

Past-paper walk-through

The Cold War ■ 8.2

eXercise

Questions in this set

- 2025 Set 2 Q2
- 2025 Set 2 Q4

Reading the mark scheme

- **B1** a mark that stands on its own – the point is either made or not.
- **M1** a *method* mark: the right approach, even if the number is wrong.
- **A1** an *answer* mark, and it usually needs its M mark first.
- **C1** a working mark on the way to the answer.
- **//** separates answers the examiner accepts equally.
- **ecf** = error carried forward: a later part is marked on your own earlier answer.
- **owtte** = “or words to that effect” – the wording need not match.

Question 2

2025 Set 2 ■ Q2

4 “White folk who want to help Africa must be prepared to work with Africans on the basis of complete racial equality. If the United States...is really worried about Communism taking root in Africa and wants to prevent such a disaster from taking place, [as a former communist] I can offer an assurance against it.¹ This assurance will not only prevent Communism, but endear the people of the great United States forever to the Africans. Instead of supporting the discredited system of colonialism by propping up the European regimes with military and financial aid, let American statesmen make a bold gesture to the African in the spirit of the anti-colonialist tradition of 1776. This gesture should take the form of an aid package for Africa similar to the Marshall Plan.”² Source: George Padmore, Afro-Caribbean intellectual, essay published while he lived in London, 1956 1: Padmore spent much of the 1920s and 1930s as a supporter of communism but became disillusioned with Soviet leader

Question 2

Joseph Stalin. 2: an initiative by the United States to provide aid to Western Europe after the end of the Second World War

Respond to parts A, B, and C.

- (a)** Identify one reason United States officials were concerned about communism as noted in the first paragraph of the passage.
- (b)** Describe the historical situation that resulted in the “system of colonialism” referred to by the author in the second paragraph of the passage.
- (c)** Explain one way the source reflects the political situation in Africa during the second half of the twentieth century.

Solution 2

(a) Mark scheme

- Identify one reason United States officials were concerned about communism as noted in the first paragraph of the passage. (1 point) — accept any: The Cold War struggle between pro- and anti-communist forces played out on a global scale, including the African continent.; United States officials were concerned that the Soviet Union would seek to spread its support for communism to the developing world.; United States officials may have been concerned that if one African country were to fall under the influence of the communist Soviet government, more African countries may follow suit.

Solution 2

(b) Mark scheme

- Describe the historical situation that resulted in the “system of colonialism” referred to by the author in the second paragraph of the passage. (1 point) — accept any: Beginning in the fifteenth century, European states began establishing trading post empires on the coasts of Africa to obtain slaves and sought-after trade goods.; In the nineteenth century, Great Britain, France, and Germany, and, to a lesser extent Portugal, Spain, and Italy, carved out and took over most of the territory of the African continent in the “Scramble for Africa.”; Economic and military rivalries between European powers as well as resistance and/or accommodation from African rulers and states shaped the process of European

Solution 2

colonization.; In a small number of African territories, European migration resulted in the establishment of settler colonies.

Solution 2

(c) Mark scheme

- Explain one way the source reflects the political situation in Africa during the second half of the twentieth century. (1 point) — accept any: The source's reference to the impending threat of communism becoming established in Africa reflects the political situation in Africa during the Cold War as the United States and Soviet Union were jostling for influence.; The author's reference to the "discredited system of Colonialism" by Europeans shows the ongoing struggle of many African nations to liberate themselves from imperialism.; The author's reference to "an aid package for Africa similar to the Marshall Plan" associates the continent's struggle to rebuild during decolonization with the rebuilding of Europe after the Second World War.

Question 4

2025 Set 2 ■ Q4

Respond to parts A, B, and C.

- (a)** Identify one technological development in communication or transportation in the twentieth century.
- (b)** Explain one way nuclear technologies affected international relations in the second half of the twentieth century.
- (c)** Explain one way the spread of new technologies contributed to increased economic activity in the twentieth century.

Solution 4

(a) Mark scheme

- Identify one technological development in communication or transportation in the twentieth century. (1 point) — accept any: The development of the internet was a major development in communication.; During the twentieth century, one important technological development was the airplane.; The development of cellular communications was a life-changing development. Scoring Note: Some technologies that originated in the late nineteenth century but were further developed, commercialized, and/or became widespread in the early twentieth century can be credited toward Part A. Examples include the radio and the automobile.

Solution 4

(b) Mark scheme

- Explain one way nuclear technologies affected international relations in the second half of the twentieth century. (1 point) — accept any: The invention of nuclear weapons complicated international relations as some countries sought [and sometimes acquired] nuclear weapons, which resulted in international efforts to limit proliferation.; The threat of nuclear war kept the major superpowers at peace because they both believed in the MAD doctrine and did everything possible to avoid direct war between themselves.; The practical impossibility of a direct nuclear war between the United States and the Soviet Union led the two superpowers to engage in proxy wars around the world instead.

Solution 4

(c) Mark scheme

- Explain one way the spread of new technologies contributed to increased economic activity in the twentieth century. (1 point) — accept any: Widespread use of fossil fuels enabled the growth of the transoceanic cargo shipping industry, which increased international trade and stimulated economic growth.; Nuclear-generated power was used to operate new factories and production facilities, increasing the capacity of electrical grids and leading to greater economic productivity.; Fossil fuels helped the airline industry grow as more people traveled for work and leisure, increasing the revenues of hospitality and tourism industries.