

Candidate's Name: _____

CT Group: _____



PIONEER JUNIOR COLLEGE

H1 HISTORY

JC 2 PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2018

8821/01: The Cold War and the Modern World (1945–2000)

DATE: 13/09/2018 (THU)

TIME: 1400–1700

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

Section A

Answer **Question 1**.

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

Write your answers on the separate answer paper provided. Write in dark blue or black ink.

Start each answer on a new piece of paper. If you use more than one sheet of paper, fasten the sheets together.

Information to candidates:

You are reminded of the need for grammatically correct English and clear presentation in your answers.

For official use

Question No.	Full Marks	Marks Obtained
1(a)	/10	
1(b)	/30	
	/30	
	/30	
	TOTAL: 100	

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Section A

You **must** answer Question 1.

THE ORIGINS OF THE COLD WAR

- 1 Read the sources and answer the questions which follow.

Source A

From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic, an "iron curtain" has descended across the Continent. Behind that line lie all the capitals of the ancient states of Central and Eastern Europe. Warsaw, Berlin, Prague, Vienna, Budapest, Belgrade, Bucharest and Sofia; all these famous cities and the populations around them 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 a very high and in some cases increasing measure of control from Moscow. The Russian-dominated Polish government has been encouraged to make enormous and wrongful inroads upon Germany. The Communist parties, which were very small in all these eastern states of Europe, have been raised to pre-eminence and power far beyond their numbers, are seeking everywhere to obtain totalitarian control. Police governments are prevailing in every sense, and so far, except in Czechoslovakia, there is no true democracy.

Excerpt from former British Prime Minister Winston Churchill's Iron Curtain speech, 5 March 1946.

Source B

The following circumstances should not be forgotten. The Germans made their invasion of the USSR through Finland, Poland, Rumania, Bulgaria and Hungary. The Germans were able to make their invasion through these countries because, at the time, governments hostile to the Soviet Union existed in these countries. As a result of the German invasion the Soviet Union has lost irretrievably in the fighting against the Germans, and also through the German occupation and the deportation of Soviet citizens to German servitude, a total of about seven million people. In other words, the Soviet Union's loss of life has been several times greater than that of Britain and United States of America put together. Possibly in some quarters an inclination is felt to forget about these colossal sacrifices of the Soviet people who secured the liberation of Europe from the Hitlerite yoke. But the Soviet Union cannot forget about them. And so what can there be surprising about the fact that the Soviet Union, anxious for its future safety, is trying to see to it that governments loyal in their attitude to the Soviet Union should exist in these countries? How can anyone who has not taken leave of his senses describe these peaceful aspirations of the Soviet Union as expansionist tendencies on the part of our state?"

Excerpt from Stalin's interview with Soviet newspaper "Pravda", 14 March 1946.

Source C

There isn't a doubt in my mind that Russia intends an invasion of Turkey and the seizure of the Black Sea Straits to the Mediterranean. Unless Russia is faced with an iron fist and strong language, another war is in the making. Only one language do they understand – "How many divisions have you?"

I do not think we should play compromise any longer. We should refuse to recognise Rumania and Bulgaria until they comply with our requirements; we should let our position on Iran be known in no uncertain terms and we should continue to insist on the internationalisation of the Rhine-Danube waterway and the Black Sea Straits and we should maintain complete control of Japan and the Pacific. We should rehabilitate China and create a strong central government there. We should do the same for Korea. Then we should insist on the return of our ships from Russia and force a settlement of the Lend-Lease Debt of Russia.

I'm tired of babying the Soviets.

*Excerpt from President Truman's letter to James Brynes, U.S.
Secretary of State, 5 January 1946.*

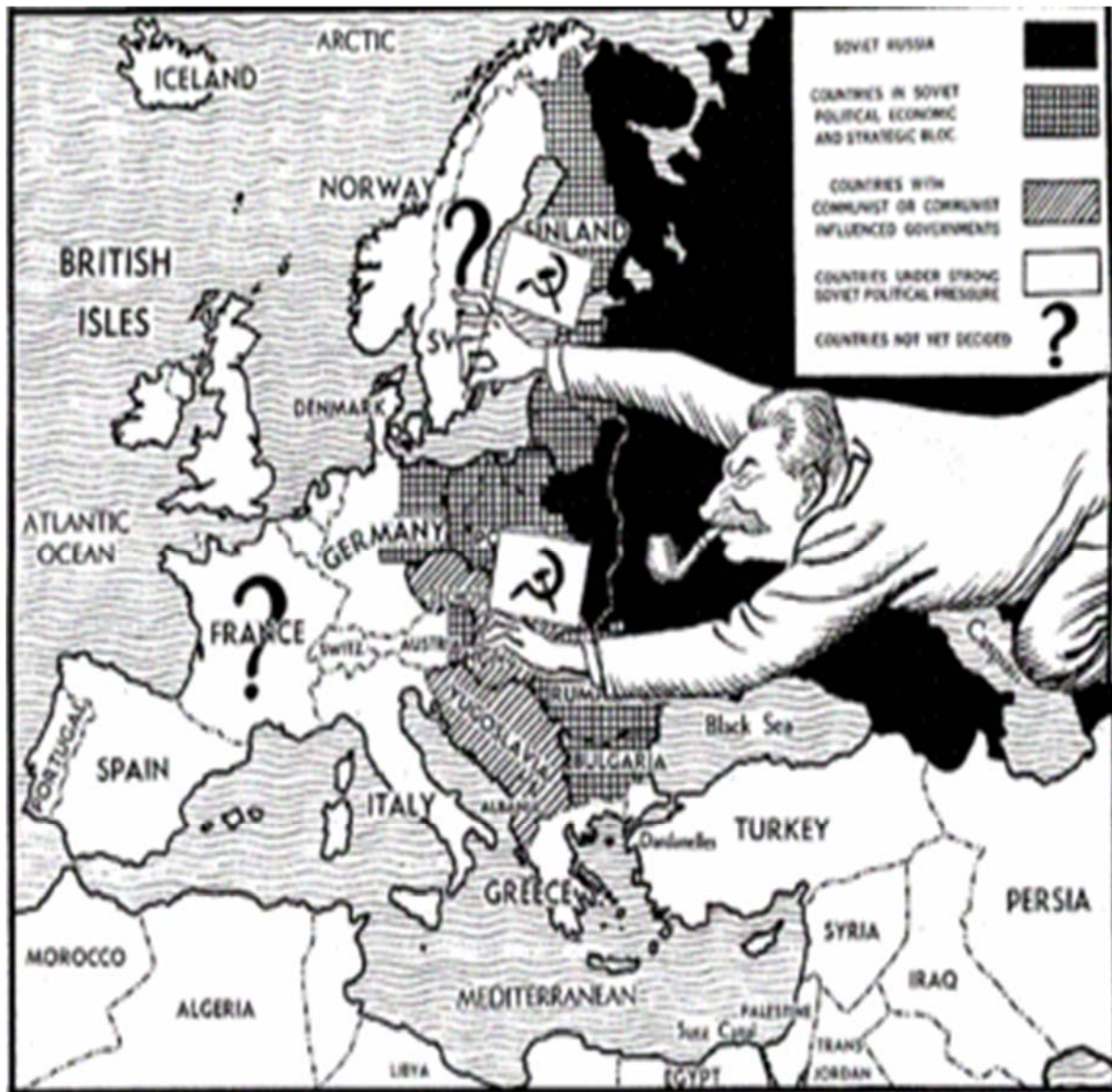
Source D

The foreign policy of the United States is characterised in the post-war period by a striving for world supremacy. For this purpose, broad plans for expansion have been developed.

These actions on the part of the US undoubtedly are also linked with American oil and other economic interests in the Middle East. It must be kept in mind, however, that incidents such as the visit by the American battleship Missouri to the Black Sea Straits, the visit of the American fleet to Greece, and the great interest that US diplomacy displays in the problem of the straits, have a double meaning. On the one hand, they indicate that the United States has decided to consolidate its position in the Mediterranean basin to support its interests. On the other hand, these incidents constitute a political and military demonstration against the Soviet Union. The strengthening of US will therefore signify the emergence of a new threat to the security of the Soviet Union.

*Telegram to the Soviet government by Soviet Ambassador to the United States,
Nikolai Novikov, 27 September 1946.*

Source E



A political cartoon drawn by a British cartoonist, published in June 1947.

Now answer the following questions:

- (a) Compare and contrast Sources A and B on their portrayal of Soviet actions in Eastern Europe after World War II. [10]
- (b) How far do Sources A–E support the assertion that Soviet aggression in Europe was responsible for the outbreak of the Cold War from 1945? [30]

Section B

You must answer **two** questions from this section.

EITHER

2. "When China's relations with the USSR worsened, ties with the USA improved."
How far do you agree with this statement in the period between 1950 and 1979?

OR

3. Assess the importance of ASEAN to Singapore's foreign policy during the Third Indochina War.

AND EITHER

4. "Compared to the UN General Assembly, the role played by the UN Secretary-General during the Cold War was more critical." Discuss.

OR

5. To what extent was the success of United Nations peacekeeping efforts in the 1956 Suez Crisis enabled by the absence of great power politics?

---THE END---

This document consists of **6** printed pages.

Suggested Answer Guide

Section A

THE ORIGINS OF THE COLD WAR

- (c)** Compare and contrast Sources A and B as evidence on Soviet actions in Eastern Europe after World War II. [10]

Level	Marks	Descriptor
L0	0	No evidence submitted or answer does not address the question.
L1	1-3	Answer describes and/or paraphrases content of the sources with underdeveloped and/or weak comparison between sources. Topic sentences do not even address the question directly.
L2	4-7	Answer will compare and contrast both sources based on their content ideas only. Valid inferences such as the sources agree that Soviet actions in Eastern Europe have been assertive, and/or the sources however disagree on the intent behind Soviet's assertiveness.
L3	8-10	On top of L2, students are able to explain why the sources are similar and different based on their context. There are 3 points that students can discuss in their answer: 1. Source A is a speech to rouse US desire to resist Soviet expansionism. 2. Source B is a response to Source A. 3. Source B reflects Stalin's worry about confronting the west.

- (d)** How far do Sources A–E support the assertion that Soviet aggression in Europe was responsible for the outbreak of the Cold War from 1945? [30]

Level	Marks	Descriptor
L0	0	No evidence submitted or the answer does not address the question.
L1	1-6	The answer will make limited use of the sources. The sources may be paraphrased or described. Answers which are simply based on contextual knowledge with no source use should be credited at this level.
L2	7-12	The answer will use relevant information from sources at face value to support and/or challenge the hypothesis. Sources may be used in isolation. The answer may demonstrate some awareness of provenance of the sources but evaluation of the sources is unlikely.

L3	13-18	Answer will begin to group the sources as sets. A, C and E supports the thesis statement, whereas B and D disagree. Responses explain at least one perspective with thorough but isolated explanation of each source, without showing how multiple sources are related. Evaluation of sources is also absent at this level.
L4	19-24	Sources are discussed in sets, and common inferences are drawn out to indicate clearly why these sources are related. For example, A and C corroborated with each other to show the belief amongst western leaders on how USSR could be a prime cause for the Cold War, and summed up by E, showed that from hindsight in 1947, their assumption has been true. B and D agreed with each other that western aggressiveness is the cause for Cold War. Students at this level are beginning to evaluate the sources in context. The responses at this level should also include stand taken on the thesis statement.
L5	25-30	On top of L4, students are able to make very good use of the sources by showing that all five sources are very much perspective-based, that if taken together, clearly highlighted the deep-seated distrusts both blocs had against each other. They are the cause and effect of one another. Responses could therefore take the stand that the Cold War is an outcome of both Soviet and western factors, which in turn are mutually reinforcing. There are also missing gaps between the sources, such as the advent of the Marshall Plan, that students can use their contextual knowledge to explain, by relating it to Source E.

Section B

2. “When China’s relations with the USSR worsened, ties with the USA improved.” How far do you agree with this statement in the period between 1950 and 1979?

Candidates need to understand the implications of the question statement and focus on addressing the correlation between Sino-Soviet relations and Sino-US relations between 1950 and 1979. Addressing the Sino-Soviet split separately without analysing its impact on the eventual Sino-US rapprochement in the 1970s, and vice versa, does not address the question’s requirements. The best answers would recognise that Sino-US ties only took a positive turn from the late 1960s, even though the open Sino-Soviet split had already emerged by the early 1960s. Weak answers may misinterpret the question as accounting for the key reason why China’s relations with the USA improved and end up failing to answer the question properly.

3. Assess the importance of ASEAN to Singapore’s foreign policy during the Third Indochina War.

Candidates need to focus clearly on evaluating ASEAN's importance to Singapore's foreign policy during the Cambodian Crisis. In considering the importance of ASEAN, they will also need to compare ASEAN with other international platforms, such as the United Nations and Non-Alignment Movement, employed by Singapore to pursue its objectives. Candidates will need a good understanding of Singapore's foreign policy approach during this crisis period to properly address the question. Weaker candidates may end up confusing themselves between the Second and Third Indochina Wars, as well as neglect the importance of other international organisations and actors to Singapore in the context of this question.

4. "Compared to the UN General Assembly, the role played by the UN Secretary-General during the Cold War was more critical." Discuss.

Candidates need to come up with relevant areas of comparison that allow them to directly weigh the importance of the UN General Assembly (UNGA) against that of the UN Secretary-General (UNSG). In evaluating such comparisons, they would naturally need to bring in the Cold War context and power politics affecting the UN, especially the UN Security Council, and consider the extent to which the UNGA and UNSG were able to carry out their envisioned roles effectively under such circumstances. The weakest answers tend to analyse the effectiveness of the UNGA and UNSG separately with little attempts at comparison, and may even forget the question timeframe and bring in invalid case studies from the post-Cold War period (e.g. UNSG Boutros Boutros-Ghali).

5. To what extent was the success of United Nations peacekeeping efforts in the 1956 Suez Crisis enabled by the absence of great power politics?

To properly tackle this question, candidates need to have a good knowledge of the 1956 Suez Crisis and also clearly define the meaning of "great power politics" in the context of the Cold War. While the topic is on the reasons for the UN's successful peacekeeping efforts in this crisis, candidates need to critically consider the implications of the question statement and question whether there was really a complete absence of great power politics, bearing in mind that the 2 Cold War superpowers were not the only great powers involved in this crisis. They may also need to consider the role played by the UN General Assembly as well as the host state, Egypt. The weakest answers may end up simply listing the different factors accounting for the UN's success in the Suez Crisis.