Alabama and the Cold War

Trace how conflicts and space exploration reached Alabama.

SS24.5.14 "Describe how the United States' involvement in the Cold War influenced domestic and international events. 14a Explain reasons for the United States' involvement in the Korean War and Vietnam War and describe the involvement of Alabamians..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline reasons the United States acted, circle ways Alabamians took part, and number two effects on life at home. Use your marks to trace how Cold War events reached Alabama.

Faraway Events, Alabama Lives

1. In 1950, North Korea invaded South Korea. The United States feared that if South Korea fell, communism would spread to other countries. U.S. troops joined a United Nations force to defend South Korea. People from Alabama served in the fighting, far from their families. At home, their families followed news of the war and waited for letters. A conflict across the ocean had reached Alabama homes.

2. In the 1960s, U.S. leaders sent troops to Vietnam to help South Vietnam fight communist forces. They hoped to limit the spread of communism, but the war lasted for years. Alabamians served as soldiers and nurses in Vietnam. The war divided people at home: some supported it, while others protested it. Fighting overseas changed debates in American towns and cities, including those in Alabama.

3. The Cold War also pushed the United States and the Soviet Union to race into space. At Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Army teams developed rockets that helped launch early U.S. space missions. Nearby, NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center designed and tested the powerful Saturn V rocket that sent astronauts toward the Moon. Better engines and guidance systems made longer space trips possible. This work brought space jobs to Alabama.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Why did the United States help defend South Korea, and how did Alabamians take part?

2. How was the U.S. goal in Vietnam like its reason for fighting in Korea?

3. How did Alabama's involvement in the Vietnam War reach people overseas and at home?

4. How did work at Redstone Arsenal and Marshall Space Flight Center help the United States explore space?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine you are giving a 1960s radio report from Alabama. In four sentences, connect the Vietnam War and the Space Race, tell how Alabamians took part in each, and give your own conclusion about how these events changed life in Alabama.

ANSWER KEY

Alabama and the Cold War

GRADE 5 · SS24.5.14

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline reasons the United States acted, circle ways Alabamians took part, and number two effects on life at home. Use your marks to trace how Cold War events reached Alabama. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why did the United States help defend South Korea, and how did Alabamians take part?	**The United States feared communism would spread if South Korea fell. People from Alabama served in the fighting.**
2	How was the U.S. goal in Vietnam like its reason for fighting in Korea?	**In both wars, U.S. leaders wanted to limit the spread of communism.**
3	How did Alabama's involvement in the Vietnam War reach people overseas and at home?	**Alabamians served in Vietnam as soldiers and nurses. At home, people in Alabama were divided over the war.**
4	How did work at Redstone Arsenal and Marshall Space Flight Center help the United States explore space?	**Redstone Arsenal teams developed rockets for early U.S. space missions. Marshall designed and tested the Saturn V, whose power helped send astronauts toward the Moon.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

U.S. troops are in Vietnam to help South Vietnam fight communist forces. Alabamians serve there as soldiers and nurses. In Huntsville, teams at Marshall Space Flight Center are testing the Saturn V rocket for trips toward the Moon. I think the Cold War has brought both worry about people overseas and new space jobs to Alabama.

Accept accurate conclusions about effects at home that are supported by the passage. For the radio report, look for a connection between the war and space work, Alabama's role in each, and an original conclusion.