

Exercise walk-through

8.2

The Cold War from 1945 to 1980

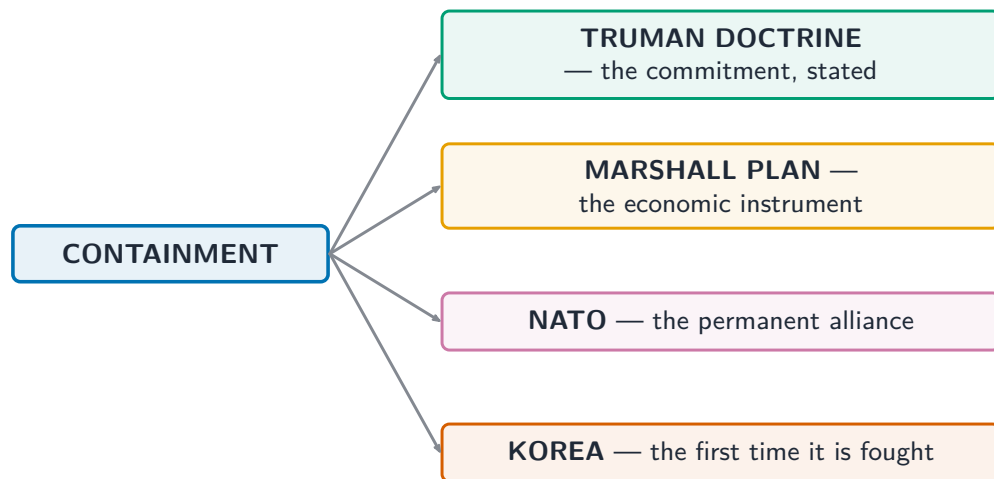
AP United States History

The Cold War, 1945 to 1980

Period 8 runs from 1945 to 1980. Two arguments dominate it: how far the United States should go to contain communism abroad, and how far the federal government should go to guarantee rights and welfare at home. They are connected, because both are arguments about the reach of national power.

American policy settled on **containment** – preventing the spread of communism rather than attempting to remove it – expressed through the **Truman Doctrine**, the **Marshall Plan**, and **NATO**.

Containment, and its instruments



The postwar economy grew strongly.

Federal spending on defence, highways, and the **GI Bill** supported home ownership and higher education, and the population moved to the **suburbs** and to the **Sun Belt**.

What containment committed the country to

the Korean War

a limited war fought under a UN mandate, and never formally ended

a permanent military

a standing peacetime establishment, unprecedented in American history

alliances

NATO and a network of treaties requiring a response anywhere

the arms race

nuclear stockpiles, and a doctrine of deterrence

unanticipated

these were **commitments the country had not expected** when containment was formulated

Containment was a strategy for Europe that was applied globally. The gap between the doctrine and its reach is the standard essay argument.

Exercises 2.1-2.2

2.1 Name the three aims of U.S. Cold War policy.

[3]

2.2 Name the three elements of postwar foreign policy.

[3]

Exercises 2.1-2.2

2.1 Name the three aims of U.S. Cold War policy. [3]

2.1

- limit the growth of Communist military power and ideological influence; create a free-market global economy; build an international security system
-

2.2 Name the three elements of postwar foreign policy. [3]

2.2

- collective security; international aid; economic institutions bolstering non-Communist nations

Exercise 2.3 (a)

2.3 The Cold War had a rhythm.

(a) State it.

[2]

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2.3 The Cold War had a rhythm.

(a) State it.

[2]

(a)

- it fluctuated between direct and indirect military confrontation and periods of mutual coexistence or détente

Exercise 2.3 (b)

2.3 The Cold War had a rhythm.

(b) State the CED's description of the Soviet Union.

[1]

Exercise 2.3 (b)

2.3 The Cold War had a rhythm.

(b) State the CED's description of the Soviet Union.

[1]

(b)

- the authoritarian Soviet Union

Exercises 3.1-3.2

3.1 The Cold War fluctuated between confrontation and

[1]

☐

A periods of mutual coexistence

B total war

C formal alliance

D disarmament treaties only

3.2 A major military engagement of containment named in 8.2 is

[1]

☐

A Korea

B Vietnam

C Cuba

D Afghanistan

Exercises 3.1-3.2

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3.1 A

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A Korea

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3.2 A

- Korea

Exercise 3.3 (a)

3.3 A rivalry alternates between confrontation and coexistence for thirty years.

(a) State what this rules out.

[1]

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3.3 A rivalry alternates between confrontation and coexistence for thirty years.

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[1]

(a)

- describing the whole period as one continuous state

Exercise 3.3 (b)

3.3 A rivalry alternates between confrontation and coexistence for thirty years.

(b) Explain what an answer must therefore specify.

[2]

Exercise 3.3 (b)

3.3 A rivalry alternates between confrontation and coexistence for thirty years.

(b) Explain what an answer must therefore specify.

[2]

(b)

- which phase it is discussing, since policy and public opinion differed between confrontation and détente