**The widening of the Cold War c.1949-55**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Topic | I can explain… | ☺ | ree Neutral Face Cliparts, Download Free Clip Art, Free Clip Art ... | ☹ |
| **Section 2: The Widening of the Cold War, 1949-1955** | | | | |
| US containment in action in Asia | | | | |
|  | * The reconstruction of post-war Japan |  |  |  |
|  | * US-Japanese relations |  |  |  |
|  | * The USA’s support for Jiang Jieshi and policy towards China and Taiwan |  |  |  |
|  | * NSC-68 |  |  |  |
| The Korean War, 1950-53 | | | | |
|  | * Causes of the Korean War |  |  |  |
|  | * The USSR and China’s support for North Korea |  |  |  |
|  | * Military involvement |  |  |  |
|  | * The settlement |  |  |  |
|  | * The impact of the Korean War |  |  |  |
| Increasing Cold War tensions | | | | |
|  | * McCarthyism in the USA |  |  |  |
|  | * The influence of McCarthyism on Britain and Europe |  |  |  |
|  | * US dominance in the United Nations |  |  |  |
|  | * The isolation of China |  |  |  |
| Alliances and shifts | | | | |
|  | * The expansion of alliance systems |  |  |  |
|  | * Eisenhower, Dulles and ‘brinkmanship’ |  |  |  |
|  | * The domino theory and the US attitude to French Indochina |  |  |  |
|  | * The Geneva Conference, July 1954 |  |  |  |

**Below is a simplified version of the AQA mark scheme to help you understand the marking criteria for the 25-mark question.**

|  |
| --- |
| **Section B: 25-mark essays** |
| Very good understanding of the question and of the issues/concepts. Range of knowledge, with specific and precise supporting information. Fully analytical, balanced answer. Good organisation, structured effectively. Well substantiated judgment [21-25 marks] |
| Good understanding of the question and of the issues/concepts. Range of knowledge, with specific and precise supporting information. Analytical, balanced answer. Good organisation, structured effectively. Some judgment [16-20 marks] |
| Reasonable understanding of the question with some awareness of the issues/concepts. Range of knowledge, may contain imprecise supporting information. Answer links to the question and contains some balance. Structured effectively. Partial judgement. [11-15 marks] |
| Partial understanding of the question, with some awareness of the issues/concepts (may contain generalisations). Some knowledge, with limited scope. Answer contains limited balance, or is descriptive. There is some structure. Undeveloped judgement. [6-10 marks] |
| Limited understanding of the question, with inaccurate or irrelevant understanding of issues/concepts. Limited knowledge. Answer is vague or too general. Structure is limited. Unsupported judgement. |

**Apply your knowledge**

**1. US support for Japan**

a. Why did the USA support an increase in the Japanese military between 1950 and 1954? Write down as many reasons as you can think of in the table below. One has been done for you.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Reason** | **Further explanation** |
| Soviet detonation of an atom bomb | Made the Soviet threat of expansion greater; the USA hoped that a larger military force in Japan would help to counteract this threat |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

b. Do you think any of these reasons were more significant than others? Explain your reasoning.

**2. Assess the validity of this view**

**‘US policies in Asia in 1949-53 failed badly’. Assess the validity of this view.**

a. Consider what ‘failed badly’ means in this context. What criteria would have determined the success of US policies in Asia in 1949-50?

b. Complete the table below

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| US policy | Outcome in Asia between 1949-50 | How successful? |
| Containment |  |  |
| Support for South Korea |  |  |
| The strengthening of Japan as an ally |  |  |
| The defensive perimeter strategy |  |  |

c. Using your answers to **a** and **b** to help you, write a complete answer to the essay question.

**3. Timeline**

Create two parallel timelines, one for events and developments in Asia and another for events and developments in Europe. These will help you to compare across continents and see how the Cold War played out on a global scale.

Use a variety of colours to highlight similar events or developments.

You can add these timelines as you continue to work through your revision.

**4. The Korean War**

For each of the following, write a short paragraph to explain how the Korean War fits into the Cold War from the perspective of:

1. The Chinese
2. The Soviets
3. The Americans

**5. The Korean War - causes**

Create a mind map to detail the causes of the Korean War

**6. How far?**

**How far did the Korean War demonstrate the success of the American policy of containment?**

a. Complete the table below, listing the arguments that could be used to support or challenge the success of the policy of containment in Korea.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Evidence that might be used to suggest success |  |
| Evidence that might be used to suggest failure |  |

**7. Superpower Cold War policies**

* Using an A3 sheet of paper, create a large spider diagram with the title ‘Superpower Cold War policies’ in the middle.
* Around the middle of the spider diagram, list American and Soviet Cold War policies.
* Around the edges of the spider diagram, in a different colour, list the various events, developments and responses that relate to each policy (see the example below).
* Continue to add to the diagram as you progress with your revision.

**8. Assess the validity of this view**

**‘American foreign policy towards communist China failed in every respect in the years 1949 to 1954.’ Assess the validity of this view.**

a. Complete the following table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| American actions and foreign policies that had an effect on China in the years 1949 to 1954 | Reasons these policies could be viewed as a success and/or a failure |
|  |  |

b. Write an introduction setting out your arguments in response to the exam question.

**9. NSC-68**

a. Write a summary of the main contributions that NSC-68 made to US foreign policy.

b. Copy and complete the table below to consider how foreign policy changed after the Korean War.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| US foreign policy that was still based on NSC-68 after the Korean War | US foreign policy that had changed since NSC-68 as a result of the Korean War |
|  |  |

**10. Key Cold War developments 1949-55**

a. Construct a timeline of key Cold War events and developments in Europe between 1949 and 1955.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Western events and developments** |  | **Soviet events and developments** |
| April: creation of NATO | 1949 |  |
|  | 1950 |  |
|  | 1951 |  |
|  | 1952 |  |
|  | 1953 |  |
|  | 1954 |  |
|  | 1955 | May: creation of the Warsaw Pact |

**11. The USSR’s relationships**

Complete the following spider diagram to summarise the USSR’s relationship with other powers between 1945 and 1955.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Europe** | **Asia**   * Alliance with the People’s Republic of China |
| **The USA** | **The United Nations**   * Had few allies in the pro-Western/pro-Capitalist UN |

**12. New Look**

Did Eisenhower’s foreign policy mark a shift from Truman? Fill in the table below.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Eisenhower’s FP marked a change** | **Eisenhower’s FP demonstrates continuity** |
|  |  |

**13. Rate the factors**

Below if a sample exam question and a range of factors that could be used in its answer. Read the question, study the factors and, using three coloured pens, put a red, amber or green star next to the factors to show:

* Red – factors that have no relevance to the question
* Amber – factors that have some significance to the question
* Green – factors that are directly relevant to the question

**“The main reason Kennedy increased US involvement in Vietnam was due to his desire to prove himself to the American public.” Assess the validity of this view.**

* Cuba and Laos
* Pressures from advisers
* Containment and the domino theory
* Kennedy’s anti-communism
* Kennedy’s election pledges
* Truman ‘lost’ China
* Kennedy’s Catholicism
* McCarthy was a family friend

**Bibliography**

Activity 5: Russell Quinlan, *The Cold War: Superpower tensions and rivalries: Study and Revision Guide* (London 2018) p.73

Activity 13: Melanie Vance, *AQA AS/A-level History: The Cold War c.1945-1991* (London, 2017) p.47

Activities 1-4, 6-10: Alexis Mamaux, *The Cold War c1945-1991: Revision Guide* (Oxford, 2018) pp.30-44

**Video playlist:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e8G2g5_eayM&list=PLvlCXOmJ2C9CoXTpGoYQnDGSxMEd8rtmY>