

Context and Causes: Cold War Discussion/Debate



Stage 1: Preparing

You will have 5-10 minutes to come up with a speech detailing why your cause or context of the Cold War was the *most* significant. Use specifics - just like you would in an essay.

Then, if you have time, your group will come up with questions/comments for the other groups that expose why their cause or context is not as significant as yours

Groups:

1. Strained Alliance during WWII: Stalingrad, Delay of Second Front
2. Atomic Bomb and the Beginning of the Nuclear Age
3. Military Occupation of Countries: Japan, Germany, Italy
4. End of War Conferences (WWII): Yalta and Potsdam
5. Capitalism vs. Communism - Ideological Clash (Competing Speeches too - Churchill vs. Stalin)

Stage 2: Presenting

Each group will present their argument. Choose someone who is shy or does not enjoy participating so that they can participate today with less stress.

Stage 3: Debate/Discuss

Now everyone will have a chance to challenge the other groups to prove that their cause or context is the most significant.

- Discussion should be lively but respectful.
- Try to follow the “three before me” ideal if you are a person who really enjoys debating or discussing.
- If you are in Mock Trial or Debate, remember that other students in the class may not be, so slow your talking!

Stage 4: Debrief

Before you leave, we will discuss as a class the impact of the historical context and causes that we discussed. You will complete the following SAQ as an exit ticket:

- A) Explain ONE historical development or process that led to the Cold War.
- B) Explain ONE historical event that led to the Cold War.
- C) Explain ANOTHER historical event OR development or process that led to the Cold War.