

8.1 Contextualizing Period 8

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 13 marks**

KEY WORDS cold war 冷战 • context 背景

Objective

Build the skills to write the **context** 背景 for 1945-1980.

You must be able to:

- state the CED’s three key concepts for the period
- state what the United States was responding to
- state the range of responses the new movements generated
- state what postwar changes affected

1 Worked examples

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

■ Three key concepts

KC-8.1: the United States responded to an uncertain and unstable postwar world by asserting and working to maintain a position of global leadership, **with far-reaching domestic and international consequences**. **KC-8.2:** new movements for civil rights and liberal efforts to expand the role of government **generated a range of political and cultural responses**. **KC-8.3:** postwar economic and demographic changes had far-reaching consequences for American society, politics and culture.

■ What it responded to

An uncertain and unstable postwar world. 7.14 left the United States the most powerful nation on Earth; KC-8.1 says the world it led was neither settled nor safe.

■ A range of responses

The CED does not say the movements succeeded or failed. It says they **generated a range of responses** — support, opposition and the conservative reaction of 8.14 are all inside that phrase.

■ Domestic and international

KC-8.1 insists the consequences ran both ways. The Cold War is a domestic subject as much as a foreign one, which is why 8.3’s Red Scare sits inside it.

2 Practice

2.1 State the CED’s three key concepts for the period. [3]

2.2 State what the United States was responding to. [2]

2.3 KC-8.2 avoids a verdict.

(a) State its phrase and what it covers. [2]

(b) State why the Cold War is a domestic subject. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 KC-8.1 says the consequences of global leadership were [1]

- **A** domestic and international
- **B** international only
- **C** domestic only
- **D** negligible

3.2 The postwar world is described as [1]

- **A** uncertain and unstable
- **B** settled
- **C** peaceful
- **D** unchanged

3.3 A phrase says movements “generated a range of responses”.

(a) State what it declines to do.

[1]

(b) Explain what it therefore includes.

[2]

Solutions

2.1 the U.S. asserting and maintaining global leadership with far-reaching domestic and international consequences; new civil rights movements and liberal efforts generating a range of political and cultural responses; postwar economic and demographic changes having far-reaching consequences.

2.2 an uncertain and unstable postwar world, which it had emerged from as the most powerful nation.

2.3 (a) “generated a range of political and cultural responses”, covering support, opposition and later conservative reaction. (b) the CED says the consequences of global leadership were domestic as well as international.

3.1 A. both.

3.2 A. uncertain and unstable.

3.3 (a) judge whether the movements succeeded. (b) responses of every kind — support, resistance and the political reaction that followed — all belong inside the period’s account.