

# Unit 8: Cold War and Decolonization

C. 1900 - Present

## Topic 8.1 Setting the Stage for the Cold War and Decolonization

<p><b>Learning Objective</b></p> <p>Explain the historical context of the Cold War after 1945.</p>	<p><b>Historical Developments</b></p> <p>Hopes for greater self-government were largely unfulfilled following World War I; however, in the years following World War II, increasing <b>anti-imperialist sentiment</b> contributed to the dissolution of empires and the restructuring of states.</p> <p>Technological and economic gains experienced during World War II by the victorious nations shifted the global balance of power.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. What factors led to anti-imperialist sentiments following WWI and WWII?</li><li>2. What technological gains were experienced during WWII that allowed for a shift of the global balance of power?</li><li>3. Who emerged as global superpowers after WWI and WWII and why?</li></ol>
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## Topic 8.2 The Cold War

<p><b>Learning Objective</b></p> <p>Explain the causes and effects of the ideological struggle of the Cold War.</p>	<p><b>Historical Developments</b></p> <p>The global balance of economic and political power shifted during and after World War II and rapidly evolved into the <b>Cold War</b>. The democracy of the United States and the authoritarian communist Soviet Union emerged as superpowers, which led to ideological conflict and a power struggle between <b>capitalism</b> and <b>communism</b> across the globe.</p> <p>Groups and individuals, including the <b>Non-Aligned Movement</b>, opposed and promoted alternatives to the existing economic, political, and social orders.</p> <p>Non-Aligned Movement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sukarno in Indonesia</li><li>• Kwame Nkrumah in Ghana</li></ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>4. What factors caused the Cold War?</li><li>5. What were some of the lasting effects of the Cold War?</li><li>6. Why is the Cold War considered an “ideological struggle”? What ideologies were at odds?</li><li>7. Explain the <b>non-alignment movement</b>.</li><li>8. Why was <b>Kwame Nkrumah</b> in Ghana a part of the non-alignment movement?</li></ol>
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### Topic 8.3 Effects of the Cold War

#### Learning Objective

Compare the ways in which the United States and the Soviet Union sought to maintain influence over the course of the Cold War.

#### Historical Developments

The Cold War produced new military alliances, including **NATO** and the **Warsaw Pact**, and led to nuclear proliferation and **proxy wars** between and within postcolonial states in Latin America, Africa, and Asia.

Proxy wars:

9. Korean War
10. Angolan Civil War
11. Sandinista-Contras conflict in Nicaragua

12. How did the US maintain influence over the course of the Cold War?
13. How did the USSR maintain influence over the course of the Cold War?
14. How were these methods similar?
15. How were they different?
16. What is **NATO**?
17. What is the **Warsaw Pact**?
18. Explain the Korean War as a **proxy war**.

### Topic 8.4 Spread of Communism After 1900

#### Learning Objective

Explain the causes and consequences of China's adoption of communism.

#### Historical Developments

As a result of internal tension and Japanese aggression, Chinese communists seized power. These changes in China eventually led to communist revolution.

In communist China, the government controlled the national economy through the **Great Leap Forward**, often implementing repressive policies, with negative repercussions for the population.

19. What caused China to adopt communism in 1949?
20. What were the consequences of this shift to communism?
21. How did Japanese aggression contribute to the spread of communism in China?
22. Describe the **Great Leap Forward** (goals and outcome).

		<p>23. Describe China's <b>Cultural Revolution</b> (goals and outcome).</p>
<p><b>Learning Objective</b></p> <p>Explain the causes and effects of movements to redistribute economic resources.</p>	<p><b>Historical Developments</b></p> <p>Movements to <b>redistribute land</b> and resources developed within states in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, sometimes advocating communism or socialism.</p> <p>Land and resource redistribution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communist Revolution for Vietnamese independence</li> <li>• Mengistu Haile Mariam in Ethiopia</li> <li>• Land reform in Kerala and other states within India</li> <li>• White Revolution in Iran</li> </ul>	<p>24. What caused many states to redistribute land in this time period.</p> <p>25. What were the effects of <b>land redistribution</b>?</p> <p>26. Explain the Communist Revolution in Vietnam.</p> <p>27. What role did land redistribution play in this revolution and independence movement?</p> <p>28. Explain the <b>White Revolution</b> in Iran.</p> <p>29. What role did land redistribution play in this revolution and independence movement?</p>

**Topic 8.5 Decolonization After 1900**

<p><b>Learning Objective</b></p> <p>Compare the processes by which various peoples pursued independence after 1900</p>	<p><b>Historical Developments</b></p> <p>Nationalist leaders and parties in Asia and Africa sought varying degrees of autonomy within or independence from imperial rule.</p> <p>Nationalist leaders and parties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Indian National Congress</b></li> <li>• Ho Chi Minh in French Indochina (Vietnam)</li> <li>• Kwame Nkrumah in British Gold Coast (Ghana)</li> <li>• Gamal Abdel Nasser in Egypt</li> </ul>	<p>30. What factors motivated independence movements/decolonization after WWII?</p> <p>31. Explain the role of <b>nationalism</b> in decolonization movements of the mid-20th century.</p>
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After the end of World War II, some colonies negotiated their independence, while others achieved independence through armed struggle.

Negotiated independence:

- India from the British Empire
- The Gold Coast from the British Empire
- French West Africa

Independence through armed struggle:

- Algeria from the French empire
- Angola from the Portuguese empire
- Vietnam from the French empire

Regional, religious, and ethnic movements challenged colonial rule and inherited imperial boundaries. Some of these movements advocated for autonomy.

Regional, religious, and ethnic movements:

- **Muslim League** in British India
- Québécois separatist movement in Canada
- Biafra secessionist movement in Nigeria

32. Which colonies negotiated their independence after WWII?

33. Which colonies achieved independence through armed struggle?

34. Explain the role of the **Indian National Congress (INC)** in decolonization.

35. Explain the role of the **Muslim League** in advocating for autonomy in India. What were their goals?

36. What were some similar methods that colonies utilized to achieve independence in this time period?

### Topic 8.6 Newly Independent States

#### Learning Objective

Explain how political changes in the period from c.1900 to the present led to territorial, demographic, and nationalist developments.

#### Historical Developments

The redrawing of political boundaries after the withdrawal of former colonial authorities led to the creation of new states.

States created by redrawing of political boundaries:

- Israel
- Cambodia
- Pakistan

37. Explain the creation of Israel after WWII.

38. Explain the creation of Pakistan after India gained independence in 1947.

39. What were some of the long term consequences of the **Partition of India**?

	<p>The redrawing of political boundaries in some cases led to conflict as well as population displacement and/or resettlements, including those related to the <b>Partition of India</b> and the creation of the state of Israel.</p>	<p>40. What were some of the long term consequences of the creation of the state of Israel?</p>
<p><b>Learning Objective</b></p> <p>Explain the economic changes and continuities resulting from the process of decolonization.</p>	<p><b>Historical Developments</b></p> <p>In newly independent states after World War II, governments often took on a strong role in guiding economic life to promote development.</p> <p>Governments guiding economic life:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gamal Abdel Nasser's promotion of economic development in Egypt</li> <li>• Indira Gandhi's economic policies in India</li> <li>• Julius Nyerere's modernization in Tanzania</li> <li>• Sirimavo Bandaranaike's economic policies in Sri Lanka</li> </ul> <p>The migration of former colonial subjects to <b>imperial metropolises</b> (the former colonizing country), usually in the major cities, maintained cultural and economic ties between the colony and the metropole even after the dissolution of empires.</p> <p>Migrations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South Asians to Britain</li> <li>• Algerians to France</li> <li>• Filipinos to the United States</li> </ul>	<p>41. What economic changes resulted from the process of decolonization?</p> <p>42. What economic continuities resulted from the process of decolonization?</p> <p>43. Give an example of a government taking on a strong role in guiding economic life to promote development in the 1900 to present time period.</p> <p>44. Describe <b>Indira Gandhi's</b> economic policies in India. How do her policies involve a strong government role in promoting economic development?</p> <p>45. Describe <b>Gamal Abdel Nasser's</b> economic policies in Egypt. How did his policies involve a strong government role in promoting economic development?</p> <p>46. What is an <b>imperial metropole</b>?</p> <p>47. Explain one example of migrations to imperial metropolises in the 1900 - 1990 time period.</p>

**Topic 8.7 Global Resistance to Established Power Structures After 1900**

## Learning Objective

Explain various reactions to existing power structures in the period after 1900.

## Historical Developments

Although conflict dominated much of the 20th century, many individuals and groups— including states—opposed this trend. Some individuals and groups, however, intensified the conflicts.

Responses that intensified conflict:

- Chile under Augusto Pinochet
- Spain under Francisco Franco
- Uganda under Idi Amin
- The buildup of the military– industrial complex and weapons trading

Groups and individuals challenged the many wars of the century, and some, such as **Mohandas Gandhi**, **Martin Luther King Jr.**, and **Nelson Mandela**, promoted the practice of nonviolence as a way to bring about political change.

Militaries and militarized states often responded to the proliferation of conflicts in ways that further intensified conflict.

Some movements used violence against civilians in an effort to achieve political aims.

Movements that used violence:

- Shining Path
- Al-Qaeda

48. Describe Chile under **Augusto Pinochet**.

49. Describe Spain under **Francisco Franco**.

50. What role did **Gandhi** play in the Indian independence movement?

51. How did Gandhi utilize nonviolence to bring about political change?

52. What role did **Nelson Mandela** play in ending apartheid in South Africa?

53. How did Nelson Mandela utilize nonviolence to bring about political change?

54. How did Martin **Luther King Jr.** utilize nonviolence to bring about political change during the Civil Rights Movement?

55. What is **Al-Qaeda**?

56. Explain how Al-Qaeda used violence against civilizations to achieve political aims.

### Topic 8.8 End of the Cold War

**Learning Objective**

Explain the causes of the end of the Cold War.

**Historical Developments**

Advances in U.S. military and technological development, the Soviet Union's costly and ultimately failed invasion of Afghanistan, and public discontent and economic weakness in communist countries led to the end of the Cold War and the collapse of the Soviet Union.

57. Explain the factors that led to the end of the Cold War.

58. What things weakened the Soviet Union?

### Topic 8.9 Causation in the Age of the Cold War and Decolonization

The final topic in this unit focuses on the skill of argumentation and so provides an opportunity for your students to draw upon the key concepts and historical developments they have studied in this unit. Using evidence relevant to this unit's key concepts, students should practice the suggested skill for this topic.

**Learning Objective**

Explain the extent to which the effects of the Cold War were similar in the Eastern and Western Hemispheres.

- Peoples and states around the world challenged the existing political and social order in varying ways, leading to unprecedented worldwide conflicts.
  - Hopes for greater self-government were largely unfulfilled following the World War I; however, in the years following the World War II, increasing anti imperialist sentiment contributed to the dissolution of empires and the restructuring of states.
  - The Cold War conflict extended beyond its basic ideological origins to have profound effects on economic, political, social, and cultural aspects of global events
- The role of the state in the domestic economy varied, and new institutions of global association emerged and continued to develop throughout the century.
  - States responded in a variety of ways to the economic challenges of the 20th century.