

1 The United Nations and the Cold War

Reading, Vocabulary

Complete the text with the correct word(s) from the box.

Soviet	cold	conflict	founded	deal	Europe	allies
ideologies	Baltic	Churchill	buffer	relations	Germany	superpowers
enmity	propaganda	Second World War	leader	between	dictators	

Cold conflict

In 1945 the United Nations was (1) _____ in an attempt to establish an organization that could (2) _____ with the world's quarrels. However, differences (3) _____ the former allies soon emerged.

In a speech made in the USA in 1946 (4) _____ spoke of an 'iron curtain' descending across (5) _____. He imagined a line running from the (6) _____ Sea in the north to the Adriatic Sea in the south. He described how the (7) _____ leader Stalin had taken control of the countries of Eastern Europe.

For forty-five years after the end of the (8) _____ world war there existed a (9) _____ War. It was called this because although no shots were fired, between the USA and the Soviet Union and their (10) _____ it was a war of words and (11) _____.

The causes of this global (12) _____ were not simply to do with the different political (13) _____ of the two leading nations, or the (14) _____, as they were called, but with mistrust stemming from the (15) _____ over what had happened in the war. The Soviet (16) _____ Stalin felt that at times the Soviet Union had stood alone against (17) _____ and he saw the Eastern European countries as (18) _____ zones against invasion.

For its part, the USA, realizing it could not stand outside international (19) _____, felt it was important to stand up to (20) _____ such as Stalin.



2 A lecture on the Cold War

Reading, Listening

Listen to or read this lecture on the Cold War and complete it with the correct verb from the lists below.

The Cold War is the name given to the relationship that (1) _____ primarily between the USA and the USSR after World War Two. The Cold War was to (2) _____ international affairs for decades and many major crises (3) _____ during this time in history: the Cuban Missile Crisis, the war in Vietnam, the Hungarian Revolution and the Berlin Wall being just some. For many the growth in weapons of mass destruction was the most worrying issue.

Logic would (4) _____ that as the USA and the USSR (5) _____ as allies during World War Two, their relationship after the war would be firm and friendly. This never happened and any appearance that these two powers were friendly even during the war is illusory.

Before the war, America had (6) _____ the Soviet Union as almost the 'devil incarnate'. The Soviet Union had depicted America in the same way so their 'friendship' during the war was simply the result of having a mutual enemy: Nazi Germany.

So the distrust that (7) _____ before and during the war, was certainly present after the war... and they were supposed to be allies! Both sides were highly suspicious of the other. One had a vast army in the field while the other, the Americans, potentially (8) _____ the most powerful weapon in the world, the Atom bomb, and the Soviets had no way of knowing how many of these bombs America had.

- | | | | |
|--------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| (1) a. dictated | b. derived | c. detailed | d. developed |
| (2) a. delay | b. dominate | c. disappear | d. detect |
| (3) a. occurred | b. occupied | c. overcame | d. obsessed |
| (4) a. see | b. show | c. suggest | d. surprise |
| (5) a. felt | b. feed | c. frightened | d. fought |
| (6) a. denied | b. derided | c. depicted | d. detested |
| (7) a. existed | b. excited | c. extended | d. excused |
| (8) a. coordinated | b. controlled | c. corrupted | d. cohabited |

ANSWER KEY

1 The United Nations and the Cold War

Reading, Vocabulary

Cold conflict

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1. founded | 11. propaganda |
| 2. deal | 12. conflict |
| 3. between | 13. ideologies |
| 4. Churchill | 14. superpowers |
| 5. Europe | 15. enmity |
| 6. Baltic | 16. leader |
| 7. Soviet | 17. Germany |
| 8. Second World War | 18. buffer |
| 9. Cold | 19. relations |
| 10. allies | 20. dictators |

2 A lecture on the Cold War

Reading, Listening

The Cold War is the name given to the relationship that (1) **developed** primarily between the USA and the USSR after World War Two. The Cold War was to (2) **dominate** international affairs for decades and many major crises (3) **occurred** during this time in history: the Cuban Missile Crisis, the war in Vietnam, the Hungarian Revolution and the Berlin Wall being just some. For many the growth in weapons of mass destruction was the most worrying issue.

Logic would (4) **suggest** that as the USA and the USSR (5) **fought** as allies during World War Two, their relationship after the war would be firm and friendly. This never happened and any appearance that these two powers were friendly even during the war is illusory.

Before the war, America had (6) **depicted** the Soviet Union as almost the 'devil incarnate'. The Soviet Union had depicted America in the same way so their 'friendship' during the war was simply the result of having a mutual enemy: Nazi Germany.

So the distrust that (7) **existed** before and during the war, was certainly present after the war... and they were supposed to be Allies! Both sides were highly suspicious of the other. One had a vast army in the field while the other, the Americans, potentially (8) **controlled** the most powerful weapon in the world, the Atom bomb, and the Soviets had no way of knowing how many of these bombs America had.