Marshall Plan pumped \$13 billion worth of supplies, machinery, and food into Western Europe.** The aid helped speed recovery and weaken the appeal of communism.

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1. Define **CONTAINMENT**:

2. Define **TRUMAN DOCTRINE**:

3. Define **MARSHALL PLAN**

4. How are the Truman Doctrine and Marshall Plan similar?

Week 3: ARMS AND SPACE RACE:

1. Watch the following video clip

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IIQbxHPEPTM&list=PLAKj_LCS1oUH_4IZ9Y9ds8exV-s6whbR9

2. Read the information below and then answer the questions that follow:

Sputnik and The Dawn of the Space Age

History changed on October 4, 1957, when the Soviet Union successfully launched Sputnik I. The world's first artificial satellite was about the size of a beach ball (That launch ushered in new political, military, technological, and scientific developments. While the Sputnik launch was a single event, it marked the start of the space age and the U.S.-U.S.S.R space race. The Space Race started a race to see who would be the first to get the man to the moon. The Sputnik launch also led directly to the creation of National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

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1. Who launched the first artificial satellite?

2. What name was given to it?

3. Define **SPACE RACE:**

4. What resulted from the launching of Sputnik?

Arms Race

During the Cold War the United States and the Soviet Union became engaged in a nuclear arms race. They both spent billions and billions of dollars trying to build up huge stockpiles of nuclear weapons. Another reason there was no fighting during the Cold was it could have turned into a deadly Nuclear War.

The Nuclear Bomb

The United States was the first to develop nuclear weapons through the Manhattan Project during World War II. The US ended the war with Japan by dropping nuclear bombs on the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Nuclear bombs are extremely powerful weapons that can destroy an entire city and kill tens of thousands of people. The only time nuclear weapons have been used in war was at the end of World War II against Japan. The Cold War was predicated on the fact that neither side wanted to engage in a nuclear war that could destroy much of the civilized world.

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5. Define **ARMS RACE**:

6. Why did no fighting ever occur during the Cold War?

Week #4: FALLOUT SHELTERS:

1. Watch the following video clip <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKqXu-5jw60> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q11c29qdmJ0>

2. Read the information below and then answer the questions that follow:

What is a fallout shelter and how were they built?

A fallout shelter is a civil defense measure intended to reduce casualties in a nuclear war. It is designed to allow those inside it to avoid exposure to harmful fallout from a nuclear blast and its likely aftermath of radiation until radioactivity has dropped to a safer level. A basic fallout shelter consists of shielding that reduces gamma-ray exposure. Since the most dangerous fallout has the consistency of sand or finely ground pumice, a successful fallout shelter need not filter fine dust from air. The fine dust both emits relatively little radiation and does not settle to the earth, where the fallout shelter exists. Concrete, bricks, earth, and sand are some of the materials that are dense or heavy enough to provide fallout protection.

Concrete was the favored building material of fallout shelters, with walls at least 12 inches thick. The required shielding could be accomplished with 10 times the amount of any quantity of material capable of cutting gamma-ray effects in half. Shields that reduce gamma ray intensity by 50 percent include 0.4 inches of lead, 2.4 inches of concrete, 3.6 inches of packed dirt or 500 feet of air. When multiple thicknesses are built, the shielding multiplies.

by Taboola

1. Why were fallout shelters needed during the Cold War?
2. During what time, were bomb shelters created?
3. How would you feel if you had to go in a fallout shelter?

Week #5: Korean and Vietnam War:

1. Watch the following video clip <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yxaegqvl4aE> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xqNCxPyAzzc>
2. Read the information below and then answer the questions that follow:

Korean War

The Korean War was fought between South Korea and communist North Korea. It was the first major conflict of the Cold War as the Soviet Union supported North Korea and the United States supported South Korea. The war ended with little resolution and Vietnam remained divided. The countries are still divided today and North Korea is still ruled by a communist regime.

Dates: June 25, 1950 to July 27, 1953

Facts About the Korean War

- Although Korea was not strategic to the US, they entered the war because they did not want to appear soft on communism. They also wanted to protect Japan, which they did consider strategic.
- The situation today in Korea is similar to what it was 50+ years ago after the war. Little has changed.
- It is estimated that around 2.5 million people were killed or wounded during the war. Around 40,000 US soldiers died in the war. The civilian casualties were especially high with estimates of around 2 million civilians killed.
- It is thought that President Truman strongly considered using nuclear weapons during the war.

1. Who was the Korean War fought between?
2. What side did the Soviet Union support?
3. What side did United States support?
4. What type of government did the South believe in?
5. What type of government did the North believe in?
6. How did the war end?

Vietnam War

Dates: November 1, 1955 - April 30, 1975

The Vietnam War was fought between communist North Vietnam and the government of Southern Vietnam. The North was supported by communist countries such as the People's Republic of China and the Soviet Union. The South was supported by anti-communist countries, primarily the United States.

The United States lost the Vietnam War. It lasted for twenty years, something the US never expected when it joined in the fight. Not only did the US lose the war and the country of Vietnam to the communists, the US lost prestige in the eyes of the world

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The **domino theory** was a Cold War policy that suggested a communist government in one nation would quickly lead to communist takeovers in neighboring states, each falling like a perfectly aligned row of dominos.

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7. Who was the Vietnam War fought between?
8. What side did the Soviet Union support?
9. What side did United States support?
10. What type of government did the South believe in?
11. What type of government did the North believe in?
12. How did the war end?
13. Define **DOMINO THEORY**: