Chung Cheng High School (Main)

Section A: Source-Based Case Study

Question 1 is for all candidates.

Study the Background Information and the sources carefully, and then answer **all** the questions.

You may use any of the sources to help you answer the questions, in addition to those sources you are told to use. In answering the questions you should use your knowledge of the topic to help you interpret and evaluate the sources.

1 (a) Study Source A.

Why do you think Churchill gave this speech? Explain your answer. [5]

(b) Study Source B.

How reliable is this source as evidence about Soviet influence in Eastern Europe? Explain your answer. [5]

(c) Study Source C.

How useful is this source as evidence of why the Cold War began? Explain your answer. [6]

(d) Study Sources D and E.

How different are the two sources? Explain your answer. [6]

(e) Study **all** the sources.

'Stalin's aggressive actions were responsible for the start of the Cold War.' How far do these sources support this view? Use the sources and your knowledge to explain your answers. [8]

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Did the Cold War begin because of Soviet aggression?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Read this carefully. It may help you answer some of the questions.

At the end of World War Two, the USA and the USSR used their victory to shape the world to benefit themselves. While both wanted peace, the ways which they tried to achieve it caused misunderstanding, suspicion and ultimately what would become known as the Cold War. Key to their dispute, was the question of Eastern Europe. The Soviets took actions they felt were meant to defend themselves from future invasions on their Western front. However, these same actions were seen by the US as aggressive.

Were Stalin's actions responsible for starting the Cold War?

Source A: Adapted from Churchill's speech in Missouri, the hometown of President Truman. 5 March 1946. Truman had invited Churchill to give the lecture and attended it.

War will not be prevented without what I call the fraternal* association of the English-speaking peoples. This means a special relationship between Britain and the United States. This requires the growing friendship and mutual understanding between our two [peoples], and the continued close relationship between our militaries…

An iron curtain has descended across the Continent. Behind that line lie all the capitals of the ancient states of Central and Eastern Europe. All these famous cities lie in what I must call the Soviet sphere, and all are subject in one form or another, not only to Soviet influence but to an increasing measure of control from Moscow.

The Communist parties, which were very small, have been raised to power far beyond their numbers and are seeking everywhere to obtain totalitarian control. Police governments are winning in nearly every case. There is no true democracy.

* fraternal refers to brotherhood

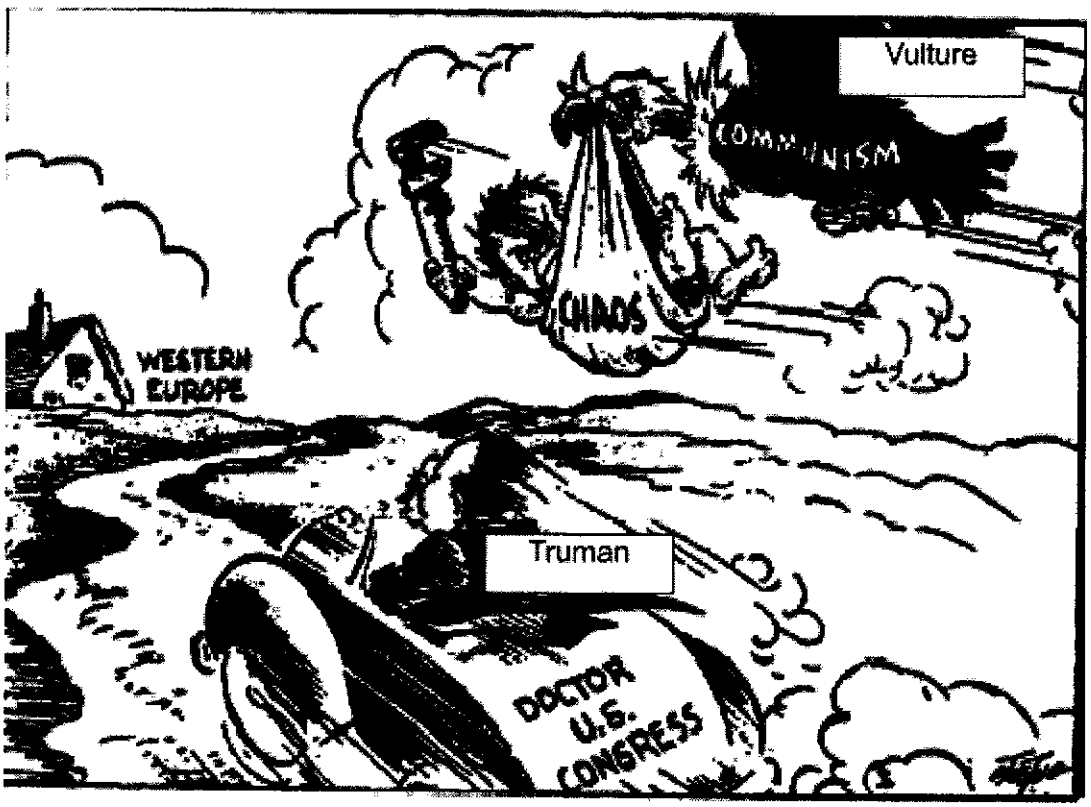
Source B: Stalin's official reply to Churchill's speech, March 1946.

As a result of the German invasion, the Soviet Union has permanently lost … [20 million people]. In other words, the Soviet Union has lost in men several times more than Britain and the United States together. It may be that some are trying to ignore the sacrifices of the Soviet people which ensured the liberation of Europe from Hitler. But the Soviet Union cannot forget them.

Mr. Churchill wanders around the truth when he speaks of the growth of the influence of the communist parties in Eastern Europe… The growth of the influence of communism cannot be considered an accident. It is a normal function. The influence of the communists grew because, during the hard years of fascism in Europe, communists showed themselves to be reliable, daring and self-sacrificing fighters against fascist regimes for people's liberty.

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Source C: A cartoon by an American journalist, published in November 1947 after the Marshall Plan was announced. The bird representing Communism is a vulture which is a predatory bird that eats sick or dying animals.



"Step on it, Doc!"

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Source D: Excerpts from a speech by US Secretary of State James Byrnes announcing the US policy of German reconstruction. He made this speech in Stuttgart, a West German city, 6 September 1946.

After being forced to join the first World War, America refused to join the League. We thought we could stay out of Europe's wars. That did not keep us from being forced into a second World War. We will not again make that mistake. We intend to continue our interest in the affairs of Europe and the world...

Security forces will probably have to remain in Germany for a long period. I want no misunderstanding. As long as there is an occupation army in Germany, we are not withdrawing, we are staying here. Yet, it is now our view that the German people should be helped to prepare for the setting up of a democratic German government. This government should not be hand-picked by other governments.

While we shall insist that Germany be peaceful and a good neighbor, we do not want Germany to become the satellite of any power.

Source E: Part of a telegram from the Soviet Ambassador in the United States to his superiors in Moscow explaining US foreign policy, 27 September 1946. The Ambassador had underlined the words "world domination".

The foreign policy of the United States reflects the desires of American capitalism for world domination. This is the real meaning of the many statements by Truman and America's leaders: that the United States has the right to lead the world. All the forces of American diplomacy—the military, its industry, and science—are focused on this. This is being implemented through diplomacy, the establishing of military bases all over Europe, and through the arms race.

The press openly discusses the possibility of a "third war" with the Soviet Union. The primary goal of this is to exert political pressure on the Soviet Union and force it to make concessions. American preparations for a future war are being conducted with the idea of war against the Soviet Union, which in the eyes of American imperialists is the chief obstacle in the American path to world domination.

Source F: An article published by American and Russian historians writing about the thinking of Soviet leaders after World War II in 2002.

Soviet policymakers acted based on what may be called the "Barbarossa Syndrome"—the fear of another invasion from the West. Given the number and scale of past invasions, Russia's Barbarossa Syndrome was surely more deeply felt than "Pearl Harbor syndrome" in the United States. To provide defence, a buffer zone of "friendly states" was to be created in Eastern Europe, the traditional route for military aggression against Russia.

Soviet leaders considered their expectations to be reasonable and right. In their view, such claims represented a "fair share" of the spoils of war and key to the security of their country. In Stalin's brutal logic, each victor's share should be proportionate to the number of soldiers "spent" (his favorite expression) and of the enemy killed. By this measure, the Soviet contribution was overwhelming indeed.

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Section B: Essays

Answer **two** questions.

2 "Militarist rule changed Japan for the better." How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

3 "War began in 1939 in Europe because Hitler planned it." How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

4 "The Cold War ended in 1991 because of Gorbachev." How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

Copyright Acknowledgements

Source A: https://www.nationalchurchillmuseum.org/sinews-of-peace-iron-curtain-speech.html
Source B: Stalin Interview with Pravda on Churchill, *The New York Times*, 14 March 1946, p. 4. <https://timesmachine.nytimes.com/timesmachine/1946/03/14/issue.html>
Source C: https://www.sherpalearning.com/skillbook/exercises/vse-15-cartoon
Source D: https://ghdi.ghi-dc.org/sub_document.cfm?document_id=2300
Source E: https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/telegram-nikolai-novikov-soviet-ambassador-us-soviet-leadership
Source F: Pechatnov, Vladimir and Edmonson, C. "The Russian Perspective" in *Debating the Origins of the Cold War: American and Russian Perspectives,* Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, 2002.

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MARK SCHEME

Section A: Source-Based Case Study Questions

1(a)	Mark	**Study Source A.** **Why do you think Churchill gave this speech?**
L1	1	**Answer based on provenance** i.e., because Truman had asked him to do so
L2	2	**Writes about Sovietisation of Eastern Europe (Sub-Message)** i.e., because of the immediate context of Soviet Union's salami tactics E.g., Churchill is making observations / educating / informing the audience about the salami tactics Stalin was enacting in Eastern Europe in 1946.
L3	3	**Writes about the special relationship between the US and UK** i.e., because Churchill wants to maintain the relationship between US and UK **Writes about EITHER Message OR Outcome**
L4	4 – 5	**Reason based on Purpose** *Award 4 marks for a complete VMAO. Award 5 marks for well-developed answers employing contextual knowledge to establish why Churchill wants the US to continue its involvement in Europe.* E.g., Churchill gave this speech because **(Keyword)** he wanted to persuade **(Verb)** Americans **(Audience)** to continue being involved in Europe and support the United Kingdom **(Outcome)** by highlighting the threat of Soviet's anti-democratic actions in Eastern Europe **(Message)** after World War II. **[4m]** Source A says, "This requires the growing friendship and mutual understanding between our two [peoples], and the continued close relationship between our militaries..." Churchill had used the Iron Curtain speech to exaggerate the threat of Communism in Eastern Europe to convince Americans of the urgency of the Communist threat. Through the speech, Churchill wanted to convince the US to maintain its high level of involvement in Europe and not return to its pre-war policy of isolation (CK) from European affairs. For example, after World War I, the US did not join the League of Nations which contributed to the organization's failure (CK / Source D). Churchill needed to make sure that this did not happen again and wanted high amounts of both military and economic support so Britain could recover quickly and defend against what he perceived to be a new threat of the Soviet Union. He thus gave this speech so Americans would support legislation to provide continued aid to Europe after WWII. **[5m]**

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1(b)	Mark	**Study Source B.** **How reliable is this source as evidence about Soviet influence in Eastern Europe? Explain your answer.**
L1	1	**Answer based on provenance** i.e., identify/test claims that are not about Soviet influence E.g., Source B is about the sacrifices that were made during World War II. I know this is true because many Russians died at Stalingrad defending the city.
L2	2	**Valid inference identified** E.g., Source B says the Communists are **genuinely popular** in Eastern Europe.
L3	3-4	**Valid inference with use of cross-reference to evaluate reliability** E.g., Source B is **reliable** because its claim that the **Communists felt they had the right to be in Eastern Europe because of their costly sacrifice** is supported by Source F. Source B states that the "sacrifices of the Soviet people which ensured the liberation of Europe from Hitler" gives it the right to impose its will in Eastern Europe. This claim is supported by Source F which states that "In Stalin's brutal logic, each victor's share should be proportionate to the number of soldiers "spent" (his favorite expression) and of enemy killed." Therefore, Source B is reliable as evidence because its claims that the Soviets felt they had the right to control Eastern Europe because of the heavy price they paid are corroborated by Source F.
L4	5	**Valid inference with use of motive to evaluate reliability** E.g., Source B is **unreliable** as evidence about Soviet influence in Eastern Europe because of its **motive** to counter Churchill's claim. Source B claims that the "growth of the influence of communism cannot be considered an accident. It is a normal function." Thus, Stalin is claiming that Communism's rising influence in Eastern Europe is popularly supported and not engineered. However, Stalin has an interest to rebut Churchill's accusations that Stalin is "seeking everywhere to obtain totalitarian control" and that small Communist parties "have been raised to power far beyond their numbers." This is because the world had just ended six years of fighting World War II (CK), thus he did not want to be seen or compared to an aggressor as this would draw unwanted attention and opposition to his actions in Eastern Europe as what the world wanted was peace. Therefore, because Stalin's interest is in covering up his actions in Eastern Europe, Source B is unreliable as evidence to understand Soviet influence in Eastern Europe.

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1(c)	Mark	**Study Source C.** **How useful is this source as evidence of why the Cold War began? Explain your answer.**
L1	1	**Answers based on undeveloped provenance** E.g., It is useful because it is drawn by an American.
L2	2 -3	**Useful / Not Useful based on content** Award 2m for useful OR not useful because of missing information. Award 3m for both aspects. E.g., It is useful because it tells me that the superpowers are in competition with one another. However, it is not useful because it does not explain to me how this competition led to the Cold War.
L3	4	**Not Useful based on assertions of the cartoonist's Purpose** E.g., Source C is not useful because it is unreliable as it has the purpose to pressure the US government to do more to support Western Europe.
L4	5	**Not Useful based on an attempt to evaluate the claim by cross-reference to other sources or contextual knowledge** *Answers which address only reliability and not utility should be awarded L2/3.* E.g., Source C's **usefulness is limited** because its **claims on the reasons for superpower competition are unreliable.** It claims that the reason for the start of the Cold War is between the healing doctor who saves sick Western Europe versus communism eating / consuming the sick patient. This is an unreliable claim. **EITHER (via cross-reference to Source F)** I know that in 1947, Stalin had no designs on Western Europe, only Eastern Europe which he saw as his buffer zone. This is supported by Source F which says Stalin feared attack from the West and wanted "a buffer zone of "friendly states" was to be created in eastern Europe, the traditional route for military aggression against Russia..." Therefore, Source C is not reliable, and limited in its usefulness. **OR (via cross-reference to contextual knowledge)** Source C is less reliable when read with my contextual knowledge. Stalin had made conscious efforts not to encroach into Western Europe in accordance with the Yalta Agreements which said that only Eastern Europe was in its sphere of influence (CK). Stalin had not interfered in Western Europe and communist movements in countries like Turkey and Greece had gained popularity without the support of Moscow (CK). Therefore, because of its limited reliability, Source C is not useful as evidence for why the Cold War began.

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L5	6	**Useful based on the evaluation at L4, but as evidence to show the rhetoric around the Soviet Union which led to the Cold War** E.g., Even though Source C is not reliable it is still useful in telling me about the reasons for why the Cold War began. Its claims of the 'healing' US who will come with the cure for the suffering in Europe, compared to the predatory USSR reflect the feelings of the US population at that time. The US cartoonist accurately reflects the pressure that the people and the press placed on the US government to increase the pressure on the Soviet Union. This pressure caused the two superpowers to feel like they were in a race with one another to influence Western Europe, which is a defining issue of the Cold War.

1(d)	Mark	**Study Sources D and E.** **How different are the two sources? Explain your answer.**
L1	1	**Compares provenance or topic / No match between sources** E.g., They are different because Source D is written by an American, and Source E is written by a Russian.
L2	2 – 3	**Similar OR Different based on Content** E.g., Sources D and E are similar as both agree that the **US is interfering in Western Europe.** Source D says, "As long as there is an occupation army in Germany, we are not withdrawing, we are staying here." Meanwhile, Source E agrees with this when it says, "All the forces of American diplomacy—the military, its industry, and science—are focused on this." This shows the deep level of interference the US wants to have in post-war Europe.
L3	4 – 5	**Similar AND Different based on Content** E.g., However, Sources D and E differ on the **motivations for US intervention.** Source D says it is to maintain the peace gained after WWII, but Source E says that it is to further American capitalist and imperial purposes. Source D says, "We will not again make that mistake. We intend to continue our interest in the affairs of Europe and of the world..." This suggests that the reason for continued US involvement is not to repeat the mistakes of the League of Nations. However, Source E contradicts this by saying that "The foreign policy of the United States reflects the desires of American capitalism for world domination." This suggests that the reason for continued US involvement is for US expansionism.
L4	6	**Different based on differing purpose** E.g., Sources D and E are different **based on their purposes.** Source D was a speech given to announce to Germans that the US will seek German reconstruction and recovery so Germans would support the Western powers and be an ally against the USSR. Source D says, "Yet, it is now our view that

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		the German people should be helped to prepare for the setting up a democratic German government." This was a change in policy from the 1944 Morgenthau Plan which aimed to bankrupt and punish Germany after WWII. However, Source E was written to criticize this change of policy which the Soviets would have met with suspicion and interpreted as a threat. Therefore, since the two sources have purposes that oppose one another, they are different.

1(e)	Mark	**Study all the sources.** **'Stalin's aggressive actions were responsible for the start of the Cold War.' How far do these sources support this view? Use the sources and your knowledge to explain your answers.**
L1	**1**	**Writes about the hypothesis, no valid source use.**
L2	**2-4**	**Yes OR No, supported by valid source use.** *Award 1 mark for each source use, up to a maximum of 4 marks.*
L3	**5-7**	**Yes AND No, supported by valid source use.** *Award 5 marks for 1Y and 1N, and an additional mark for each supporting source use, up to a maximum of 7 marks.* *Support: A, C, D, F* *Does not support: B, D, E, F* E.g., Source D supports the statement as the Soviet Union's **salami tactics around Eastern Europe were acts of aggression** that the US had to defend against which started the Cold War. Source D says, "This government should not be hand-picked by other governments but should be a [representative] national council." Therefore, because the USSR had conducted such actions in Eastern Europe, the US felt that it had to defend Germany from similar attacks which raised tensions between the superpowers and started the Cold War. E.g., Source F does not support the statement as the Soviet **Union's actions were purely defensive in nature and were not aggressive.** Source F says, "Soviet leaders considered their expectations to be modest and legitimate." Therefore, the USSR's actions were not aggressive as they had earned the right to control the influence of Eastern Europe as they had paid for it in blood. ** Award a bonus of two marks (i.e., +1, +1) for use of contextual knowledge to evaluate a source in relation to its reliability, sufficiency, etc. not exceeding a total of 8 marks.* E.g., Source F is a reliable source because it is corroborated by contextual knowledge and accurately spells out Stalin's thinking on the issue of Eastern Europe. After WWII, the devastated Soviet Union was not able to assert itself militarily or be aggressive to its neighbours. It needed to recover after the war. However, it believed that it had a right to security and thus felt that the only way

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		it could achieve that outcome was through salami tactics. Thus, Source F's claim that Soviets actions were not aggressive but defensive in nature is reliable.

Section B: Essays

Q2 "Militarist rule changed Japan for the better." How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer.		
L1	**Identifies / Describes the impact of militarist rule** *(Award 1 mark for identifying one impact, 2 marks for identifying 2 or more impacts. Award 2 marks for describing one impact and 3 marks for describing 2 or more impacts.)*	1 – 3
L2	**Explains how militarist rule had positive OR negative impacts on Japan** *(Award 4 marks for an explanation of the positive or negative impact of militarist rule on Japan, and an additional mark for additional reasons or further supporting detail, up to a maximum of 5 marks).* **Given Impact**: I agree that militarist rule brought political stability to Japan, which can be seen as a positive change. **Evidence:** The militarist government, especially under the leaders of the Control Faction after 1936, centralized power and eliminated political opposition. This was a change from the infighting between the *Seiyukai* and *Minseito* of the 1920s, and the instability brought about by the political assassinations of the early 1930s. In contrast, the establishment of the Cabinet Planning Office in 1937, comprising mostly military officers meant that the government was fully under the military, streamlining decision-making processes and reducing political infighting. **Explanation:** This centralization of authority allowed for decisive governance and the implementation of policies without political delay. The strong leadership and unified direction under militarist rule fostered a sense of national purpose and order, which can be seen as an improvement over the previous era of political instability and infighting under Taisho democracy. **Link to Answer the Question:** Therefore, the political stability achieved under militarist rule represents a positive change, suggesting that in this aspect, militarist rule did change Japan for the better.	4 – 5
L3	**Explains how militarist rule had positive AND negative impacts on Japan** *(Award 6 marks for an explanation of the positive and negative impacts of militarist rule on Japan, and an additional mark for additional reasons or further supporting detail, up to a maximum of 8 marks).* **Alternative Impact 1**: I disagree that militarist rule changed Japan for the better, due to its negative impact on society. **Evidence**: The militarist regime more tightly controlled all aspects of society removing all potential for	6 – 8

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	opposition. For example, while different opposition groups and political parties were allowed during the democratic period, militarist rule led to the arrest and imprisonment of political leaders, intellectuals and university students who opposed the government. The military government even formed the *kempeitai,* to investigate and arrest them. The regime also enforced stricter censorship, suppressing any dissenting opinions or criticism through the 1936 Publications Monitoring Department. **Evidence**: This change was also observed in education. While the 1871 Meiji government did have ideologies such as *Fukoku Kyohei* which celebrated the importance of Emperor and Army, this was amplified by the militarist government's 1937 *Kokutai no hongi.* Curriculum under Meiji rule had taught industrial and scientific applications from the West, but this changed. Instead, the curriculum focused on ultranationalist ideas, Shinto beliefs, and physical exercise and drills to prepare students for war. **Explanation**: These policies led to the persecution of political opponents and the restriction on freedom of ideas and speech, and thus a negative change from the experience with Taisho democracy. Similarly, militarist rule also weakened the education system making the population less scientifically literate compared to during the Meiji period. **Link to Answer the Question**: Hence, the severe negative social impacts demonstrate that militarist rule did not change Japan for the better. **Alternative Impact 2**: I disagree that militarist rule changed Japan for the better, particularly in terms of long-term economic impact. **Evidence**: Initially, militarist rule stimulated economic growth through extensive military spending and industrialization, leading to a temporary boost in employment and production. The establishment of large industrial conglomerates, or *zaibatsu*, like Mitsubishi and Sumitomo, was encouraged to support wartime production. However, conditions in the countryside did not improve for the better and while there were propaganda campaigns such as the Campaign for Economic Revitalisation in 1932, the peoples' livelihoods did not improve for the better. **Explanation**: While the short-term economic recovery provided jobs and boosted industrial production, it was not sustainable. The overemphasis on military expenditure drained resources from other critical sectors, and the subsequent wartime destruction left Japan with a crippled industrial base and severe economic hardships. **Link to Answer the Question**: Therefore, despite short-term economic gains, the long-term economic devastation caused by militarist rule shows that it did not change Japan for the better economically. **Award an additional 2 marks (to a maximum of 10 marks) for a balanced conclusion based on an explicit consideration of the relative importance of different reasons.** *As an L3 plus,* In conclusion, although militarist rule brought political stability and centralized decision-making to Japan, the outcomes of these changes were overwhelmingly negative for both society and the economy. The strong, unified leadership facilitated by militarist rule enabled swift policy implementation, but the result of these policies resulted in the loss of peoples' rights, less social well-being and poorer economic outcomes for its people.	

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	Thus, while political stability served as a means to more decisive governance, the end result of these decisions were ultimately negative impacts on Japan's social fabric and economic health. Thus, militarist rule did not change Japan for the better.	

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Q3 "War began in 1939 because Hitler planned it." How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer.		
L1	**Identifies / Describes the reasons for war** *(Award 1 mark for identifying one reason, 2 marks for identifying 2 or more reasons. Award 2 marks for describing one reason and 3 marks for describing 2 or more reasons.)*	1 – 3
L2	**Explains how Hitler's planned actions led to war OR other reasons** *(Award 4 marks for an explanation of how the given or alternative factors led to war, and an additional mark for additional reasons or further supporting detail, up to a maximum of 5 marks).* **Given Factor**: I agree that World War II began in 1939 because Hitler planned it. **Evidence**: Hitler's ambitions for German expansion were clearly outlined in Mein Kampf, published in 1925, where he emphasized the need for Lebensraum, or living space, for the German people. This plan was systematically implemented with the decision to secretly rearm Germany in 1933, the reoccupation of the Rhineland in 1936, the Anschluss with Austria in 1938, and the occupation of the Sudetenland later that year. The Nazi-Soviet Pact of August 1939, which secured Germany's eastern front, was a strategic move that facilitated the invasion of Poland without Soviet interference. **Explanation**: These actions were not random but a deliberate strategy to challenge the post-World War I order established by the Treaty of Versailles and achieve European domination. Each step taken by Hitler was a calculated move towards expanding German territory and increasing its influence, culminating in the invasion of Poland, which directly triggered the war. **Link to Answer the Question**: Therefore, the systematic and strategic nature of Hitler's actions provides strong evidence that World War II began because Hitler meticulously planned it.	4 – 5
L3	**Explains how Hitler's planned actions led to war AND other reasons** *(Award 6 marks for an explanation of how the given and alternative factors led to war, and an additional mark for additional reasons or further supporting detail, up to a maximum of 8 marks).* **Alternative Factor 1:** I agree that World War II began in part because Chamberlain's policy of appeasement allowed it to happen. **Evidence:** Chamberlain's policy of appeasement as seen in the Munich Agreement of 1938, permitted Hitler to annex the Sudetenland without military opposition from Britain or France. This agreement was intended to avoid war by conceding to some of Hitler's demands, under the belief that it would satisfy his expansionist ambitions and maintain peace in Europe. **Explanation:** By allowing Hitler to annex the Sudetenland, Chamberlain effectively signalled that Britain and France would not intervene militarily against German aggression. This emboldened Hitler, who perceived the lack of resistance as a sign of weakness and an opportunity to further his territorial ambitions	6 – 8

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	without facing significant opposition. The appeasement policy underestimated Hitler's true intentions and failed to recognize that his ambitions extended far beyond the Sudetenland. Consequently, this lack of early opposition encouraged Hitler to continue his aggressive expansion, leading directly to the invasion of Poland in 1939 and the outbreak of World War II. **Link to Answer the Question:** Therefore, Chamberlain's policy of appeasement contributed to the start of the war by emboldening Hitler and failing to check his aggressive ambitions, demonstrating how appeasement can inadvertently lead to conflict. **Alternative Factor 2:** I agree that World War II began in part because Stalin's actions ensured that Germany did not have to fight a war on two fronts and gave Hitler the confidence to wage war. **Evidence:** The Nazi-Soviet Pact, signed in August 1939, was a non-aggression treaty between Germany and the Soviet Union. This pact guaranteed that the Soviet Union would not interfere with Germany's plans to invade Poland, effectively giving Hitler the green light to initiate his military campaigns without fear of Soviet opposition. **Explanation:** By signing the Nazi-Soviet Pact, Stalin eliminated the immediate threat of a two-front war for Germany, significantly strengthening Hitler's strategic position. This agreement not only secured Germany's eastern front but also provided Hitler with the resources to divert all his attention to the West and the confidence that he could win. This directly led to the invasion of Poland and the outbreak of World War II. **Link to Answer the Question:** Therefore, Stalin's decision ensured Germany's military advantage and enabling its aggressive expansion and thus the start of World War II. **Award an additional 2 marks (to a maximum of 10 marks) for a balanced conclusion based on an explicit consideration of the relative importance of different reasons.** *As an L3 plus,* In conclusion, while Hitler's meticulous planning for expansion and the Nazi-Soviet Pact were significant factors, it was Chamberlain's policy of appeasement that played the most crucial role in the start of World War II. Hitler's ambitions for Lebensraum and the strategic moves outlined in Mein Kampf could only come to fruition because the appeasement policy allowed him to proceed unchecked. The Munich Agreement of 1938, emboldened Hitler and signalled that Britain and France were unwilling to confront his aggression. This lack of resistance provided the necessary window of opportunity for Hitler to implement his plans without fear of immediate retaliation. Therefore, appeasement was the critical factor that enabled Hitler's plans, making it the primary reason for the outbreak of World War II in 1939.	

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Q4 "The Cold War ended in 1991 because of Gorbachev." How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer.		
L1	**Identifies / Describes the reasons for the Cold War's end** *(Award 1 mark for identifying one reason, 2 marks for identifying 2 or more reasons. Award 2 marks for describing one reason and 3 marks for describing 2 or more reasons.)*	1 – 3
L2	**Explains how Gorbachev's actions led to the end of the Cold War OR other reasons** *(Award 4 marks for an explanation of how the given or alternative factors led to war, and an additional mark for additional reasons or further supporting detail, up to a maximum of 5 marks).* **Given Factor:** I agree that the Cold War ended in 1991 because of Gorbachev's policies. **Evidence:** Gorbachev introduced significant reforms, such as glasnost (openness) and perestroika (restructuring), which aimed to modernize the Soviet economy and make the government more transparent. These policies inadvertently weakened the Soviet Union's control over Eastern Europe. For example, Gorbachev's decision to withdraw Soviet troops from Afghanistan in 1989 marked a significant reduction in Soviet military influence. Additionally, the Sinatra Doctrine's refusal to use force to maintain control over Eastern Bloc countries led to a wave of independence movements, such as the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989. Glasnost also allowed for public criticism of the Communist Party which reduced its credibility. **Explanation:** Gorbachev's reforms and his approach to foreign policy signaled a departure from the traditional Soviet hardline stance. By allowing greater freedom in society and reducing military intervention, he facilitated the collapse of communist regimes in Eastern Europe. This shift significantly undermined the Soviet Union's influence, leading to the end of the Cold War as Eastern European nations broke away from Soviet control and communism. **Link to Answer the Question:** Therefore, Gorbachev's policies played a crucial role in ending the Cold War, as they weakened the Soviet Union's economic and political grip, ultimately leading to the dissolution of the Soviet Union itself.	4 – 5
L3	**Explains how Gorbachev's actions led to the end of the Cold War AND other reasons** *(Award 6 marks for an explanation of how the given and alternative factors led to war, and an additional mark for additional reasons or further supporting detail, up to a maximum of 8 marks).* **Alternative Factor 1**: Reagan's pressure contributed to the end of the Cold War. **Evidence**: President Ronald Reagan adopted a more confrontational approach towards the Soviet Union, increasing military spending and initiating the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), a missile defense system. Reagan's rhetoric, such as his famous "Evil Empire" speech, and policies	6 – 8

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like the deployment of Pershing II missiles in Europe, exerted significant pressure on the Soviet Union. This arms race strained the already struggling Soviet economy. **Explanation**: Reagan's policies forced the Soviet Union to compete militarily and technologically at a time when its economy was already weak. The increased military expenditure exacerbated the Soviet economic crisis, making it difficult for the USSR to keep up with the United States. This economic pressure accelerated the collapse of the Soviet Union. **Link to Answer the Question**: Reagan's aggressive stance and military pressure also played a significant role in ending the Cold War by hastening the economic decline of the Soviet Union.

Alternative Factor 2: People power movements significantly contributed to the end of the Cold War. **Evidence**: Across Eastern Europe, mass movements and uprisings against communist regimes gained significant momentum in the 1980s. Poland's Solidarity movement, led by Lech Wałęsa, challenged the communist government and achieved a major victory in the 1989 elections. In Czechoslovakia, Václav Havel and other leaders orchestrated the Velvet Revolution, a series of non-violent protests that led to the end of communist rule in late 1989. In East Germany, widespread protests and the courage of leaders resulted in the fall of the Berlin Wall in November 1989. **Explanation**: These leaders and movements were instrumental in mobilizing the masses and coordinating efforts to dismantle Communism. These movements had endured for a long time. Some like Solidarity were started in the 1960s and continued till they achieved their aims in 1989. The collective power of these citizens and their leaders demonstrated a clear and popular rejection of communist ideology. **Link to Answer the Question:** Therefore, the leadership and widespread participation in people power movements were crucial in ending the Cold War by toppling communist governments and reducing the Soviet Union's grip on Eastern Europe, ultimately contributing to the collapse of the Soviet bloc.

Award an additional 2 marks (to a maximum of 10 marks) for a balanced conclusion based on an explicit consideration of the relative importance of different reasons.

As an L3 plus,

In conclusion, while people power movements in Eastern Europe contributed to the end of the Cold War, it was Gorbachev's policies that were decisive. Nationalist leaders and movements in Eastern Europe, such as those led by Lech Wałęsa and Václav Havel, were present as early as the 1950s and 1960s, but had failed to bring change as they were brutally suppressed by the Red Army and the Brezhnev Doctrine. Instead, the unique and necessary factor that altered the equation was Gorbachev's introduction of glasnost and perestroika, which fundamentally weakened the Soviet Union's control and credibility. His decision to withdraw from Afghanistan, the Sinatra Doctrine, and the allowance of greater freedom within Soviet society set in motion the collapse of communist regimes across Eastern Europe and the dissolution of the Soviet Union.

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