

8.2 The Cold War

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 12 marks

Objective

Build the skills to explain the **Cold War** 冷战 as an ideological struggle.

You must be able to:

- state the CED's descriptions of the two superpowers
- state what the struggle was between
- state what the Non-Aligned Movement did
- explain why 'across the globe' matters

1 Worked examples

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

■ Two descriptions

The democracy of the United States and the authoritarian communist Soviet Union emerged as superpowers. The CED characterises each state, and reproducing both is more accurate than naming the countries alone.

■ The struggle

It led to ideological conflict and a power struggle between capitalism and communism across the globe. Two things at once: a contest of ideas and a contest for power.

■ Non-Aligned Movement

Groups and individuals, including the Non-Aligned Movement, opposed and promoted alternatives to the existing economic, political and social orders. A third position existed and the CED names it.

■ 'Across the globe'

The conflict was not confined to Europe or to the two states. That is why unit 8 is about decolonisation as well: the struggle was carried out in the newly independent world.

2 Practice

2.1 State the CED's description of each superpower. [2]

2.2 State the two things the struggle involved. [2]

2.3 A third position existed.

(a) Name it and state what it did. [2]

(b) State why "across the globe" matters. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 The CED describes the Soviet Union as [1]

- **A** a democracy
- **B** authoritarian and communist
- **C** a monarchy
- **D** non-aligned

3.2 The Non-Aligned Movement [1]

- **A** joined NATO
- **B** promoted alternatives to the existing orders
- **C** supported the Warsaw Pact
- **D** did not exist

3.3 A student presents the Cold War as a two-sided contest with no other participants.

(a) State what is missing. [1]

(b) Explain why it matters.

[2]

4 Go further

- work through the **8.2 The Cold War** lesson on the **Learn** page;
- read the **Cold War and Decolonization** section of the AP World History handout on the **Know** page.

Solutions

2.1 the democracy of the United States; the authoritarian communist Soviet Union.

2.2 ideological conflict; a power struggle between capitalism and communism.

2.3 (a) the Non-Aligned Movement, which opposed and promoted alternatives to the existing economic, political and social orders. (b) the conflict was global rather than confined to the two states or to Europe.

3.1 B. the CED's own characterisation.

3.2 B. alternatives to the existing orders.

3.3 (a) the Non-Aligned Movement and other alternatives. (b) many states declined both blocs, so a two-sided account misdescribes the choices actually available.