

9.4 Two Super Powers Emerge

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 14 marks**

KEY WORDS central planning 中央计划 • two blocs 两个阵营 • nato 北约 • iron curtain 铁幕
• european union 欧盟

Objective

Build the skills to compare the **two blocs** 两个阵营.

You must be able to:

- state the CED’s different words for the two relationships
- name each bloc’s institutions
- state the three features and three costs of the bloc economic model
- explain what ‘oscillated’ describes

1 Worked examples

Study these first. Each one shows the method for a task used later.

■ Two words

The United States exerted a strong military, political and economic **influence** in Western Europe; countries east of the Iron Curtain came under the **domination** of the Soviet Union. The difference in words is the difference in the claim.

■ Institutions

West: world monetary and trade systems and geopolitical alliances including NATO. East: the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance and the Warsaw Pact — an economic body and a military pact on each side.

■ The model and its costs

Central planning, extensive social welfare and specialised production among bloc members; and with it restriction of individual rights and freedoms, suppression of dissent and constraint of emigration.

■ ‘Oscillated’

Eastern European nations were bound by relationships with the Soviet Union that **oscillated between repression and limited reform** until the collapse — a pattern with no single direction.

2 Practice

2.1 State the CED’s word for each relationship and what the difference means. [2]

2.2 Name the three features of the bloc economic model. [3]

2.3 The model brought three political costs.

(a) Name them. [3]

(b) State the CED’s word for the relationship’s pattern. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 The eastern bloc’s economic body was [1]

- **A** NATO
- **B** COMECON
- **C** the Warsaw Pact
- **D** the European Union

3.2 “Oscillated” describes [1]

- **A** a steady trend
- **B** movement back and forth with no single direction
- **C** a single event
- **D** a treaty

3.3 The institutional shapes of the two blocs match while the relationships do not.

(a) State the shared shape. [1]

(b) Explain what the comparison should therefore emphasise. [2]

Solutions

2.1 influence in the West, domination in the East; the difference in words is the difference in the claim about the relationship.

2.2 central planning; extensive social welfare; specialised production among bloc members.

2.3 (a) restriction of individual rights and freedoms; suppression of dissent; constraint of emigration. (b) oscillated.

3.1 B. COMECON was the economic body.

3.2 B. back and forth, over decades.

3.3 (a) an economic body and a military pact on each side. (b) the relationships inside the institutions, since the shapes are the same and the CED's words for them are not.