

7-5.1 /7-5/2- The Cold War

The United States and the Soviet Union (USSR)– TOTAL OPPOSITES!!

Directions: Read the following passages and answer the corresponding questions.

The political and economic ideologies (ideas) of the United States and the Soviet Union were very different after World War II. The United States had limited government , a constitution, and elected representatives to provide a voice in government. The Soviet Union was very different. The Soviet Union had unlimited government, no representatives for the people and a communist state. The United States had a capitalist economy where people buy and sell goods freely. The Soviet Union had a socialist economy, where the government controlled the economy.

1. What were the characteristics of the United States Government?
2. What were the characteristics of the Soviet Union?
3. What type of economy did the United States have?
4. What type of economy did the Soviet Union have?

The differences between the United States and the Soviet Union led to tension that initiated the Cold War immediately at the end of World War II in 1945. Even before the war was officially over, tensions had begun to develop between the three Allied leaders, Roosevelt from the United States, Churchill from Great Britain, and Joseph Stalin of the Soviet Union, as they discussed the world post-war. Roosevelt and Churchill wanted the lands of Europe to have representative, limited governments, and wanted lands freed from control of the Axis Powers. They wanted the economies of European countries to follow constitutional governments and a capitalist economy. Stalin however wanted these lands to have the option of becoming communist countries with socialist systems.

5. Who did tension begin to develop between following the end of World War II?
6. What did Roosevelt and Churchill want for the lands of Europe?
7. What did Stalin want?

At the end of the war, this competition over political and economic ideas led to a complete split between the two sides when they decided what to do with devastated Germany. Since the Soviets had invaded Germany from the east, the Soviet Union had already controlled eastern Germany at the end of the war. Likewise, Great Britain, the United States, and France each occupied a zone in the remainder of Germany as they had invaded from the West. After Germany surrendered, the two sides for the Cold War were set, those in support of democratic-style governments with capitalist economies and those in support of communist-style governments with socialist economies.

8. The two sides (The US and USSR) could not decide what to do about what devastated country?

9. What side of Germany did the Soviets control?

10. What side of Germany did the US, France and Great Britain control?

11. What views did the two different sides of the Cold War have?

- Those who support _____ style governments with _____ economies and those who support _____ style governments with _____ economies.

Each side demanded its favorite style be used in Germany. (US =DEMOCRACY, USSR=COMMUNISM) A conference took place at the UN and an agreement was made to divide Germany in half. By 1949 the American, British and French occupied all zones in Western Germany and together these zones formed the Federal Republic of Germany. The Soviet Union would control the East. Berlin, the former capital of Germany, would end up being split.

12. Where did the conference take place?

13. They decided to divide _____.

14. _____, British, and _____ occupied the West.

15. The _____ controlled the East.

16. The capital city of _____ would end up being split.

These competing ideas between the United States and the USSR would lead to what was called a Cold War between Super Powers.