

Past-paper walk-through

Two Super Powers Emerge ■ 9.4

eXercise

Questions in this set

- 2025 Set 2 Q4
- 2023 Set 1 Q4

Reading the mark scheme

- **B1** a mark that stands on its own – the point is either made or not.
- **M1** a *method* mark: the right approach, even if the number is wrong.
- **A1** an *answer* mark, and it usually needs its M mark first.
- **C1** a working mark on the way to the answer.
- **//** separates answers the examiner accepts equally.
- **ecf** = error carried forward: a later part is marked on your own earlier answer.
- **owtte** = “or words to that effect” – the wording need not match.

Question 4

2025 Set 2 ■ Q4

Respond to parts A, B, and C.

- (a)** Describe one significant political characteristic of European unification efforts in the period from 1945 to 1990.
- (b)** Describe one economic factor that facilitated European unification efforts in the period from 1945 to 1990.
- (c)** Explain one way the economic system in Eastern Europe differed from the economic system in Western Europe in the period from 1945 to 1990.

Solution 4

(a) Mark scheme

- Describe one significant political characteristic of European unification efforts in the period from 1945 to 1990. (1 point) — accept any: Unification efforts in Western Europe, including but not limited to NATO, were motivated by the competition with the socialist Eastern bloc, which responded by uniting under the Warsaw Pact.; Unification was a gradual process that was mostly pushed by France and West Germany.; Attempts at political unification were intended to follow economic unification.; European unification was a means for Western European countries to challenge the dominance of the United States after World War II.

Solution 4

(b) Mark scheme

- Describe one economic factor that facilitated European unification efforts in the period from 1945 to 1990. (1 point) — accept any: Unification efforts in Western Europe were spearheaded with economic measures like abolishing tariffs and trade barriers.; United States economic support to Western Europe such as the Marshall Plan encouraged states to make moves towards unification.; Integration began with the successful coal and steel treaty which motivated next steps for unification.; The loss of overseas colonies deprived Western European states of captive markets for goods and of exploitable resources, which encouraged the lowering of trade barriers within Western Europe.

Solution 4

(c) Mark scheme

- Explain one way the economic system in Eastern Europe differed from the economic system in Western Europe in the period 1945 to 1990. (1 point) — accept any: Countries in Western Europe rebuilt their economies faster than the countries of the Soviet bloc due to the Marshall Plan, which led to the “economic miracle.”; Western Europe was more prosperous than the countries of the Eastern bloc due to free market policies, in contrast to the centrally planned economic development pushed by the Soviet Union, which proved to be ineffective.; Western European countries, integrated into the global economy, developed richer consumer culture while this did not happen in the less prosperous countries of the Soviet bloc.

Question 4

2023 Set 1 ■ Q4

Respond to parts a, b, and c.

- (a)** Describe one cause for the development of the Cold War in the mid-1900s.
- (b)** Explain one way in which the Cold War affected Europe in the second half of the 1900s.
- (c)** Explain one reason why the Cold War ended in the late 1900s.

Solution 4

(a)

Mark scheme

- Describe one cause for the development of the Cold War in the mid-1900s. (1 point) — accept any: The previously existing fear of the spread of communism in the West after the Bolshevik Revolution.; The Soviet occupation of Eastern Europe and the installation of communist regimes (Iron Curtain/Eastern Bloc).; The Soviet fear of another invasion by Germany/the West as had happened in the World Wars. The development of nuclear weapons first by the United States and then the Soviet Union.

Solution 4

(b) Mark scheme

- Explain one way in which the Cold War affected Europe in the second half of the 1900s. (1 point) — accept any: Both sides created economic unions (EEC/COMECON) to bind nations together and advance their economic ideologies.; Alliance systems of mutual security were created in the West and the East (NATO/Warsaw Pact).; The United States played a much greater role in Western European culture, economics, and politics than it had before the Second World War (Marshall Plan, Truman Doctrine).; Eastern and Western Europe followed very different economic and social paths, as the West embraced individualism, capitalist consumerism, and social welfare programs, and the East pursued a more collective system based on central planning and suppression of

Solution 4

dissent.; Fears of nuclear conflict and mutually assured destruction (intensified by arms race) loomed over European society.

Solution 4

(c) Mark scheme

- Explain one reason why the Cold War ended in the late 1900s. (1 point) — accept any: Economic discontent in the Eastern Bloc grew, manifesting in opposition movements such as Solidarity in Poland.; Soviet Premier Gorbachev implemented economic and political reforms that allowed for more criticism of the government and openness to the West.; A western arms buildup, in addition to the drain of the Afghanistan War, pushed Soviet military spending beyond the state's capacity to maintain.; Unlike prior uprisings against communist rule in Hungary and Czechoslovakia, the Soviet Union refused to intervene against the uprisings in Eastern Europe in 1989.