

Past-paper walk-through

Contextualizing Period 8 ■ 8.1

eXercise

Questions in this set

- 2025 Set 2 Q1

Reading the mark scheme

- **B1** a mark that stands on its own – the point is either made or not.
- **M1** a *method* mark: the right approach, even if the number is wrong.
- **A1** an *answer* mark, and it usually needs its M mark first.
- **C1** a working mark on the way to the answer.
- **//** separates answers the examiner accepts equally.
- **ecf** = error carried forward: a later part is marked on your own earlier answer.
- **owtte** = “or words to that effect” – the wording need not match.

Question 1

2025 Set 2 ■ Q1

It is presented here in a format optimized for teacher and student use in the classroom.

3 Source 1 “Conflict over economic issues was a critical cause of Soviet-American tensions [after the Second World War].... The key element of U.S. foreign policy after World War II was economic security, the reliance upon economic power to achieve strategic aims.... The Truman administration [responded during the Cold War] to what it saw as the long-term need of American business for an open worldwide economic environment. Washington officials recognized that foreign trade enhanced domestic prosperity and that U.S. corporations needed access to cheap overseas raw materials in order to remain competitive.... Rather than rely primarily upon private institutions, U.S. leaders were determined to make extensive use of governmental and multilateral agencies to reshape world commercial, monetary, and financial systems. America’s unrivalled economic power offered the most cost- effective means of securing political

Question 1

ends in the postwar period.” Source: Robert A. Pollard, historian, *Economic Security and the Origins of the Cold War, 1945– 1950*, published in 1985 Source 2 “[After the Second World War], leading American officials...worried mainly about the psychological appeal of [Soviet ideas] to frightened citizens of unstable countries.... In part because they worried about their security, the Soviets proceeded to oppress their eastern European neighbors and to threaten Western interests in the Mediterranean and Middle East.... [Americans] came to fear that the USSR was bent on even wider territorial expansion that would endanger the economic and political supremacy of the United States.... In these years it was the Soviet Union, more than the United States, whose behavior—especially in eastern Europe—seemed alarming in the world. Not just the United States but also other Western nations concluded that ‘appeasement’ would be disastrous. ‘Credibility’ required that they resist.” Source: James Patterson, historian, *Grand Expectations: The United States, 1945–1974*, published in 1996

Question 1

Respond to parts A, B, and C.

(a) Briefly describe one major difference between Pollard's and Patterson's historical interpretations of the origins of the Cold War.

(b) Briefly explain how one event or development from 1940 to 1960 not directly mentioned in the excerpts could be used to support Pollard's interpretation of the origins of the Cold War.

(c) Briefly explain how one event or development from 1940 to 1960 not directly mentioned in the excerpts could be used to support Patterson's interpretation of the origins of the Cold War.

Solution 1

(a)

Mark scheme

- Briefly describe one major difference between Pollard's and Patterson's historical interpretations of the origins of the Cold War. (1 point) — accept any: Pollard argues that the origins of the Cold War were primarily rooted in economic differences while Patterson argues that the actions of the Soviet Union brought on the Cold War.; Source 1 argues that it was the actions of the United States that initiated the Cold War while Source 2 argues that it was the fear of communism.

Solution 1

(b) Mark scheme

- Briefly explain how one event or development from 1940 to 1960 not directly mentioned in the excerpts could be used to support Pollard's interpretation of the origins of the Cold War. (1 point) — accept any: The United States attempted to create a free-market global economy, in the face of Communist ideology, and this supports Pollard's argument that economic concerns were a significant driver of the Cold War.; The United States began a campaign of economic sanctions against the Soviet Union in 1948, which supports Pollard's interpretation that the origins of the Cold War were primarily economic.; The United States international aid to noncommunist countries illustrates how the origins of the Cold War were primarily economic, which supports Pollard's interpretation.; The United States

Solution 1

creation of economic institutions to bolster non-Communist nations and prevent Soviet expansion supports Pollard's argument about the origins of the Cold War.; The United States used the Marshall Plan to connect European economies with the United States.

Solution 1

(c) Mark scheme

- Briefly explain how one event or development from 1940 to 1960 not directly mentioned in the excerpts could be used to support Patterson's interpretation of the origins of the Cold War. (1 point) — accept any: Patterson's argument is that concerns about the spread of communism contributed to the start of the Cold War, and the usage of controversial methods to expose suspected communists during the Second Red Scare supports this claim.; The focus of United States policymakers after 1945 on containing communism through the Truman Doctrine supports Patterson's argument that concerns about the spread of communism led to the start of the Cold War.; The United States justified intervening in Korea with the argument that it was preventing the territorial

Solution 1

expansion of communism, which supports Patterson's arguments about the United States' fears about communism's territorial expansion contributing to the Cold War.; The United States justified covert actions in countries to overthrow governments thought to be too close to the Soviet Union.