

Contemporary Worlds Short Answer Questions

NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organisation): NATO is the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation and was established by the North Atlantic Treaty (4 April 1949) as an intergovernmental military alliance between countries such as the US, Canada, France and Great Britain. The establishment of NATO was primarily in response to the threat posed by the superpower of the Soviet Union. NATO was also founded in the hope of deterring Soviet expansionism, forbidding the revival of nationalist militarism in Europe through a strong US presence, whilst at the same time encouraging European political integration. A primary catalyst to the establishment of NATO came in 1948 as the Soviet Union blockaded Berlin, in which a combined effort by Western allies, in the form of the Berlin air lift, was necessary to carry supplies to people in the West of Berlin. The importance of NATO was soon realised at the outbreak of the Korean War in 1950 which further escalated tensions in the polarized Cold War environment as it illustrated the apparent threat of communism, and demonstrated the necessity of all countries to work together. The creation of NATO was an important event at the beginning of the Cold War in so far as it galvanised the relationship between Western countries in their opposition to Soviet expansionism. Moreover, the founding of the Warsaw Pact, the Eastern Bloc's equivalent of NATO, was an immediate consequence of NATO's establishment. The alliance formed in the North Atlantic Treaty also strongly influenced foreign policy in the Cold War, as it required member states to come to the aid of any other member state subject to an armed attack, and can thus be inherently linked with the United States foreign policy of containment.

Warsaw Pact: The Warsaw Pact was an alliance set up in 1955 under a mutual defence treaty signed in Warsaw by Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Poland, Romania, and the USSR. It was the Soviet Bloc's equivalent to NATO. The Warsaw Pact was the military complement to the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (COMECON) and was in part a Soviet military reaction to the integration of West Germany into NATO in 1955 per the Paris Peace Accords. The establishment of the Warsaw Pact was primarily motivated by Soviet desires to maintain control over military forces in central and Eastern Europe. The creation of the Warsaw Pact affirmed the polarisation of the Cold War, in so far as it reinforced the division between the communist Soviet Union and the capitalist United States. Moreover, the Warsaw Pact had a significant role in later years in events such as the Hungarian Revolution of 1956 and the Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia in the Prague Spring of 1968.

Détente: Détente refers to the period during the Cold War from 1969-1979 when the superpowers of the United States and the Soviet Union increased diplomacy and tensions between the two powers was reduced. The rise of détente can be seen as a result of the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962 which led to Soviet arms build-up and parity between the US and USSR's nuclear arms and the resulting strategic arms limitation agreement (SALT 1). Simultaneously, many countries within the Soviet bloc such as the Balkan states which had been taken over by the USSR wanted détente. Moreover, the Sino-Soviet split destroyed the myth of a communist monolith and led to Sino-American relations. The overall failure of détente and the re-escalation of tensions in the late 1970s and early 1980s was predominantly a result of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979 as well as the failure of the superpowers to agree how to act in relation to the Third World countries, who only wanted détente and to remain free from the Cold War conflict.

Radcliffe Line: Drawn up by Sir Cyril Radcliffe in 1947, the Radcliffe Line was the partitioning line of India that was urgently drawn up due to escalating tensions between Hindus and Muslims in the area of British India following the end of World War Two and the promise of national self-determination to India. As a result of the urgency of dividing India, the fact that Radcliffe had never been to India and also that the partition was based solely on religion, even though religious

majorities were very slim, culminated in a border that divided villages, railways, roads and even house, thus dividing families and creating an atmosphere for anger and violence in India and the newly created Pakistan. The conflict that arose was fundamentally due to the fact that India, which had a Muslim majority, was now a Hindu state, and Pakistan, which was previously Hindu dominated, was now a Muslim state, resulting in mass migration from both countries to the other, and consequently, mass violence and killings. The significance of the partitioning of India and the Radcliffe line was that the establishment of India, and appointment of Nehru as its first Prime Minister saw the implementation of the foreign policy of 'non-alignment', in which India opted against siding with either the Soviet Union or United States in the Cold War. This was the beginnings of the non-aligned movement which called for Cold War détente and the eradication of imperialism. Moreover, the partition left areas of conflict that are still present today such as the area of Kashmir.

Pan Arabism: Pan Arabism was a movement to unite all Arab states as one and was advocated for by the Egyptian leader Gamal Abdul Nasser. The movement arose from the Arab alienation experienced during the period of the Ottoman Empire. Pan Arabism was significant in the context of the Middle East in so far as it was the driving force behind the process of decolonisation in Egypt as Nasser stood up to imperial powers such as Britain and France who attempted to reduce the control that the Egyptians had over their own affairs. Moreover, the ideology of pan Arabism was important in the context of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the rise of political Islam in so far as the continued failure of the Arab League to liberate Palestinians led to the Palestinian loss of faith in the pan-Arabist ideology, and the increasing belief that political Islam would provide a more effective alternative for them to free themselves instead of relying on the Arab states. For example, the loss of the Arab states in the 1948 Arab-Israeli War and the Six-Day War of 1967. Ultimately, the continued failure of the Arab states to liberate Palestinian refugees was a significant factor in the creation of the first Islamic state in Iran, following the 1979 Iranian Revolution and overthrow of the Shah. The significance of pan-Arabism as a movement was that it allowed a wider unification for all Arab countries to come together and ultimately enabled the formation of OPEC, which in turn ensured the economic security of the countries involved, as they were not as easily exploited, and could also use oil as a political weapon. Its significance also lies in its opposition to the influence of imperial powers, thus representing a form of decolonisation.

Eisenhower Doctrine: Under the Eisenhower Doctrine, from January 1957 any Middle Eastern country could request American economic assistance or aid from the US military forces if it was being threatened by armed aggression from another state. This doctrine was put in place following the events of the Suez Crisis, and ultimately affirmed the United States' future presence in the Middle East. A primary reason for the implementation of the Eisenhower doctrine was a result of the power vacuum left by the end of the British and French influence in Egypt, following the US condemnation of their invasion in 1956. The consequent power vacuum gave the USSR an opportunity to move into the area, and therefore Eisenhower sought to protect this geostrategic and resourceful area from Soviet rule. Thus the doctrine was to keep the Soviet Union out of the Middle East, whilst at the same time, ensuring the Middle Eastern countries were economically independent from the communist state.

Nasser: Gamal Abdul Nasser came to power in 1956 as the second President of Egypt following his successful involvement in the Egyptian revolution of 1952 and the overthrow of King Farouk. Nasser was the leader of Egypt at the time of the Suez Crisis. Nasser was a Pan-Arabist who wanted to unite all Arab states as one nation, and at the time was also an influential leader of the non-aligned movement, inspiring many countries to opt for non-alignment instead of leaning towards either of the two Cold War superpowers. Nasser had great modernisation and development plans for Egypt,

most notably the building of the Aswan Dam in order to save crops from annual flooding. In the context of the Cold War, trouble came for Nasser when he could not find sufficient funding for the Dam project and resorted to income from the nationalization of the Suez Canal. This however only resulted in the tripartite invasion of Egypt called operation Musketeer. It is this event that Nasser is renowned and arguably idolised for because he stood up to the imperial powers of France and Egypt, whilst at the same time supporting the liberation of Palestinians, by opposing Israel in the ongoing conflict. The significance of Nasser is undoubtedly his role in the non-aligned movement, inspiring many countries to become 'Third World'. Moreover, through his pan-Arabist ideals he strove, although unsuccessfully, to liberate the Palestinians following the creation of Israel in 1948.

Ben-Gurion: Was the primary founder and First Prime Minister of Israel, which he declared on 14 May 1948. In response to the Arab attack the following day, Ben-Gurion was able to unite various Jewish militias into the Israeli Defence Force (IDF), who then successfully won the 1948 War and the Six-Day War in 1967. As such he was the leader of Israel during the ongoing Arab-Israeli conflict and oversaw the absorption of vast numbers of Jews from all over the world. Ben-Gurion was leader of Israel at the time of the Suez crisis and was involved in the Sevres Protocol in 1956, the planned invasion of Egypt and removal of Nasser in order for Britain and France to regain control of the Suez Canal, whilst making it seem like a response to Egyptian threat on Israel. Ben-Gurion's primary significance was his leadership in his ongoing Zionist quest for an Israeli state and was successful in this feat, establishing a homeland for Jews in 1948 in the state of Israel.

Sino-Soviet Split: The Sino-Soviet split was the process whereby China and the Soviet Union became alienated from each other in the late 1950s and early 1960s. The Sino-Soviet split resulted from a number of factors including the Khrushchev's de-Stalinisation speech of 1956 in which he criticised the cruelties and failings of Stalin and called for peaceful co-existence in the West. The second 'Taiwan Straits' crisis in which the USSR did not support the People's Republic of China. The tensions escalated in 1959 when the Soviet Union reneged on their plans to provide the People's Republic of China with a prototype atomic bomb, only angering Mao further. The Great Leap Forward of 1958, on which the Chinese Communist Party increased modernisation, demonstrated how Mao was no longer intent on following the Soviet model of Communism and thus the Sino-Soviet split was affirmed, moreover by the fact that Mao even began to criticise the USSR's policy towards the West and their weakness, which was confirmed for Mao by the ignominious withdrawal of Soviet missiles in Cuba in 1962. The significance of the Sino-Soviet split lays in the fact that there was no longer an immediate threat of a united communist bloc and the influence of the Soviet Union as a communist state was severely reduced. The Sino-Soviet split arguably allowed the US to enter into Vietnam, for if the Sino-Soviet alliance was still intact as it was during the Korean War, the US would have been much more hesitant to become involved against a united communist force. Moreover, the split fractured the international communist movement at the time and thus opened the way for Sino-American relations.

Cultural Revolution: The Cultural Revolution was movement initiated by Mao in 1966 to rid the Chinese Communist Party of 'revisionists' whom he accused of seeking to introduce the type of state capitalism that existed in the Soviet Union. The Cultural Revolution began in earnest in 1966 when Mao encouraged students to criticise the running of universities and their elitist admissions policies. These students quickly formed themselves into the Red Guard who acted as foot soldiers of Mao's campaign, steadily expanding their range of targets to include former landlords and capitalists and then finally party officials themselves. Its effects to rid the Communist Party of 'revisionists' did not end with the exile of Deng however, as within months the Red Guard became factionalised and the whole country teetered on the brink of anarchy. The Cultural Revolution was at its height between

1966 and 1969, but did not officially end until Mao's death in 1976. The significance of the Chinese Cultural Revolution was the immediate isolation of the People's Republic of China from the outside world and it showed to the Soviet Union that China was dangerous and unstable, leading to a hard-line taken by the USSR against the PRC, which only increased the tension between the two communist states. Increased Soviet hostility toward the PRC influenced Mao to end the stage of the Cultural Revolution and also allowed Mao to realise that the internalisation of China resulting from the Cultural Revolution had endangered China's security, which encouraged Mao to reduce his struggle against western imperialism and warm to relations with the US.

Hundred Flowers Campaign: The Hundred Flowers Campaign, beginning in 1956, was a period during which the Communist Party of China encouraged its citizens to openly express their opinions of the communist regime and is similar to Khrushchev's de-Stalinisation speech of 1956. The campaign reinforced to Mao that enemies were still everywhere, and led to the persecution of intellectuals, officials, students, and anyone labelled 'rightists' and arguably gave rise to the later similar purges involved in the Cultural Revolution of the 1960s. The Campaign can be seen as one of the reasons for the Sino-Soviet split in so far as it is the beginning of China pulling away from the Soviet model of communism which had been criticised in the campaign.

Gulf of Tonkin and Resolution: The Gulf of Tonkin Crises in the Tonkin straits 2 and 4 August 1964 whereby American ships were supposedly attacked by North Vietnamese torpedo boats resulted in the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution on August 10 1964 which was a joint resolution passed by the United States Congress. The significance of this resolution was that it ultimately gave US president Lyndon Johnson authorization, without a formal declaration of war by congress, to use force in Indochina. The resolution essentially authorised the President to do whatever necessary to stop the spread of Communism in Indochina, and thus enshrined the principles of the American foreign policy of containment and Eisenhower's notion of the domino theory, that once Indochina fell to communism, it would continue to spread. The significance of this resolution was that it saw to the Americanisation of the Vietnam War, beyond a proxy war as troops were dispatched in February 1965.

Domino theory: Although President Eisenhower never directly used the term 'domino theory' this notion was founded by Eisenhower in relation to the spread of Communism in Indochina, and was especially significant in relation the Americanisation of the Vietnam War. The domino theory functioned hand in hand with George Kennan's notion of containment, which was the United States foreign policy implemented by President Truman to prevent the spread of communism abroad in response to a series of moves by the Soviet Union to enlarge communist influence in Eastern Europe, China, Korea, Africa and Vietnam. Lyndon Johnson used containment and the domino theory in conjunction as a justification for his policies in Vietnam and the increased US involvement of troops in the country.

Americanisation: Americanisation is the period of time in the Vietnam War following the Gulf of Tonkin incidents and the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution in August 1964 that saw to President Lyndon Johnson increasing the American involvement in the War, beyond a proxy war, to actually deploying troops and undertaking sustained aerial bombardments of areas due to his belief that the significant commitment of US troops would achieve a quick and comprehensive victory. However, the impact of Americanisation was gruesome for the United States as it led to the killing of tens of thousands of civilians in events such as the My Lai massacres, the use of napalm and other chemicals that had deadly consequences as well as serious losses of American and allied troops. The significance of this such stage in the US involvement in the Vietnam War was the deadly consequences for American and allied troops, for which casualties were extremely high. Moreover, Americanisation of the

Vietnam War led to much dissent within NATO allies as well as back home in America, where the costs of war had a significant effect on weakening the US economic position. This Americanisation ultimately brought about an end to Lyndon Johnson's presidency and the US involvement in the war as it became increasingly costly to remain in Vietnam.

Vietnamisation: Vietnamisation was the US policy adopted by President Richard Nixon to end the US involvement in the war and slowly hand over control to the South Vietnamese forces. The US would gradually transfer the burden of ground warfare to the Army of the Republic of Vietnam by withdrawing troops and simultaneously increasing military aid. The importance of such a process was to decrease the number of US troops fighting in Vietnam, however the ARVN weren't a credible fighting force to hold back or defeat opponents, and thus ultimately led to the Peace Accords of January 1973 after a humiliating retreat in Saigon.

Eisenhower: Eisenhower was instrumental in bringing the end of the Korean War in 1953 after the signing of a peace treaty. Eisenhower was the President of America during the time of the US's occupation of Japan following WWII. He authorised the CIA invasion and overthrow of Mohammad Mossadeq. In November 1956, Eisenhower forced an end to the combined British, French and Israeli invasion of Egypt in response to the Suez Crisis. Simultaneously he condemned the brutal Soviet invasion of Hungary in response to the Hungarian Revolution of 1956. Following the Suez Crisis, Eisenhower implemented the **Eisenhower Doctrine**. Under the Eisenhower Doctrine, a Middle Eastern country could request American economic assistance or aid from U.S. military forces if it was being threatened by armed aggression from another state. Eisenhower was the President that led the US into the Vietnam War, after continuously supporting the French in Indochina, out of fear of what Eisenhower coined as the "**domino theory**", whereby if one region came under communist influence, then all the surrounding areas would consequently fall to communism. Whilst Eisenhower was not responsible for the **Bay of Pigs Invasion** (April 1961), it was his government that planned it.

Article 9: During the US occupation of Japan following the end of World War 2, a new constitution was created in 1947 when the Supreme Commanding Allied Powers (SCAP) of Japan were concentrating on establishing democracy and pluralism within Japan and purging those associated with militarism. The most important part of this process was the creation of a new constitution, and in particular, article 9, which renounced Japan's right to go to war. The effect of such a clause, ultimately meant that Japan was defenseless in the face of opposition or international threats. The immediate effect of this was that Japan became dependent on the United States for defence under the Security Treaty, in which Japan was under the US's protection and would avoid full scale rearmament. The result of this dependence also inherently linked the Japanese with the US in the political framework of the Cold War, and can also be accredited to the beginnings of Japan's free ride.

Reverse course: The reverse course was a period during the United States occupation of Japan that saw the change of emphasis from democratisation to economic reconstruction and eventually rearmament for Japan. The catalyst for the reverse course was caused by a number of concerns that can be divided between global events and developments within Japan. On the one hand, it was inherently linked to the escalation of the Cold War, the Chinese Communist Revolution and the looming Korean War. On the other hand, due to domestic inflation, the growth of poverty, the expansion of leftist parties, Japan seemed ripe for communism. Consequently, the US wanted to re-establish Japan as a key player in the world economy, and as such, the reverse course can be seen as a Japanese alternative to Europe's Marshall Plan. The significance of the reverse course was a new security treaty between the Japanese and US which, although saw the end to US occupation of Japan, increased their dependence on the US for defence, as a result of Article 9. Moreover, this

resulted in significant opposition to the increasing ties with the US, which ironically, only led Yoshida to establish the Self-Defence Force and became further linked with America, in order to prove their dedication to the US cause and ensure US procurements continued. Ultimately, the reverse course paved the way for Japan's economic prosperity, but also inherently linked them to the United States in the Cold War, and saw to the LDP dominance of Japanese politics once Yoshida was forced out of office.

Japan's bubble: Caused by the raising of the Japanese yen at the Plaza Accord in 1985 which resulted in the Japanese government introducing low interest rates, essentially making it easier for people to borrow money which was spent on real estate creating a large asset bubble. In 1990, the Finance Ministry wanted to stabilise land prices and told banks to lower investment in real estate, so real estate and land prices slumped in 1992 resulting in people selling real estate in mass, only worsening the burst of the bubble. Thus, in the context of the Cold War, the Japanese economic bubble resulted from the economic prosperity that Japan enjoyed during the period of the reverse course, as they enjoyed a successful economy on the back of US defence support and procurements for the Korean War and the Japanese governments' failure to reform in the 1980s. Ultimately, caused a significant Japanese recession that took an extended period of time for Japan to recover from.

Containment: Containment was the term coined by George Kennan for the United States and broadly western policy toward the USSR and communism in general, that dominated United States foreign policy during the period of the Cold War. The overall idea was to contain communism to the Soviet bloc in the hope that this would eventually cause it to fail. The policy of containment resulted from the Truman Doctrine of 1947, which was an international relations policy stating that the US would support Greece and Turkey economically and militarily in order to prevent them from being overthrown by communists. The result of containment was significant for US foreign policy throughout the period of the Cold War as it saw them enter into conflicts such as the Vietnam War for the primary purpose of curbing the spread of communism.

Proxy War: A proxy war is a conflict between third parties fighting on behalf of more powerful parties. In the context of the Cold War, this commonly occurred as the two nuclear-armed superpowers of the US and USSR were unwilling to directly fight each other on account of the idea of mutually assured destruction. The consequence of such a method of fighting, was that the superpowers ultimately controlled 'satellite states' that would do their fighting for them, with military and economic assistance from the superpower. A primary example of a proxy war was the Vietnam War in which the United States were intent on stopping the spread of communism under their foreign policy of containment and the idea introduced by Eisenhower, known as domino theory. As such they supported the South Vietnamese and the French in their fight against the USSR supported North Vietnam.

Political Islam: Political Islam is not a static movement, but one that is frequently changing and there is no one form of Islamism, for example Shia or Sunni Islam. Political Islam was born out of political ineffectiveness of the British and US model put forward to Iran and is similar to the non-aligned movement in so far as it is an attempt to find a compromise between the US and USSR model. The rise of political Islam can be accredited arguably, to the 1967 Six Day War which had demonstrated the failure of the pan-Arabist movement and thus strengthened the Islamist movement. Moreover, the rise of political Islam can be seen in the Iranian Revolution of 1979, in which the monarchy was overthrown and the Islamic Republic of Iran was proclaimed. Thus, the significance of political Islam and its rise provided another alternative for those in the Middle East in particular who had been failed by the methods of US or USSR rule, and the other option of pan-Arabism put forward by

Nasser. It was therefore also significant, similar to the non-aligned movement of offering a more effective way in which a state could be ruled, free from the constraints of the Cold War.

Truman Doctrine: The Truman Doctrine was a policy initiated by President Truman in 1947 with the primary goal of preventing Soviet expansion during the Cold War. It stated that the US would support Greece and Turkey economically and militarily in order to prevent them from being overthrown by communists. Essentially, the Truman Doctrine was a very simple warning to the USSR that the US would intervene to support any nation that was threatened by a communist takeover. The Truman Doctrine functioned in accordance with Truman's foreign policy of containment, to do whatever it took to stop the spread of communism. The Doctrine also highly influenced Eisenhower's domino theory and consequently worked hand in hand with these two ideas to dominate US foreign policy throughout the duration of the Cold War. Moreover, as a result of the Truman Doctrine, it set a precedent for the principle of collective security, that is building up a set of allies and friendly states to which the US gave military aid free of charge, thus allowing for the creation of NATO and resulting in the birth of the proxy wars during the Cold War.

OPEC: OPEC stands for the Oil Producing and Exporting Countries and is a cartel that was founded with the express purpose of coordinating petroleum policies of its members and therefore safeguarding their individual and collective interests. Essentially, it was a way for the oil-producing companies to reduce the extent to which major oil companies were exploiting the national resources of such member countries. The members of OPEC include Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Venezuela, Qatar, Libya, United Arab Emirates, Algeria, Nigeria and Angola. The significance of the creation of OPEC was that it allowed oil producing countries to have more dominance over the market and thus avoid exploitation from major oil companies. Moreover, this ability to at least attempt to control the supply of petrol meant they could therefore influence the oil prices, which consequently led to the ability of OPEC to use the prices of oil as a political weapon to affect the economies of countries reliant on their oil. Such as seen in the 1973 oil shock following the oil embargo.

Glasnost: Glasnost, meaning openness, was the political reform that went hand-in-hand with perestroika as Gorbachev believed that he could not have economic restructuring without people being able to speak up. It was essentially a revisit to destalinisation as he wanted people to question the authoritarian, oppressive and corrupt Soviet state, however this led to people also questioning Leninism and the whole communist model. The significance of glasnost was that it essentially gave the right to freedom of speech and revisited the message of destalinisation, however, the effect of this was that an extensive period of criticism occurred, even beginning to criticise Leninism and socialism as a system itself. Thus, glasnost can be seen as a significant stage in the beginning of the collapse of communism in the Soviet Union, as it saw even the USSR itself moving away from the Soviet model of communism it had originally established.

Great Leap Forward: The Great Leap Forward was a movement initiated by the Chinese Communist Party in 1958 to achieve rapid modernisation in China through the construction of communes and the utilisation of the masses for large-scale infrastructure projects. It saw the rise to collectivisation which Mao believed to be the process of modernisation that would be most successful in achieving significant and rapid modernisation. The consequences of the Great Leap Forward was that the quality of rapidly made products was poor and many thousands of workers were injured after long working hours, whilst backyard production had taken many workers from farms, therefore agriculture was not as effective as previously, especially due to the fact that cadres knew little about production and agriculture. Poor harvests compounded by floods, led to mass starvation throughout

China and the overall failure of the Great Leap Forward, and the eventual initiation of the Cultural Revolution.

Non-Aligned Movement: The non-aligned movement was an organisation founded in 1961 by a number of neutral states which called for the lowering of Cold War tensions and for greater attention to be paid to the underdeveloped countries and the eradication of imperialism. The non-aligned movement was born out of Nehru following the partitioning of India and Nasser during the Suez Crisis. The non-aligned movement provided an alternative to countries who wanted to remain free from the influences of imperialist countries and especially the superpowers of the US and USSR during the Cold War. A further significance of the non-aligned movement was the fact that they maintained trade among all countries including the US and USSR so that the Cold War would not bring the world economy to a standstill.

Six Day War: The Six-Day War of 1967 was fought between Israel and the Arabs and was caused from, on one hand, Israel's quest for recognition and security, and on the other, the Arab states belief that they could defeat Israel and liberate Palestine. The precipitating event was a rumour by the USSR that Israel was going to attack. As a result of the lack of coordination between the Arab states and the Syrians failure to engage the Israeli Defence Force until the end of the war, Israel was able to defeat first Egypt, then Jordan and then Syria, one after the other without a three-front war. The 1967 defeat of the Arab states left Israel in control of the Sinai, Golan Heights, West Bank and importantly East Jerusalem. Not only a turning point because they won, but because of the territory they gained, including East Jerusalem which was very symbolic to both Arabs and Palestinians, the balance of power in the Middle East was changed (US also supported Israel), humiliation for Arabs (especially Nasser) and humiliation for USSR who backed Arabs (drove them to tighter relationship to prevent any further humiliation)

Yom Kippur War: Following the 1967 War, Egypt, under Anwar Sadat, tried to negotiate peace terms with Israel, Syria further militarized under al-Asad and Jordan and Lebanon remained uninvolved. Ironically, Sadat's search for peace led to the next conflict as Israel rejected his offer of a cease-fire, to which Sadat started planning another war. On 6 October 1973 (Yom Kippur, holiest day for Jewish people) Israel and Syria made a surprise attack on Israel, who believed the Arabs were weak and had grown complacent of their own invincibility. Despite the fact that Israel were eventually able to drive the Egyptian and Syrian forces back and reaffirm the cease-fire agreed upon in 1967, Arab confidence had grown whilst Israeli confidence was severely shaken. Israel's new weakness and Egypt's new strength also closed the power gap sufficiently to bring them to the negotiating table and resulted in the first Arab-Israeli peace treaty in 1979

Iranian Revolution: On 11 February 1979, the Iranian monarchy was overthrown and the Islamic Republic of Iran was proclaimed, now headed by Ayatollah Khomeini. Iran thus became the first modern state to adopt an Islamic ideology and proved an inspiration to Islamic movements across the Middle East, Central and South-East Asia. The Iranian Revolution and Islam itself was born out of political ineffectiveness of the old system that had been put in place in Iran by the British. Moreover, the constitutional monarchy headed by the Shah was corrupt and brutal with only limited progressive reforms and no tolerance of political opposition. Two disaffected groups, ones who wanted more freedom, and ones who wanted Islamist state came together and succeeded in overthrowing the Shah, but then didn't agree following, and ultimately Islamists won.

1973 oil crisis: The **first oil shock** or 1973 oil crisis occurred during the Yom-Kippur War, when the price of oil quadrupled due to an OPEC oil embargo in 1973 after the US supported Israel in the War.

Iraqi invasion of Kuwait: The **third oil shock** arose from Iraq's ill-fated decision to invade Kuwait in 1990 which similarly impacted production and exportation of oil from Kuwait. Iraq owed Kuwait approximately \$14 billion they had borrowed during the Iran-Iraq war and the only way in which Iraq could gain more money, was from exporting oil, so they tried to invade Kuwait in order to control more of the oil.

First Gulf War: The Gulf War was of 1990-1991 was in response to Iraq's invasion and annexation of Kuwait and Iraq failing to comply with UN sanctions to remove troops. On January 16 1991, the Persian Gulf War began when a coalition of UN forces led by the US army launched an intensive aerial bombardment of Baghdad and other major cities in Iraq. Iraq eventually surrendered and oil prices reverted to pre-war levels however, the war fueled anxieties over the global dependence on oil

Perestroika: Mikhail Gorbachev's economic restructuring attempts of 1985-1991 to turn the Soviet economy into a decentralised market-oriented economy. He also pushed for an anti-alcohol and corruption campaign. It is argued to be one of the causes of dissolution in the Soviet Union as mid-level administrators believed that Russia could do better without communism.

Uskorenje: Under Gorbachev, Uskorenje (acceleration) was a policy announced in 1985 aimed at the on-going effort to speed up the rate of growth and modernisation. It was the first slogan of a set of reforms that included perestroika and glasnost.

Solidarity: In 1981, a grassroots movement called solidarity began in Poland under the leadership of Lech Walesa. It was the first non-communist party in a Warsaw Pact country. A series of strikes in the 1980s undermined the authority of the country's communist leaders and left Moscow with the decision whether or not to intervene in the Polish regime. Eventually they imposed martial law upon them to avoid a USSR invasion, the USSR was discredited both at home and abroad and moreover, the Polish Communist Party lost whatever legitimacy it had. In 1988, General Jaruzelski's government realised some kind of settlement had to be made with the banned solidarity movement for much needed loans and economic progress and in 1989, Jaruzelski had talks with Walesa which led to partially free elections and the first non-communist prime minister in Eastern Europe since the 1940s

Prague Spring: The Prague Spring was a brief period of liberal reforms attempted by the government of Alexander Dubcek in 1968 which ended with the invasion by Soviet led Warsaw Pact military forces. It sparked the dissident movement in the USSR from 1968-1989 in which pamphlets, brochures and manuscripts were circulated as people wanted to hold the government to their promises of freedom of speech and religion etc.