



## Memory map

Use the information on the opposite page to create a memory map about the key features of the Hungarian uprising of 1956. Your diagram should include the reasons for the Soviet invasion, the events of the invasion, its importance and consequences.



## You're the examiner

Below is an exam-style question.

Write a narrative account analysing the key events which increased rivalry between the two superpowers in the years 1949–56.

You may use the following information in your answer:

- NATO (1949)
- The Hungarian Crisis (1956)

You must also use information of your own.

- Below are a mark scheme and a paragraph which is part of an answer to the question. Read the paragraph and the mark scheme. Decide which level you would award the paragraph. Write the level below, along with a justification for your choice.

### Mark scheme

Level	Mark	
1	1–2	A simple or generalised narrative is provided, showing limited development, organisation of material and limited knowledge and understanding of the events included
2	3–5	A narrative is given showing some organisation of material into a sequence of events leading to an outcome. The account shows some analysis of the linkage between them but some of the passages may lack coherence and organisation  Accurate and relevant knowledge is added, showing some knowledge and understanding of the events.  <i>Maximum 4 marks for answers that do not go beyond aspects prompted by the stimulus points</i>
3	6–8	A narrative is given which organises material into a clear sequence of events leading to an outcome. The account of the events analyses the linkage between them and is coherent and logically structured  Accurate and relevant knowledge is included, showing good knowledge and understanding of the key features or characteristics of the events  <i>No access to Level 3 for answers that do not go beyond aspects prompted by the stimulus points</i>

### STUDENT ANSWER

In April 1949, the North Atlantic Treaty was signed. Although a defensive alliance, NATO's main purpose was to prevent Soviet expansion. The USA was now committed to the defence of Western Europe. Stalin did not believe it was a defensive alliance. He believed it was aimed against the Soviet Union. In 1956, the Soviet Union invaded Hungary. Khrushchev did not want to be seen as weak by other members of the Warsaw Pact. He was afraid that events in Hungary could encourage similar revolts in other Soviet satellite states. There was very little that the West, especially the USA and Britain, could do, apart from condemn the actions of the Soviet Union, to help the Hungarians.

Level  Reason \_\_\_\_\_

- Now suggest what the student has to do with this paragraph to achieve the next level.

- Try and rewrite this paragraph at a higher level.

# Key topic 2 Cold War crises, 1958–70

In the 1960s there were three major crises in the Cold War. Each one greatly increased tension between the superpowers. The first was in 1961 when the Soviet Union constructed the Berlin Wall separating East Berlin from West Berlin. The following year the two superpowers were on the brink of nuclear war due to the Cuban Missile Crisis. The third crisis was in 1968 and was due to developments in Czechoslovakia.

## 1 Increased tension over Berlin, 1958–61

REVISED

The Soviet Union's desire to remove the Western Allies from Berlin created a crisis in 1961.

### 1.1 Problems in East Germany

Even after 1949, Berlin continued to pose a problem for the USA and Soviet Union:

- Between 1949 and 1961, about 4 million East Germans fled to the West through Berlin. Khrushchev wanted the removal of the Allies because West Berlin was an area of capitalist prosperity and symbolised the success of Western Europe within communist territory.
- The Soviet Union also claimed that the USA and its Allies used West Berlin as a base for espionage.

### The Berlin Ultimatum

In 1958, Khrushchev issued the Berlin **Ultimatum**. He accused the Allies of breaking the Potsdam Agreement, and told them that they should leave Berlin within six months. The US president, Eisenhower, seemed prepared to negotiate. He did not want to risk a war over Berlin.

### Summit meetings, 1959–61

- In May 1959, the Geneva Summit of Foreign Ministers failed to reach agreement on the problem of Berlin.
- In September 1959, Khrushchev visited the USA to attend a summit meeting at Camp David. Disarmament was discussed and they agreed on a further summit meeting over Berlin.
- Khrushchev and Eisenhower were set to meet in Paris on 14 May 1960. Nine days before the **summit conference** was due to open, the Soviet Union announced that it had shot down an American U-2 spy plane near the city of Sverdlovsk. The pilot was captured and put on trial.
- Khrushchev demanded that all such flights stop and that the USA apologise for spying. Eisenhower would not and Khrushchev stormed out of the first session.
- At the Vienna summit of June 1961, Khrushchev again demanded that Western forces leave West Berlin. The new US president, **Kennedy**, refused.

### 1.2 The Berlin Wall, 1961

The differences over Berlin worsened in 1961 with the building of the Berlin Wall:

- On 13 August 1961, Khrushchev closed the border between East and West Berlin. East German troops and workers installed barbed-wire entanglements and fences.
- The USA and its Allies did nothing to stop the building of a wall.
- Over time, East German officials replaced the makeshift wall with one that was sturdier and more difficult to scale.

#### Key terms

##### Summit conference

A meeting of heads of state or government, usually with considerable media exposure and tight security

**Ultimatum** A final demand or statement of terms, the rejection of which will result in retaliation or a breakdown in relations

#### Key individual

**John F. Kennedy** Won the US presidential election of 1960 and was the US leader during the Berlin Crisis of 1961 and the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962. He was determined to get tough with communism but his presidency was short-lived as he was assassinated in 1963

#### Revision task

Prioritise the consequences of the events of the early 1960s in Berlin.

#### Exam tip

Ensure you do not confuse the events of 1961 with the Berlin Crisis of 1948–49.

## Consequences

- Peace was maintained, but at a price for the German people. Families were split, and travel restrictions made it very difficult for relatives to see one another.
- The construction of the Berlin Wall led to a serious stand-off between the two superpowers.
- President Kennedy worked behind the scenes to avoid conflict. He promised Khrushchev that if the Soviet Union removed its troops, the USA would do the same. This ended the stand-off.
- The flow of refugees was stopped.
- President Kennedy visited West Germany in 1963. He declared that the city was a symbol of the struggle between the forces of freedom and the communist world and coined the famous phrase '*Ich bin ein Berliner*' ('I am a Berliner').



## Identifying consequences

Below is an exam-style question.

**Explain two consequences of the Berlin Crisis of 1961.**

In answering this question, it is important that you focus on consequence. In the table below are statements about the Berlin Crisis. Identify (with a tick in the appropriate column) whether they are causes, events or consequences of the Berlin Crisis.

Statement	Cause	Event	Consequence
The flow of refugees was stopped. It led to the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962			
On 13 August 1961, Khrushchev closed the border between East and West Berlin			
The construction of the Berlin Wall led to a serious stand-off between the two superpowers			
Between 1949 and 1961, about 4 million East Germans fled to the West through Berlin			
The East German officials replaced the makeshift wall with one that was sturdier and more difficult to scale			
It led to the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962			
East German troops and workers installed barbed-wire entanglements and fences			
The Soviet Union claimed that the USA and its Allies used West Berlin as a base for espionage			



## How important

Here is an exam-style question:

**Explain the importance of the Berlin Crisis (1961) for the development of the Cold War.**

Below is a table showing the importance of the Berlin Crisis. Copy and complete the table by:

- making a decision about how important each factor was in the development of the Cold War
- briefly explaining each decision.

Factor	Very important	Important	Quite important
Berlin Wall			
The Paris Summit, 1960			
Kennedy's visit to Berlin			

## 2 The Cuban Missile Crisis

REVISED

The Cuban Missile Crisis was the most serious crisis of the Cold War, with the two superpowers close to nuclear war.

### 2.1 Increased tension over Cuba

- The USA had strong economic interests in Cuba and controlled most of Cuba's industry, railways and electricity production.
- In 1959, Fidel Castro led a successful revolution against the unpopular and repressive military dictator of Cuba, General Batista, who had been under the influence of the USA.
- Castro wanted greater independence from the USA and took all American property that was located in Cuba. In response, the USA banned the import of Cuban sugar, which threatened to bankrupt the Cuban economy.
- The USA, aware that Castro had some connections to communism, refused to acknowledge his government. Castro removed US influence from Cuba and moved closer to the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union offered to buy Cuban sugar and to provide machinery and technological help.

#### The Bay of Pigs incident

- In 1961, the USA organised an attempt to overthrow Castro, known as the Bay of Pigs invasion. This was a total failure for President Kennedy. The CIA had been convinced that the Cuban people would revolt against Castro. However, they underestimated his popularity and there was no uprising.
- As a result of this failure, Castro grew closer to the Soviet leader, Khrushchev, and, in May 1962, agreed to station Soviet nuclear weapons on Cuba. On 14 October, an American U-2 spy plane took photos revealing that missile sites were being built.

#### Key term

**CIA** Central Intelligence Agency: the arm of the US government tasked with espionage and intelligence activities

#### Revision task

Draw a table which includes the USA, the Soviet Union and Cuba. In the table, explain what each country gained from the Cuban Missile Crisis. Which country do you think gained the most from the crisis?

#### Exam tip

The Cuban Missile Crisis is a popular exam topic. Ensure you thoroughly revise the causes, events and results.

### 2.2 Events of the Cuban Missile Crisis

Days in October 1962	Events
16	Kennedy was told that Khrushchev intended to build missile sites in Cuba
18–19	Kennedy held talks with his closest advisers. The 'Hawks' wanted an aggressive policy, while the 'Doves' favoured a peaceful solution
20	Kennedy decided to impose a naval blockade around Cuba to prevent Soviet missiles and equipment reaching Cuba. The Americans searched any ship suspected of carrying arms or missiles
21	Kennedy made a broadcast to the American people, informing them of the potential threat and what he intended to do
23	Khrushchev sent a letter to Kennedy insisting that Soviet ships would force their way through the blockade
24	Khrushchev issued a statement insisting that the Soviet Union would use nuclear weapons in the event of a war
25	Kennedy wrote to Khrushchev asking him to withdraw missiles from Cuba
26	Khrushchev replied to Kennedy's letter. He said he would withdraw the missiles if the USA promised not to invade Cuba and to withdraw its missiles from Turkey
27	A US spy plane was shot down over Cuba. Attorney General Robert Kennedy (brother of the president) proposed a deal with the Soviet Union. The USA would withdraw missiles from Turkey as long as it was kept secret
28	Khrushchev accepted the deal

## Consequences

The superpowers had almost gone to war: a war that would have destroyed much of the world. However, the crisis did lead to better relations:

- The ‘hotline’: to ensure that the two leaders could communicate more quickly and directly, a hotline telephone link was established between the White House and the Kremlin.
- The Limited Test Ban Treaty, 1963: both the USA and the Soviet Union agreed to stop testing nuclear weapons above ground and underwater.
- The Outer Space Treaty 1967: the two superpowers, together with Britain and several other countries promised to use outer space for peaceful purposes and not to place nuclear weapons in orbit.
- The Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty, 1968: this was designed to stop the spread of nuclear weapons.
- Relations between the two superpowers also improved with the USA selling grain to the Soviet Union.



### You're the examiner

Below is an exam-style question.

Write a narrative account analysing the key events of 1959–62 which led to the Cuban Missile Crisis (1962).

You may use the following information in your answer.

- Castro becomes leader
- The Bay of Pigs invasion (1961)

You must also use information of your own.

- 1 Below is a paragraph which is part of an answer to the question. Read the paragraph and use the mark scheme on page 15. Decide which level you would award the paragraph. Write the level below, along with a justification for your choice.

### STUDENT ANSWER

Castro removed American influence from Cuba and moved closer to the Soviet Union. Khrushchev and the Soviet Union increased their influence in Cuba when they offered to buy Cuban sugar and to provide machinery and technological help. In 1959, Castro had led a successful revolution against the military dictator of Cuba, General Batista, who had been very much under the influence of America. The USA did not like Castro and the influence of the Soviet Union in Cuba. The USA organised an attempt to overthrow Castro, known as the Bay of Pigs invasion, to remove Castro. This failed because the CIA had been convinced that the Cuban people would revolt against Castro but they did not. The Cuban Missile Crisis then started.

Level  Reason \_\_\_\_\_

- 2 Now suggest what the student has to do to achieve a higher level.

---



---

- 3 Try and rewrite this paragraph at a higher level.

## 3 The Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia, 1968

REVISED

This severely tested closer relations between the superpowers.

### 3.1 Increased tension over Czechoslovakia

In the 1960s there was growing opposition to Soviet control for several reasons:

- Antonín Novotný had been the Czech leader since 1957. He was unpopular because he was a hardline communist who refused to introduce reform.
- The Czech economy was in serious decline in the 1960s. This led to a fall in the standard of living. Novotný's attempts at economic reform were unsuccessful.
- Many Czechs began to demand greater democracy, including **Alexander Dubček**.

### 3.2 The Prague Spring

The 'Prague Spring' refers to a series of reforms introduced by Dubček in the spring of 1968. The reforms included:

- Greater political freedom including free speech and the abolition of press censorship.
- The powers of the secret police to arrest without trial were reduced.
- Travel restrictions were removed and fresh contact was made with the West, such as trade with West Germany.
- More power to regional governments and to the Czech parliament.
- The introduction of elements of capitalism in the economy.
- The production of new literature supporting the changes.
- The creation of works councils representing the workforce to improve working conditions in factories and increased rights for trade unions.
- A ten-year programme for political change which would bring about democratic elections, and create a new form of democratic socialism.

Dubček's reforms, however, encouraged the growth of opposition to communism and demands for even more radical reforms.

### 3.3 Re-establishing Soviet control

The Soviet Union was suspicious of the changes taking place in Czechoslovakia:

- **Brezhnev** was worried that Czechoslovakia might leave the Warsaw Pact and that NATO might move in.
- Brezhnev came under pressure from the East German leader, Walter Ulbricht, and the Polish leader, Gomułka, to stop reform in Czechoslovakia.

#### Key features of invasion

- On 20–21 August 1968, thousands of Warsaw Pact troops entered Czechoslovakia.
- Czechs threw petrol bombs at the Soviet tanks as they moved through Prague. Buildings were set on fire and protesters assembled in Wenceslas Square.
- Dubček and the other leaders were arrested and taken to Moscow, and forced to accept the end of the Czech moves towards democracy.

#### Key individuals

##### Leonid Brezhnev

Succeeded Khrushchev as leader of the Soviet Union in 1964. He remained as leader until his death in 1982. He supported the policy of *détente* and ordered the invasion of Afghanistan in 1979, which ended this policy and led to the Second Cold War

##### Alexander Dubček

A Slovak politician and, briefly, leader of Czechoslovakia. He attempted to reform the Communist regime during the Prague Spring of 1968 but he was forced to resign following the Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia. In 1969 he was removed as leader. He was killed in a car accident in 1992

#### Revision task

Place the following events in chronological order:

- Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia
- Jan Palach set himself on fire
- Prague Spring
- Brezhnev Doctrine.

Give a brief explanation of the importance of each.

#### Exam tip

You may well be asked to explain key developments in Czechoslovakia in 1968 or the consequences of the Soviet invasion. Ensure you thoroughly revise this crisis.

## Consequences of Soviet invasion

States	Consequence
Czechoslovakia	Demonstrations against the Soviet invasion went on until April 1969. In January 1969, Jan Palach, a student, set fire to himself in Wenceslas Square to protest against the Soviet invasion
Soviet Union	It gave rise to the Brezhnev Doctrine. This redefined communism as a one-party state where all member countries had to remain part of the Warsaw Pact. It also sent out a message to the members of the Warsaw Pact that the Soviet Union would suppress any attempt to relax Communist control
Warsaw Pact states	Some Communist countries began to move away from Moscow. President Ceausescu of Romania refused to send troops to join the forces invading Czechoslovakia

### 3.4 International reaction

The Soviet invasion temporarily worsened relations between East and West. The West, especially Britain and the USA, protested at Soviet actions. The USA did nothing else because they were preoccupied with the war in Vietnam.

Western European countries followed the USA's lead – they condemned the invasion but provided no military help. Western European Communist parties in Italy and France were outraged by the Soviet invasion.



### Relevance

Below are an exam-style question and a series of statements on the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia. Decide which statements are:

- relevant to the question (R)
- partially relevant to the question (PR)
- irrelevant to the question (I).

Tick the appropriate column.

Explain **two** consequences of the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia (1968).

Statements	R	PR	I
The Soviet invasion temporarily worsened relations between East and West			
In the 1960s, there was growing opposition to Soviet control of Czechoslovakia			
Western European countries condemned the invasion but provided no military help			
Some Communists, including Ceausescu of Romania, began to move away from Moscow			
On 20–21 August 1968, hundreds and thousands of Warsaw Pact troops entered Czechoslovakia			
Czechs threw petrol bombs at the Soviet tanks as they moved through Prague			
Novotný had been the Czech leader since 1957 and was unpopular because he was a hardline Communist			
It gave rise to the Brezhnev Doctrine. This redefined communism as a one-party state			
Many Czechs began to demand greater democracy, including Dubček			
During the Soviet invasion, buildings were set on fire and protesters assembled in Wenceslas Square			
The 'Prague Spring' refers to a series of reforms introduced by Dubček in the spring of 1968			
In January 1969, Jan Palach, a student, set fire to himself in Wenceslas Square to protest against the Soviet invasion			

Now write an answer to this question.

# Key topic 3 The end of the Cold War, 1970–91

Cold War relations changed greatly during these years. During the 1970s, the policy of *détente* improved East–West relations. However, the Soviet Union’s invasion of Afghanistan in 1979 brought about the Second Cold War. By 1989, the leaders of the USA and the Soviet Union had announced that the Cold War was over.

## 1 Attempts to reduce tension between East and West 1

REVISED

After the Cuban Missile Crisis there was a move to improve relations and relax tension between the USA and Soviet Union. This became known as *détente* or a policy of *thaw*.

### 1.1 *Détente* in the 1970s

*Détente* emerged due to developments in the late 1960s and early 1970s:

- The threat of a nuclear war during the Cuban Missile Crisis had had a sobering effect on all concerned.
- Both the USA and the Soviet Union were keen on arms limitation talks in order to reduce their ever-increasing defence spending.
- By 1968, the USA was seeking to end the war. After **Richard Nixon** became president, it was hoped that if the USA improved trade and technology links and made an offer of arms reduction, then Brezhnev might persuade his North Vietnamese ally to negotiate an end to the war. The idea of offering concessions was called ‘linkage’ by Nixon’s advisers.
- Nixon had visited China three months earlier and Brezhnev did not want to see a Chinese–US alliance develop. The Soviet leader was keen to gain access to US technology and further grain sales.

#### Key terms

**Ballistic** The flight of an object through space, such as rockets that are fired from weapons. A ballistic missile is guided only when it is first launched

***Détente*** The relaxing of tension or hostility between nations

**SALT** Strategic Arms Limitation Talks: attempts by the USA and the Soviet Union to agree to limit the arms race

**Thaw** A period of improved relations between East and West

### 1.2 SALT 1

The Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (**SALT 1**) began in 1969 and were completed in May 1972:

- The two superpowers agreed that there would be no further production of strategic **ballistic** missiles (short-range, lightweight missiles).
- Both powers agreed that submarines carrying nuclear weapons would only be introduced when existing stocks of intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) became obsolete.

SALT 1 was significant because it was the first agreement between the superpowers that successfully limited the number of nuclear weapons they held.

### 1.3 The Helsinki Agreements

These were signed in 1975. The USA and the USSR, along with 33 other nations, made declarations about three distinct international issues (called ‘baskets’ by the signatories).

#### Key individual

**Richard Nixon** Served as US president from 1969 until his resignation in 1974. He was responsible for improved relations with both China and the Soviet Union

#### Exam tip

*Détente* is the least well-known period of the Cold War. Ensure you know what it means and its key features.

Security	Cooperation	Human rights
Recognition of Europe’s frontiers The Soviet Union accepted the existence of West Germany	There was a call for closer economic, scientific and cultural links – these would lead to even closer political agreement	Each signatory agreed to respect human rights and basic freedoms such as thought, speech, religion and freedom from unfair arrest