

Exercise walk-through

8.1

Setting the Stage for the Cold War and Decolonization

AP World History: Modern

World War II changed the balance of power

Technological and economic gains

Wartime capabilities and the postwar distribution of power helped the United States and Soviet Union emerge as superpowers.

Imperial weakening

European wartime political and economic strain reduced the ability to maintain empires, while anti-imperialist and nationalist organisation challenged colonial rule.

A shared context can help explain two processes without making them identical or inevitable.

Your turn: distinguish political and economic factors

Original practice — attempt before the check

Identify one political and one economic factor encouraging African decolonization after 1945. Explain how one factor could weaken imperial control.

Check: connect a factor to its effect

Worked reasoning

Nationalist mobilisation challenged colonial authority. European economic strain after World War II reduced resources for maintaining empires. Reduced resources could make administration and coercion harder to sustain.

The political and economic factors could interact. Neither alone explains every colony's path.

Exercises 2.1-2.2

2.1 State the contrast the CED draws between the two postwar moments. [2]

2.2 State what shifted the global balance of power. [2]

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2.1

- after World War I hopes for greater self-government were largely unfulfilled; after World War II anti-imperialist sentiment contributed to the dissolution of empires

2.2 State what shifted the global balance of power. [2]

2.2

- technological and economic gains experienced during World War II by the victorious nations

Exercise 2.3 (a)

2.3 Two threads share a unit.

(a) State their shared cause.

[1]

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[1]

(a)

- the wartime shift in the global balance of power

Exercise 2.3 (b)

2.3 Two threads share a unit.

(b) Explain how each shaped the other.

[2]

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[2]

(b)

- new states were courted by both superpowers, and superpower rivalry was conducted partly through those states

Exercises 3.1-3.2

3.1 After World War I, hopes for self-government were

[1]

☐

A fully met

B largely unfulfilled

C never expressed

D abolished

3.2 The gains that shifted the balance of power were

[1]

☐

A technological and economic

B purely territorial

C religious

D demographic only

Exercises 3.1-3.2

3.1 After World War I, hopes for self-government were

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3.1 B

- the CED's own phrase

3.2 The gains that shifted the balance of power were

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3.2 A

- technological and economic

Exercise 3.3 (a)

3.3 A new state emerges into a world with two competing superpowers.

(a) State what this means for its choices.

[1]

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[1]

(a)

- its alignment becomes a question with external consequences

Exercise 3.3 (b)

3.3 A new state emerges into a world with two competing superpowers.

(b) Explain why decolonisation and the Cold War cannot be separated.

[2]

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3.3 A new state emerges into a world with two competing superpowers.

(b) Explain why decolonisation and the Cold War cannot be separated. [2]

(b)

- the two processes ran in the same years and in the same places, with each supplying the conditions the other acted in