### Cold conflict

In 1945 the United Nations was **founded** in an attempt to establish an organization that could **deal** with the world’s quarrels. However, differences **emerged** the former allies soon emerged.

In a speech made in the USA in 1946 **Churchill** spoke of an ‘iron curtain’ descending across **Europe**. He imagined a line running from the **Baltic** Sea in the north to the Adriatic Sea in the south. He described how the **leader** Stalin had taken control of the countries of Eastern Europe.

For forty-five years after the end of the **Second World War** there existed a **Cold War**. It was called this because although no shots were fired, between the USA and the Soviet Union and their **allies** it was a war of words and **propaganda**.

The causes of this global **conflict** were not simply to do with the different political **ideologies** of the two leading nations, or the **relations**, as they were called, but with mistrust stemming from the **enmity** over what had happened in the war. The Soviet **leader** Stalin felt that at times the Soviet Union had stood alone against **dictators** and he saw the Eastern European countries as **buffer** zones against invasion.

For its part, the USA, realizing it could not stand outside international **superpowers**, felt it was important to stand up to **dictators** such as Stalin.
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
1 The United Nations and the Cold War  

**Cold conflict**

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

2 A lecture on the Cold War  

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, theAtom bomb, and the Soviets had no way of knowing how many of these bombs America had.