

Exercise walk-through

Contextualizing Cold War and Contemporary Europe ■ 9.1

eXercise

You must be able to

- state the three stages of the first thread
- explain what 'polarised' precisely means
- state what the knowledge thread had not resolved
- name the conditions in place in 1945

Method — Three stages

Total war and political instability gave way to a **polarised state order** during the Cold War and eventually to **efforts at transnational union**. Unit 8 delivered the first stage; unit 9 delivers the other two.

Method — 'Polarised'

Two poles, with European states distributed between them. It is what remains when a three-way ideological contest loses a party.

Method — Unresolved knowledge

Movements continued to question objective knowledge, reason's ability to arrive at truth, and religion's role in moral standards. 9.14 names existentialism and postmodernism, not a new certainty.

Method — Conditions in 1945

A wartime alliance with deep-seated tensions, no shared conception of the state, and a continent whose economies had to be rebuilt.

Practice 2.1 ■ 3 marks

State the three stages of the first thread.

Solution 2.1

Method: Three stages

Worked steps

total war and political instability **B1**; a polarised state order during the Cold War **B1**; efforts at transnational union **B1**.

Practice 2.2 ■ 2 marks

Explain what “polarised” means and how the order became so.

Solution 2.2

Method: Three stages

Worked steps

two poles with states distributed between them **B1**; it is what remains when a three-way contest loses a party **B1**.

Practice 2.3 ■ 1 mark

The knowledge thread ends unresolved.

- (a) State what 9.14 names instead of a new certainty.
- (b) State what this shows about the course's shape.

Solution 2.3

Method: Unresolved knowledge

Worked steps

(a) existentialism and postmodernism **B1**. (b) the course ends in open questions rather than a conclusion **B1**.

Exam-style 3.1 ■ 1 mark

The polarised order emerged because a three-way contest

A gained a party

B lost a party

C ended entirely

D was never contested

Solution 3.1

A gained a party

B lost a party 

C ended entirely

D was never contested

Worked steps

B. fascism's defeat left two poles.

Exam-style 3.2 ■ 1 mark

After the polarised order the CED names

- A** a return to 1914
- B** efforts at transnational union
- C** a new empire
- D** the Concert of Europe

Solution 3.2

Method: Three stages

- A a return to 1914
- B efforts at transnational union 
- C a new empire
- D the Concert of Europe

Worked steps

B. transnational union is the third stage.

Exam-style 3.3 ■ 1 mark

A wartime alliance dissolves within two years of victory.

- (a) State the CED's word for the tensions involved.
- (b) Explain why they were older than the peace.

Solution 3.3

Method: Conditions in 1945

Worked steps

(a) deep-seated **B1**. (b) 8.7 recorded distrust between the democracies and the Soviet Union before the war **B1**, so the alliance had suppressed rather than resolved the difference **B1**.