

8.2 The Cold War from 1945 to 1980

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 14 marks

Objective

Build the skills to explain the **Cold War** 冷战.

You must be able to:

- name the three aims of U.S. Cold War policy
- name the three elements of postwar foreign policy
- state what the CED says about the war's rhythm
- state the CED's description of the Soviet Union

1 Worked examples

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

■ Three aims

Policymakers sought **to limit the growth of Communist military power and ideological influence, create a free-market global economy, and build an international security system**. A military aim, an economic aim and an institutional one.

■ Three elements

As postwar tensions dissolved the wartime alliance, the United States developed a foreign policy based on **collective security, international aid, and economic institutions that bolstered non-Communist nations**.

■ The rhythm

The Cold War fluctuated between periods of direct and indirect military confrontation and periods of mutual coexistence (or détente). Not a steady state—an alternation the CED names explicitly.

■ The Soviet Union

The CED calls it **the authoritarian Soviet Union**, and says containment answered **expansionist Communist ideology and Soviet repression**. Reproducing the characterisation is more accurate than naming the country alone.

2 Practice

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

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

2.3 The Cold War had a rhythm.

(a) State it. [2]

(b) State the CED's description of the Soviet Union. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

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

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

(a) State what this rules out. [1]

(b) Explain what an answer must therefore specify.

[2]

4 Go further

- work through the **8.2 The Cold War from 1945 to 1980** lesson on the **Learn** page;
- read the **Period 8: 1945-1980** section of the AP US History handout on the **Know** page.

Solutions

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

2.3 (a) it fluctuated between direct and indirect military confrontation and periods of mutual coexistence or détente. (b) the authoritarian Soviet Union.

3.1 A. mutual coexistence.

3.2 A. Korea.

3.3 (a) describing the whole period as one continuous state. (b) which phase it is discussing, since policy and public opinion differed between confrontation and détente.