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

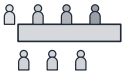
2.1 Identify two developments in Europe after 1945. [2]



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



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



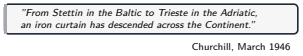
3 Exam-style questions

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]



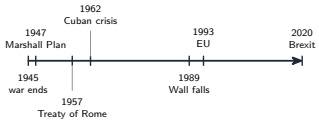
(b) Explain what Churchill meant by an "iron curtain". [1]

(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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