



International History Paper Themes

€ Theme One: The Origins of the Cold War after World War II

- The USA and the problems of Europe: economic reconstruction and political challenges
- The policies of USSR towards Western and Eastern Europe
- US policies and Containment: the Truman Doctrine, the Marshall Plan, the Berlin Blockade, the formation of NATO
- The historical debate: traditional, revisionist, post-revisionist

€ Theme Two: The Globalization of the Cold War

- The Asia-Pacific region: the Korean War, the Vietnam War
 - Latin America: revolution in Cuba, Cuban Missile Crisis
 - The Middle East: Arab-Israeli conflicts
 - Detente and the 'Second' Cold War; 1963-85
- € Theme Three: The Crisis of Communism and the end of the Cold War
- The Sino-Soviet conflict; origins and main features
 - The USSR challenges to Communism, reasons for the collapse of the USSR, effects of the collapse of the USSR on Eastern Europe, the West, China
 - China; challenges to Communism, reasons for the crisis, response to the crisis of Communism, effects of the crisis of Communism on USA, Russia

€ Theme Four: The Nuclear Arms Race, 1945-91

- The spread of nuclear weapons; by country, type, delivery system
- The development of deterrence theories; massive retaliation, MAD, flexible response
- The control of nuclear weapons; test-ban treaties, limits on nuclear powers, e.g. SALT I and II, ABM START I and II; limits on non-nuclear powers, Non-Proliferation Treaty
- The historical debate;
- Effects of the Nuclear Arms Race on the Cold War, the consequences of the Nuclear Arms Race.

€ Theme Five: The Development of the International Economy, 1945-91

- The growth and problems of the international economy to 1991: reasons, main features, consequences

- The development of international economic policies: the World Bank and IMF, the Group of Seven, GATT
 - Issues in trade: free trade versus protectionism; the dominant role of the USA in the world economy; economic development in Japan - reasons for Japan's economic success and its impact on world
- € Theme Six: The Third World
- Overview of decolonization
 - The emergence of the Third World: Bandung Conference, the Non-Aligned Movement, the formation of UNCTAD
 - The moves to establish a New International Economic Order: the Group of 77, the rise of OPEC, the Brandt Report
 - The rise of Islamic fundamentalism
 - The Third World in the 1980s: the Debt Crisis, the emergence of the Asian Tiger economies, famine in Africa, the decline of OPEC
 - Arguments for and against international aid and the role of multi-national corporations

Source Based study: The Development of the United Nations, 1945-91

Candidates should have an understanding of how effective the United Nations has been in meeting its responsibilities, within the context of the changing international system. They should be aware of different view on the explanation of the effectiveness of the United Nations.

The study will focus on:

- The power of the UN: the Covenant; the powers of Security Council, General Assembly and the Secretary-General; the role of the superpowers
- Collective Security: peace-making, peace-keeping and peace enforcement
- International Law: UN Conventions on Human Rights; UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS); laws against international terrorism; laws against genocide
- Social and economic progress: the role of the UN with regard to economic development, population, refugees, children, the environment