

8.8 The Vietnam War

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 12 marks

KEY WORDS vietnam war 越南战争 • containment 遏制 • cold war 冷战

Objective

Build the skills to explain the **Vietnam War** 越南战争.

You must be able to:

- state what the war was a measure of
- state what decolonization in Asia produced
- state what Americans debated about the executive
- explain why containment produced a war in Vietnam

1 Worked examples

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

■ A measure of containment

Concerned by expansionist Communist ideology and Soviet repression, the United States sought to contain communism through a variety of measures, including major military engagements in Vietnam. The CED classes the war as an instrument of the policy in 8.2.

■ Asia

Postwar decolonization and the emergence of powerful nationalist movements in Asia led both sides in the Cold War to seek allies among new nations, many of which remained nonaligned.

■ Executive power

Americans debated the appropriate power of the executive branch in conducting foreign and military policy. A constitutional question raised by a war.

■ Why Vietnam

A nationalist movement in a decolonising country could be read as national self-determination or as communist expansion. Containment required a judgment about which it was, and the war followed from the judgment made.

2 Practice

2.1 State what the CED classes the Vietnam War as. [2]

2.2 State what decolonization in Asia produced. [2]

2.3 The war raised a constitutional question.

(a) State it. [2]

(b) Explain why containment produced a war in a decolonising country. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 The CED classes the Vietnam War among measures to [1]

- | | |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A** contain communism
 - B** expand trade
 - C** end decolonization
 - D** enforce détente

3.2 The constitutional debate concerned the power of [1]

- | | |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A** the executive branch in foreign and military policy
 - B** the judiciary
 - C** state governments
 - D** the Senate alone

3.3 A nationalist movement can be read two ways.

(a) State them. [1]

(b) Explain why the reading determines the policy. [2]
