



EDX.CW2 Superpower Relations and the Cold War, 1941-91: Growing Rivalry and the Berlin Blockade, 1945-58

EDEXCEL 1HI0 · Calculators not allowed · about 65 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Answer ALL questions. Write in full sentences for Questions 15, 16 and 17. You are advised to spend about 65 minutes on this pack.

- 1** Name the American diplomat in Moscow who sent the 'Long Telegram' to Washington in February 1946, arguing that the USSR was inherently expansionist and should be firmly contained.

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

- 2** Give the year and location of Winston Churchill's 'Iron Curtain' speech, which warned that the USSR was dividing Europe.

(Total for Question 2 is 2 marks)

- 3** Give the year in which President Truman announced the Truman Doctrine.

(Total for Question 3 is 1 mark)

- 4** State what the Truman Doctrine promised, and give the two countries it initially provided aid to.

(Total for Question 4 is 2 marks)

- 5** Give the year in which the Marshall Plan for European economic recovery was announced.

(Total for Question 5 is 1 mark)

6 State how Stalin responded when the USSR and Eastern European states were offered Marshall Aid.

(Total for Question 6 is 2 marks)

7 Name the organisation the USSR set up in September 1947 to coordinate communist parties across Europe, partly in response to the Marshall Plan.

(Total for Question 7 is 1 mark)

8 Give the year and month in which the Berlin Blockade began.

(Total for Question 8 is 2 marks)

9 State the event that triggered Stalin's decision to blockade the land, rail and canal routes into West Berlin.

(Total for Question 9 is 2 marks)

10 Name the operation by which the Western Allies supplied West Berlin with food, fuel and other necessities by air during the blockade.

(Total for Question 10 is 1 mark)

11 Give the month and year in which the Berlin Blockade was lifted.

(Total for Question 11 is 2 marks)

- 12** Name the military alliance formed by the USA, Canada and Western European states in April 1949, and the rival alliance the USSR formed with Eastern European states in May 1955.

(Total for Question 12 is 2 marks)

- 13** Explain two reasons why the United States introduced the Marshall Plan in 1947.

(Total for Question 13 is 4 marks)

- 14** Describe two features of the Berlin Airlift (1948-49).

(Total for Question 14 is 4 marks)

- 15** Explain two consequences of the Truman Doctrine (March 1947).

(Total for Question 15 is 8 marks)

- 16** Write a narrative account analysing how the crisis over Berlin developed between the introduction of a new currency in the Western zones of Germany in June 1948 and the lifting of the blockade in May 1949.

You may use the following information in your answer:

- the Soviet blockade of land, rail and canal routes into West Berlin
- the Berlin Airlift

You should also use information of your own.

(Total for Question 16 is 8 marks)

17 Explain two of the following:

- (a) the importance of the Marshall Plan (1947) for the division of Europe
- (b) the importance of the Berlin Blockade (1948-49) for the formal division of Germany
- (c) the importance of the formation of NATO (1949) for the growth of superpower rivalry

You must answer on TWO parts.

(Total for Question 17 is 16 marks)

Mark scheme · EDX.CW2 Superpower Relations and the Cold War, 1941-91: Growing Rivalry and the Berlin Blockade, 1945-58

Question 1

- **B1** George Kennan
- **Answer: George Kennan**

Question 2

- **B1** 1946
- **B1** Fulton, Missouri, USA
- **Answer: 1946, at Fulton, Missouri.**

Question 3

- **B1** 1947
- **Answer: 1947**

Question 4

- **B1** it promised US support (economic and military aid) to any 'free people' resisting attempted takeover by an armed minority or outside pressure, the policy that became known as containment
- **B1** Greece and Turkey
- **Answer: It promised US aid to countries resisting communist takeover, beginning with Greece and Turkey.**

Question 5

- **B1** 1947
- **Answer: 1947**

Question 6

- **B1** Stalin refused Marshall Aid for the USSR and forbade Eastern European states under Soviet influence from accepting it
- **B1** he viewed the offer as an attempt by the USA to use economic ties to draw Eastern Europe out of the Soviet sphere of influence, which he saw as a threat to Soviet security
- **Answer: Stalin refused Marshall Aid and forbade Eastern European states from accepting it, seeing it as a threat to Soviet influence in the region.**

Question 7

- **B1** Cominform (the Communist Information Bureau)
- **Answer: Cominform**

Question 8

- **B1** June
- **B1** 1948
- **Answer: June 1948**

Question 9

- **B1** the Western Allies introduced a new currency, the Deutsche Mark, into their occupation zones of Germany and West Berlin
- **B1** Stalin saw this as a step towards a separate, economically stronger West German state that would threaten Soviet security, and blockaded West Berlin's land routes in response
- **Answer: The Western Allies introduced the Deutsche Mark currency into their zones, which Stalin saw as a threatening step towards a separate West German state.**

Question 10

- **B1** the Berlin Airlift
- **Answer: The Berlin Airlift**

Question 11

- **B1** May
- **B1** 1949
- **Answer: May 1949**

Question 12

- **B1** the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), 1949
- **B1** the Warsaw Pact, 1955
- **Answer: NATO (1949) and the Warsaw Pact (1955).**

Question 13

- **B2** economic reasoning: much of Europe's economy remained devastated after the Second World War, and the USA believed that economic recovery would reduce the appeal of communism to struggling populations
- **B2** strategic reasoning: the USA wanted to support and strengthen countries in Western Europe as part of its wider containment policy, tying them economically to the USA and making them less likely to fall under Soviet influence
- **Answer: Economic recovery to reduce communism's appeal, and strategic support for Western Europe as part of containment.**

Question 14

- **B2** American and British aircraft flew a huge number of flights into West Berlin's airports over many months, carrying food, coal and other essential supplies to keep the city's population supplied
- **B2** the operation demonstrated Western resolve to support West Berlin without direct military confrontation with Soviet forces, avoiding the ground routes that Stalin had blockaded
- **Answer: Sustained, large-scale air supply flights to West Berlin, showing Western resolve without direct military confrontation with the USSR.**

Question 15

- **Level 1** (1-2): Identifies one or two general consequences of the Truman Doctrine, with little or no supporting detail or explanation.
- **Level 2** (3-4): Identifies and begins to explain one consequence, supported by accurate detail.
- **Level 3** (5-6): Explains two consequences of the Truman Doctrine, each supported by accurate and relevant detail.
- **Level 4** (7-8): Explains two consequences in a well-developed, logically structured way, supported throughout by precise and accurate detail, showing how the consequences connect.
- **Indicative content:**
 - It committed the USA to a long-term policy of containment, providing the justification for the wider Marshall Plan just months later, extending US involvement from military and financial aid for Greece and Turkey into a general economic strategy for Europe.
 - It hardened Soviet suspicion of American intentions, since Stalin viewed the Doctrine as evidence the USA intended to actively oppose Soviet influence wherever it could, contributing to the formation of Cominform in September 1947 as a coordinated communist response.
 - It marked a clear public break from the wartime cooperation of the Grand Alliance to an openly stated policy of resisting Soviet-linked expansion, making the division of Europe into two opposing camps more explicit than it had been immediately after 1945.
 - In the immediate term it provided \$400 million in military and economic aid to Greece and Turkey, helping the Greek government defeat a communist-led insurgency in the Greek Civil War and keeping Turkey outside Soviet influence.

Question 16

- **Level 1** (1-2): Simple, generalised statements about the Berlin crisis, with little organisation or sense of change over time.
- **Level 2** (3-4): Some accurate knowledge is deployed, with limited organisation into a sequence; the account may be more a list of events than a developed narrative.
- **Level 3** (5-6): The account is organised and mostly coherent, and shows some analysis of how the crisis developed, with accurate supporting detail.
- **Level 4** (7-8): The answer demonstrates a coherent, well-organised narrative that analyses connections between events across the crisis, showing clearly how the currency reform led to the blockade and how the Airlift led to its lifting, fully supported by precise and accurate detail.
- **Indicative content:**
 - In June 1948 the Western Allies introduced the Deutsche Mark into their occupation zones and West Berlin, a step Stalin saw as moving towards a permanent, economically strong, separate West German state that threatened Soviet security in the region.
 - Stalin responded by blockading all land, rail and canal routes into West Berlin from late June 1948, cutting off the Western sectors of the city, which lay deep inside the Soviet occupation zone, from overland Western supply.
 - Rather than force a way through by land, which risked direct military confrontation, the Western Allies chose to supply West Berlin by air, beginning the Berlin Airlift, which continued for almost a year and successfully kept the city's population supplied with food, coal and other necessities.
 - As the Airlift proved sustainable and Western resolve did not weaken, the blockade increasingly failed to achieve Stalin's aim and instead damaged Soviet international standing, leading Stalin to lift the blockade in May 1949.
 - The crisis had lasting consequences beyond its resolution: it hardened the division of Germany, contributing directly to the creation of separate West and East German states later in 1949, and to the formation of NATO in April 1949 while the blockade was still ongoing.

Question 17

- **Level 1** (1-4): For each part answered: identifies a general point of importance, with little or no supporting detail or explanation.
- **Level 2** (5-8): For each part answered: begins to explain importance, supported by some accurate detail.
- **Level 3** (9-12): For each part answered: explains importance clearly, supported by accurate and relevant detail, with some analysis of consequences.
- **Level 4** (13-16): For each part answered: explains importance in a well-developed, analytical way, fully supported by precise and accurate detail, showing clearly why the event mattered for the outcome named.
- **Indicative content:**
 - (a) The Marshall Plan was important for the division of Europe because Stalin's refusal to allow Eastern European states to accept it split the continent economically between American-aided Western states and a Soviet-controlled Eastern bloc, hardening a divide that continued through the establishment of Comecon in January 1949 as the Soviet economic alternative.
 - (b) The Berlin Blockade was important for the formal division of Germany because its failure demonstrated that the two sides could not cooperatively govern Germany, and shortly after the blockade ended, separate states were established: the Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany) in May 1949 and the German Democratic Republic (East Germany) in October 1949.
 - (c) NATO was important for the growth of superpower rivalry because it formally committed the USA and Western European states to mutual defence, converting an informal alignment into a binding military alliance, which the USSR viewed as directly threatening and answered with the Warsaw Pact once West Germany joined NATO in 1955.
 - A strong answer on any two parts explains a clear causal chain from the named development to the outcome specified, distinguishing between economic, political and military dimensions of rivalry and using precise dates rather than general description.