

Source 1

“Conflict over economic issues was a critical cause of Soviet-American tensions [after the Second World War]....

The key element of U.S. foreign policy after World War II was economic security, the reliance upon economic power to achieve strategic aims.... The Truman administration [responded during the Cold War] to what it saw as the long-term need of American business for an open worldwide economic environment. Washington officials recognized that foreign trade enhanced domestic prosperity and that U.S. corporations needed access to cheap overseas raw materials in order to remain competitive....

Rather than rely primarily upon private institutions, U.S. leaders were determined to make extensive use of governmental and multilateral agencies to reshape world commercial, monetary, and financial systems. America’s unrivalled economic power offered the most cost-effective means of securing political ends in the postwar period.”

Source: Robert A. Pollard, historian, *Economic Security and the Origins of the Cold War, 1945–1950*, published in 1985

Source 2

“[After the Second World War], leading American officials...worried mainly about the psychological appeal of [Soviet ideas] to frightened citizens of unstable countries.... In part because they worried about their security, the Soviets proceeded to oppress their eastern European neighbors and to threaten Western interests in the Mediterranean and Middle East.... [Americans] came to fear that the USSR was bent on even wider territorial expansion that would endanger the economic and political supremacy of the United States....

In these years it was the Soviet Union, more than the United States, whose behavior—especially in eastern Europe—seemed alarming in the world. Not just the United States but also other Western nations concluded that ‘appeasement’ would be disastrous. ‘Credibility’ required that they resist.”

Source: James Patterson, historian, *Grand Expectations: The United States, 1945–1974*, published in 1996

1. Respond to parts A, B, and C.

- A.** Briefly describe one major difference between Pollard’s and Patterson’s historical interpretations of the origins of the Cold War.
- B.** Briefly explain how one event or development from 1940 to 1960 not directly mentioned in the excerpts could be used to support Pollard’s interpretation of the origins of the Cold War.
- C.** Briefly explain how one event or development from 1940 to 1960 not directly mentioned in the excerpts could be used to support Patterson’s interpretation of the origins of the Cold War.