Containment Under Pressure

Weigh the results of American aid and military action

USH.C.6.1.F "Assess the impact and successes of the Truman Doctrine including the American military response to the invasion of South Korea."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two results that show containment succeeded, and circle two costs or limits. Write 1 beside a description of American aid and 2 beside a description of American combat so you can compare the responses.

From Aid to Armed Response

1. In 1947, Britain told the United States it could no longer afford to help Greece and Turkey. Greece faced a civil war against a communist-led insurgency; Turkey faced Soviet pressure over control of the straits linking the Black Sea to the Mediterranean. President Harry Truman asked Congress for $400 million in aid. He argued that the United States should support countries resisting armed minorities or outside pressure, a policy known as the Truman Doctrine. American money, equipment, and military advisers helped the Greek government defeat the insurgents by 1949. American aid also strengthened Turkey's defenses. Neither country fell under Soviet control.

2. On June 25, 1950, North Korean forces crossed the border and invaded South Korea. Truman treated the attack as a test of whether communist expansion could be stopped, though the Truman Doctrine did not automatically require a war in Korea. The United Nations Security Council called for member states to help repel the invasion. The Soviet Union was boycotting council meetings, so it did not veto the resolutions. Truman sent American air, naval, and ground forces to fight under a United Nations command. American forces fought alongside South Korean troops and forces from other nations.

3. By the time Truman left office in 1953, fighting in Korea had settled into a costly stalemate. An armistice signed later that year left Korea divided near its original border. South Korea remained independent, a major success for the goal of blocking conquest. Yet the war did not reunite Korea or end its division. Millions of Koreans were killed or displaced, and tens of thousands of American service members died. The military response showed that U.S. containment could include armed force, not just financial aid, but also exposed the human cost and limits of that commitment.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did aid to Greece and Turkey support the Truman Doctrine's goal, and what outcome suggests success?

2. How did Truman's response to the invasion of South Korea extend the approach used in Greece and Turkey?

3. What evidence from Korea shows that the military response achieved one goal but not another?

4. Which evidence suggests that containment widened U.S. commitments beyond aid, and what was one cost of that change?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write an 80- to 110-word museum label titled “Containment's Results.” Judge how successful U.S. responses were in Greece, Turkey, and Korea, using at least two specific facts from the passage and explaining one limitation or cost.

ANSWER KEY

Containment Under Pressure

HIGH SCHOOL · USH.C.6.1.F

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two results that show containment succeeded, and circle two costs or limits. Write 1 beside a description of American aid and 2 beside a description of American combat so you can compare the responses. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did aid to Greece and Turkey support the Truman Doctrine's goal, and what outcome suggests success?	**Money, equipment, and advisers helped Greece defeat the insurgency, while aid strengthened Turkey's defenses. Neither country fell under Soviet control.**
2	How did Truman's response to the invasion of South Korea extend the approach used in Greece and Turkey?	**The United States moved beyond providing aid and advisers by sending air, naval, and ground forces to fight under a United Nations command.**
3	What evidence from Korea shows that the military response achieved one goal but not another?	**South Korea remained independent, but the armistice left Korea divided rather than reunited.**
4	Which evidence suggests that containment widened U.S. commitments beyond aid, and what was one cost of that change?	**Truman sent American forces into combat in Korea. Tens of thousands of American service members died, and millions of Koreans were killed or displaced.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Containment's Results

The Truman Doctrine helped the United States resist communist expansion, but its successes came with limits. In Greece, American money, equipment, and advisers helped the government defeat a communist-led insurgency, while aid strengthened Turkey's defenses. Neither country fell under Soviet control. In Korea, American forces joined a United Nations command after North Korea invaded, and South Korea remained independent. Yet an armistice left Korea divided, and millions of Koreans were killed or displaced. These outcomes suggest that containment could prevent a takeover without producing peace or unity.

Accept judgments that weigh evidence of successful resistance against the Korean War's costs and unresolved division. Do not require students to describe Greece's specific forms of aid as aid given to Turkey.