

Allies, Rivals, Change

Trace how U.S. foreign policy changed during the Cold War.

USII.7 "The student will apply history and social science skills to understand the transformation of U.S. foreign policy between the end of World War II and the new millennium by explaining how key decisions and agreements including..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline actions or agreements that built alliances or resisted communism. Circle phrases that show changes leading to the end of the Cold War, so you can trace how U.S. foreign policy changed.

From Allies to Cold War Peace

- ① Even before World War II ended, the 1941 Atlantic Charter showed that the United States and Britain wanted a safer postwar world. In 1945, nations formed the United Nations to discuss problems and seek peace. The United States joined NATO in 1949, promising that members would defend one another. The Marshall Plan gave aid to rebuild European economies and limit communist influence. In occupied Japan, the United States helped create a democratic government and rebuild the economy. By then, the United States and Soviet Union had become rival superpowers.
- ② These rivals had different systems. In a communist nation, one party controlled the government and much of the economy. In a democratic nation, citizens could choose leaders, and private people or businesses could own property. The United States tried to contain communism. It supplied West Berlin during the Berlin Airlift and fought in Korea and Vietnam. In 1962, President John F. Kennedy and Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev faced a crisis after Soviet missiles were placed in Cuba. Their agreement removed the missiles and avoided nuclear war.
- ③ During the 1980s, President Ronald Reagan increased pressure on the Soviet Union but also negotiated with its leader, Mikhail Gorbachev. Gorbachev introduced reforms and allowed more openness. People in Eastern Europe demanded change, and communist governments there lost power. In 1989, the Berlin Wall fell, showing that divided Germany was changing. In 1991, the Soviet Union broke apart into separate nations. The collapse of communist rule in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union ended the Cold War, a long struggle between the superpowers.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did joining NATO help the United States establish international allies?

2 Describe one difference in government and one difference in the economy between a communist nation and a democratic nation.

3 How did the Marshall Plan and the occupation of Japan use rebuilding to shape the postwar world?

4 What changes helped bring the Cold War to an end?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Complete the table with one example from each category. For each action or event, explain its purpose and how it changed the role of the United States in the world.

ACTION OR EVENT	PURPOSE	HOW IT CHANGED THE U.S. ROLE

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline actions or agreements that built alliances or resisted communism. Circle phrases that show changes leading to the end of the Cold War, so you can trace how U.S. foreign policy changed. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did joining NATO help the United States establish international allies?	NATO members promised to defend one another, creating an alliance for shared defense.
2	Describe one difference in government and one difference in the economy between a communist nation and a democratic nation.	A communist nation had one party controlling the government, while citizens in a democratic nation could choose leaders. Communist governments controlled much of the economy, while private people or businesses could own property in a democracy.
3	How did the Marshall Plan and the occupation of Japan use rebuilding to shape the postwar world?	The Marshall Plan rebuilt European economies and limited communist influence. In Japan, the United States helped rebuild the economy and create a democratic government.
4	What changes helped bring the Cold War to an end?	Gorbachev introduced reforms and more openness, people in Eastern Europe demanded change, communist governments lost power, the Berlin Wall fell, and the Soviet Union broke apart.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

ACTION OR EVENT	PURPOSE	HOW IT CHANGED THE U.S. ROLE
Marshall Plan	Rebuild European economies and limit communist influence	It used economic aid to support allies.
Berlin Airlift	Supply West Berlin while resisting Soviet pressure	It showed a U.S. commitment to defend freedom without direct war.
Gorbachev's reforms	Allow more openness in the Soviet Union	They weakened communist control and contributed to the Cold War's end.

Accept equivalent explanations that use accurate evidence from the passage. For the table, accept other passage-based examples if the purpose and effect on U.S. foreign policy are accurate.