

8.2 The Cold War from 1945 to 1980

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 14 marks

KEY WORDS cold war 冷战 • containment 遏制

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 | B |
| C | D |
- 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 | B |
| C | D |
- 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]
