Exercise walk-through

2.4
Paper 2: the Cold War, origins and crises, 1945–1962

International Baccalaureate · IB Diploma · History · SL

World history topics

- plan and write a Paper 2 essay with a **thesis**, argued paragraphs, a **counter-argument** and a **judgement**;
- explain how authoritarian states emerged, consolidated power and ruled, using Germany and Cuba;
- explain the long-term, short-term and trigger causes of the First World War and its effects;
- explain the origins, crises and end of the Cold War and how historians disagree about it.

The Cold War (1945–1991)

- **Origins** : different ideas (capitalism and communism), Soviet control of Eastern Europe after 1945, and US policies such as the Truman Doctrine (1947) and the Marshall Plan, which gave about US$13 billion to rebuild Western Europe.
- **Crises**: the Berlin Blockade (1948–49), the Korean War (1950–53), the Berlin Wall (1961) and the Cuban Missile Crisis (October 1962), when the world came close to nuclear war for 13 days.

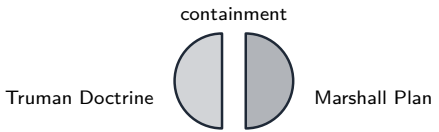
Key terms (2)

- **Détente**: a period of reduced tension between the USA and the USSR in the 1970s.
- **Orthodox view**: in Cold War history, the view that Soviet expansion caused the Cold War.
- **Revisionist view**: the view that US economic interests caused the Cold War.
- **Post-revisionist view**: the view that fear and misunderstanding on both sides caused the Cold War.

Exercises 2.1·2.2

2.1 Define a **proxy war**, and give **one** example from the Cold War. [2]

2.2 President Truman called the Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan "two halves of the same walnut". Explain what he meant. [3]



Exercises 2.1·2.2

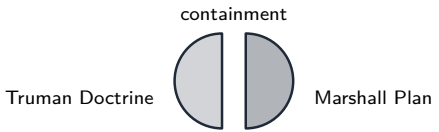
2.1 Define a **proxy war**, and give **one** example from the Cold War. [2]

2.1

a war in which the superpowers support opposite sides instead of fighting each other directly; e.g. the Korean War (1950–53) / the Vietnam War / the Soviet war in Afghanistan

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2.2

the Truman Doctrine (1947) promised political and military support to countries resisting communism; the Marshall Plan gave economic aid (about US$13 billion) so that poverty would not make communism attractive; both aimed at the same goal: containment of Soviet influence in Europe

Exercises 2.3·2.4

2.3 Explain **two** reasons why Stalin began the Berlin Blockade in June 1948. [4]

2.4 Compare the **orthodox**, **revisionist** and **post-revisionist** views on the origins of the Cold War, and explain **one** reason why historians' views changed over time. [6]

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any two, explained: the Western powers introduced a new currency, the Deutschmark, in their zones, which Stalin saw as a step to a separate West German state; the Western zones were being joined, threatening Soviet influence over Germany; Stalin wanted to force the West out of Berlin, which lay deep inside the Soviet zone; Soviet fear of a strong, rebuilt Germany allied to the US

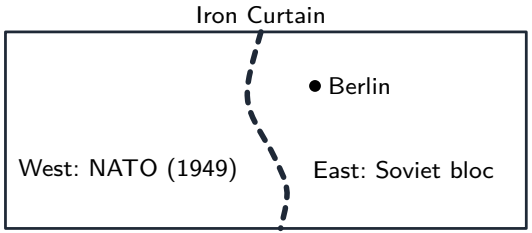
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2.4

orthodox: Soviet expansion in Eastern Europe caused the Cold War; the US only responded; revisionist: US economic aims, the Marshall Plan and the atomic bomb threatened the USSR; post-revisionist: fear and misunderstanding on both sides; shared responsibility; comparison: the views differ on who started it, but all see Europe after 1945 as the centre; reason for change: new events, e.g. the Vietnam War made some historians critical of US policy; new sources, e.g. Soviet archives opened after 1991

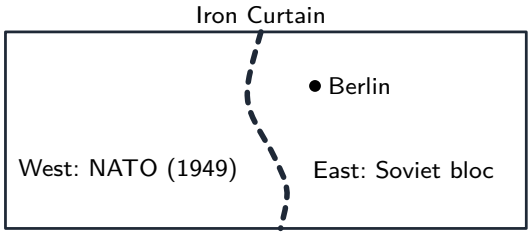
Exercise 3.1

3.1 *(Paper 2 style.)* Evaluate the reasons for the outbreak of the Cold War, 1945–1949. [15]



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3.1

Mark with the markbands: [13-15] clearly focused on the question, accurate and relevant knowledge used as evidence, well-developed critical analysis, different perspectives evaluated, a reasoned conclusion; [10-12] focused, mostly accurate knowledge, analysis with some evaluation; [7-9] some focus, relevant knowledge, mostly narrative or description with limited analysis; [4-6] little focus, limited knowledge, mostly narrative; [1-3] little understanding of the question. Points that may be included: ideology: capitalism against

Full solution on next slide

Full solution 3.1

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