

History Summer Task- Why did the Cold War start?



Basic Information:

The Cold War was very unlike WW1 and WW2 which you may have studied at school. The Cold War was a long drawn out ideological conflict between the USA and the Soviet Union (now Russia) and lasted from c. 1945-1991. This means that the two countries were in a battle against each other because they ran their government's with very different belief systems. (Ideology = beliefs). The USA's ideology was capitalist, like the UK is today, whereas the Soviet Union was communist and both countries were in a competition with each other to show the world that their political system and way of life was more superior. They did this by taking control of other countries to create rival power groups (blocs) in Europe, Asia and across the world so that they had the most influence. They also achieved this through competing in an arms race by building up their nuclear weapons, and by fighting in wars like in or Korea and Vietnam, or proxy warfare in Africa.

Task: So why did the Cold War start? Using the following GCSE materials as a bridging task, write down as much detail for three of the causes of the Cold War in the table on the following page. Please bring this for your first lesson.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TMycLVDAeD4> (ideological differences)
 - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z8qnsbk/revision/1> (look at page 3 for ideological differences, page 2 for end of WWII and nuclear weapons)
1. **Ideological differences:** different beliefs of USA and USSR, different ways to treat their people, different systems of governments, different world outlook
 2. **End of WWII:** the USA, USSR and UK were allies during the WW2, what changes occurred to their relationship when the war ended and why?
 3. **Nuclear weapons:** these are weapons that can destroy people and buildings for hundreds of miles, although only two have been dropped in the whole history of the world (in 1945), just the threat of having them caused competition.



History 'Flying Start' Summer Task- Why did the Cold War start?

Causes of the Cold War	Detail and explanation
Cause 1: Ideological differences	
Cause 2: End of WWII	
Cause 3: Nuclear weapons	
Extension: Were there any other causes?	
Judgement: Which was the main reason as to why the Cold War started?	

Extension: Watch the following documentary on the background to the Cold War from 1919
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=22KIQ1QNhE&list=PL3H6z037pboGWTxs3xGP7HRGrQ5dOQdGc>

