Victory, Then Division

Trace how World War II shaped the Cold War.

SS24.WH.13 "Explain the origins of the Cold War as they relate to the economic, global, political, and social consequences of World War II. 13a Identify major international organizations and the spheres of influence that developed as the result of..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two effects of World War II that helped cause tension between countries. Circle the names of international organizations, then number the two places where China's civil war left rival governments.

A World Divided After Victory

1. At the end of World War II, damaged factories and hungry families faced the problem of rebuilding. The United States offered aid to Western European countries through the Marshall Plan, hoping recovery would also limit communism. The Soviet Union, which had suffered enormous losses, kept troops in Eastern Europe and helped establish communist governments there. Many Americans saw this control as expansion; Soviet leaders feared another invasion from the West. Wartime cooperation gave way to rival spheres of influence.

2. The United Nations (UN), founded in 1945, gave countries a place to discuss disputes and seek peace, though its members did not always agree. In the United States, voters chose leaders in competitive elections, and businesses were largely privately owned. In the Soviet Union, the Communist Party held political power and the state directed much of the economy. Western countries formed the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in 1949 for mutual defense. The Soviet Union and its Eastern European allies formed the Warsaw Pact in 1955.

3. China's civil war, interrupted by the fight against Japan, resumed after World War II. The Chinese Communist Party defeated the Nationalist government in 1949 and established the People's Republic of China on the mainland. Nationalist leaders retreated to Taiwan, where they continued to govern the Republic of China. Under Mao Zedong, China's Communist Party ruled without competitive national elections, redistributed land, and later organized collective farms. Unlike Soviet leaders, Mao had built his revolutionary movement largely around support from rural peasants.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did two different effects of World War II increase tension between the United States and the Soviet Union?

2. How did the UN's purpose differ from the roles of NATO and the Warsaw Pact?

3. Compare political power and economic control in the United States, the Soviet Union, and Mao's China.

4. How did the Chinese Civil War leave rival governments on the mainland and Taiwan, and how did Mao change life on the mainland?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a four-sentence museum label explaining why victory in World War II did not bring lasting political unity. Link a wartime consequence to an alliance, then connect the Chinese Civil War's outcome to a comparison of political power in China and the United States.

ANSWER KEY

Victory, Then Division

GRADE 9 · SS24.WH.13

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two effects of World War II that helped cause tension between countries. Circle the names of international organizations, then number the two places where China's civil war left rival governments. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did two different effects of World War II increase tension between the United States and the Soviet Union?	**The United States used aid to rebuild Western Europe and limit communism. Soviet wartime losses increased its fear of invasion, while its control of Eastern Europe alarmed Americans.**
2	How did the UN's purpose differ from the roles of NATO and the Warsaw Pact?	**The UN offered countries a place to discuss disputes and seek peace. NATO and the Warsaw Pact were military alliances on opposite sides of the growing divide.**
3	Compare political power and economic control in the United States, the Soviet Union, and Mao's China.	**The United States had competitive elections and largely private businesses. Communist parties held power in the Soviet Union and China; the Soviet state directed much of its economy, while Mao's government redistributed land and later organized collective farms.**
4	How did the Chinese Civil War leave rival governments on the mainland and Taiwan, and how did Mao change life on the mainland?	**The Communist Party established the People's Republic of China on the mainland, while Nationalist leaders continued to govern the Republic of China from Taiwan. Mao's government redistributed land and later organized collective farms.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

World War II ended, but Soviet fears of another invasion helped divide Europe. The Soviet Union kept influence in Eastern Europe, and that region later joined it in the Warsaw Pact. In China, a civil war ended with Communist rule on the mainland and a Nationalist government on Taiwan. Unlike voters in the United States, people in Mao's China could not choose national leaders in competitive elections.

Accept other accurate links between wartime consequences and Cold War divisions. Students should distinguish the UN's peacekeeping purpose from the rival alliances and identify Taiwan as the location of the continuing Nationalist government.