9.1 Contextualizing Cold War and Contemporary Europe

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 15 marks**

KEY WORDS Cold War • iron curtain • decolonization • integration • bloc • globalization

Objective

Build the skills to set the **context** for Unit 9 (1945 to the present): the Cold War, rebuilding, the end of empires, European integration, the fall of communism and globalization.

You must be able to:

- describe the main developments in Europe since 1945
- explain how the Cold War divided Europe
- write context for a question about contemporary Europe

1 Key knowledge and worked examples

The broad picture

development	what was true
Cold War (1947–91)	Europe divided between the US-led West and the Soviet-led East
rebuilding	US aid in the West; welfare states and fast growth in the 1950s–60s
decolonization	European empires in Asia and Africa ended, mostly between 1947 and 1975
integration	from the coal and steel community (1951) to the European Union (1993)
end of communism	revolutions of 1989; the USSR broke up (1991)
new issues	migration, globalization, climate change, nationalism and the place of religion

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Answer shapes: a context sentence names a broad development, gives one example and links it to the topic.

2 Practice

2.1 Identify two developments in Europe after 1945. [2]



2.2 Explain why Europe was divided after 1945. [3]



2.3 Explain one reason European states moved toward integration. [3]



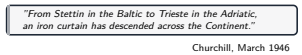
3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Read the source.

> "From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic, an iron curtain has descended across the Continent."

Winston Churchill, speech at Fulton, Missouri, March 1946

(a) Identify the two cities Churchill names. [1]



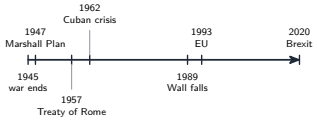
(b) Explain what Churchill meant by an "iron curtain". [1]

(c) Explain one reason Churchill gave this speech in the USA. [1]

3.2 The timeline shows key events since 1945.

(a) Identify the year the Berlin Wall fell. [1]

(b) Write a context paragraph for the question: "Why did Europe change so much after 1945?" [3]



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Solutions

Marking: **M1** a correct method, **A1** the correct answer, **B1** an independent mark.

Each answer shows the steps, then the **result**.

2.1

any two, for example: the Cold War division of Europe; European integration; decolonization; welfare states; the fall of communism in 1989; globalization

2.2

Soviet armies occupied eastern Europe in 1945, and Stalin set up communist governments there; the USA and Britain wanted free elections and market economies; so by 1949 Europe was split into a Western bloc and a Soviet bloc, with Germany divided between them

2.3

leaders wanted to make another war between France and Germany impossible; joint control of coal and steel tied their war industries together; and a common market helped their economies grow and made Western Europe stronger in the Cold War

3.1

(a) Stettin and Trieste

(b) a line dividing Soviet-controlled eastern Europe from the West, which closed off people and information

(c) he wanted the USA to stay involved in Europe and resist Soviet expansion with Britain

3.2

(a) 1989

(b) a broad development, for example: the Cold War divided Europe and brought US aid to the West; a second, for example: empires ended and European states joined together in the EEC; linked: so Europe lost its world power but rebuilt its economy and moved toward integration, which the end of communism in 1989 widened

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