

CLASS NOTES			
CLASS : XII	Unit: I Ch-1 The Cold War Era		
Subject: Political Science			

VERY SHORT ANSWER (1 Mark)

1. What is meant by Cold War?

Ans. The cold war is referred to the competition, the tensions and a series of confrontations between the United States and the Soviet Union backed by their respective allies.

2. When did cold war begin?

Ans. The cold war began in the year 1945.

3. Write the full form of NATO.

Ans. The full form of NATO is North Atlantic Treaty organization.

4. What is Warsaw Pact?

Ans. The eastern alliance was known as Warsaw pact which was led by the Soviet Union.

5. What was the principal function of Warsaw Pact?

Ans. The principal function of Warsaw Pact was to counter NATO's forces in Europe.

6. Correct the sentence: The US was committed to the ideology of socialism.

Ans. The U.S was committed to the ideology of capitalism.

7. Fill in the blank:

(a) The end of the Second World War was the beginning of ____.

Ans. Cold war

8. Mention the period of the cold war era.

Ans. The period of cold war era was from 1945 to 1991.

9. Write 'Yes' or 'No'.

(a) Cold war was a competition between the US and Soviet Union and their respective allies.

Ans. Yes.

10. What do you mean by CENTO?

Ans. Central Treaty Organization

11. What is 'Deterrence'?

Ans. To prevent or discourage

12. Write the full form of NAM?

Ans. Non Aligned Movement

13. What was the Cuban Crisis?

Ans. Cuban crisis was a high point of cold war occurred in 1962.

14. Name the two Super Powers?

Ans. Soviet Russia and United States of America

15. Does NAM stand for isolation?

Ans. No, NAM doesn't stand for isolation.

16. In which year USA dropped two atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Nagasaki and Hiroshima?

Ans. 1945

VERY SHORT ANSWER (2 Mark)

1. What is meant by allied and axis powers of the Second World War?

Ans. Allied powers of the Second World War refers to those countries who won the world war. These Allied powers include countries like the U.S., Soviet Union, Britain and France.

Axis power of the Second World War was refers to the countries who were defeated in the war. These axis powers includes countries like the – Germany, Italy and Japan.

2. How did Second World War come to an end?

Ans. The Second World War comes to an end when the U.S. dropped two atomic bombs in the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945, causing Japan to surrender.

3. Name the two super powers that emerged after the Second World War.

Ans. The two super powers which emerged after the Second World War were the US and the Soviet Union.

4. Name the two places where atom bombs were dropped in the Second World War.

Ans. Hiroshima and Nagasaki were the two famous places where atom bombs were dropped in the

Second World War.

5. Why did the superpowers need small allies?

Ans. the superpowers entered into military alliances with smaller countries due to the following reasons:

- Smaller states were helpful for the superpowers in their gaining access to vital resources such as oil and minerals.
- Access to locations or territory from where the superpowers could launch their weapons and troops.
- Access to locations from where they could spy on each other.

6. What is meant by western alliance and eastern alliance?

Ans. Most countries of Western Europe sided with the US is called Western Alliance. On the other hand those countries of Eastern Europe which joined in the soviet camp are called Eastern Alliance.

7. Name two arms control agreements signed by the two superpowers. [2013]

Ans. The two arms control agreements signed by the two superpowers are – Limited Test Ban Treaty (LTBT) and Nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty (NNPT).

8. When and where the first Non-aligned Summit was held?

Ans. The first Non-Aligned Summit was held in Belgrade in 1961. This summit was attended by number of African and Asian countries.

9. What was the declaration of NATO States?

Ans. The declaration was that the NATO states pledged the mutual defence of any member states who would be attacked and constitutes a system of collective Security.

10. What do you mean by logic of deterrence?

Ans. Logical of deference mean the presence of nuclear weapons by both super powers. It means the two super powers behaved in a more national manner which aimed at avoidance of another big war.

12. Write the root cause of the beginning of the Cold War?

Ans. The root cause of the beginning of cold war was rivalry between U.S.A and former U.S.S.R.

13. Identify three countries which belong to communist bloc?

Ans. Unites States of Soviet Russia, Hungary and Poland.

14. Is non-alignment a negative policy?

Ans. No, non-alignment is not a negative policy. It was a policy of keeping away from military alliances of big power.

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16. Name any four countries which were decolonized following the end of the Second World War?

Ans. India, Indonesia, Afghanistan and Cuba

17. When and where 20th NATO Summit was held?

Ans. NATO Summit was held in Chicago, U.S.A. in 2012.

18. Name the countries that joined the Soviet Block?

Ans. Poland, Hungary, Germany, Bulgaria, Albania, Czechoslovakian.

19. How were the military alliances beneficial to smaller nations during the Cold War?

Answer: Smaller nations got the promise of protection, weapons and economic aid against their local and regional rivals. A state was supposed to remain tied to its protective superpowers to unite influence of other superpower and its allies.

FOUR- AND Six-marks questions:

Q1. Explain the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Ans. Cuba had received diplomatic and financial support from the Soviet Union and Nikita Khrushchev, the leader of the Soviet Union decided to convert Cuba into a Russian military base. In September 1962, the Cuban and Soviet governments began to build military and missile bases in Cuba, from which the Soviet Union could have the ability to strike most of the continental United States.

The Cuban Missile Crisis represented the high point of the Cold war and fortunately it never escalated into a 'hot war'. This crisis is generally regarded as the moment in which the Cold War came closest to turning into a nuclear conflict.

Q2. Describe the military and ideological features of cold war period.

Ans. The cold war is referred to the competition, the tensions and a series of confrontations between the United States and the Soviet Union backed by their respective allies.

MILITARY FEATURES:

- A. Both USA and USSR set up military blocs to show their supremacy. USA formed NATO, CENTO, SEATO whereas USSR formed WARSAW Pact.
- B. They formed alliances and were expected to behave in a rational and responsible manner.
- C. The two superpowers were keen on expanding their spheres of influence in different parts of the world.

IDEOLOGICAL RIVALRY:

- A. This period was also marked by an ideological conflict as which is the best way of organizing political, social and economic life all over the world.
- B. The Western Alliance headed by US believed in liberal democracy and capitalism while Eastern Alliance believed in the ideology of communism and Socialism.

Q3. Explain the emergence of two power blocs.

Ans. The emergence of two power blocs is –

The US and the USSR were keen to expand their zone of influence globally especially in Europe and it

resulted in the world being divided into two alliance system.

The smaller states in the alliance soon began receiving weapons, technology, economic and development aid. On March 12, 1947 U.S. President Harry S. Truman stated that the U.S. would support Greece and Turkey with economic and military aid to prevent their falling into the Soviet sphere.

The Soviet Union created the Eastern Bloc with the eastern European countries it occupied, annexing some and maintaining other as satellite states.

Q4. How did deterrence relationship prevented war between two superpowers?

Answer: 1. Even if one of them tries to attack and disable the nuclear weapons of its rivals, the other would still be left with enough nuclear weapons to inflict unacceptable destruction.

2. Both sides have capacity to retaliate against an attack and to cause so much destruction that neither can afford to initiate war.

3. Both superpowers were expected to behave more rationally and in responsible manner in the sense that they understood the risks in fighting wars which may create a massive destruction.

Q. The Cold War has produced an arms race as well as arms control. What were the reasons for both these developments?

Ans. It is a hard fact that the cold war produced an arms race as well as arms control.

- Mutual suspicious between the two superpowers led them to arm themselves to the tests and to constantly prepare for war.
- Both the superpowers considered huge stocks of arms necessary to prevent wars from taking place. However, both the superpowers understood that war might occur in spite of restraint.
- Either side might miscalculate the stock of arms in the possession of the other side.
- Moreover, superpower might misunderstand the intentions of the other side. Besides, there can be a nuclear accident.

Hence both the superpowers i.e. U.S.A and U.S.S.R. decided to collaborate in limiting or eliminating certain kinds of nuclear and non-nuclear weapons.

Q. What was India's foreign policy towards the USA and USSR during the cold war era?

Answer: India's foreign policy towards the US and USSR was two fold:

1. Took particular care in staying away from the two alliances.

2. Raised voice against the newly decolonized countries becoming part of these alliances.

3. Moreover, India tried to reduce the differences and rivalries between these alliances from escalating into a full-scale war.

Q. How did the policy of NAM serve India's interests? Why was India's policy of NAM criticized?

Ans. The whole idea of Non-Alignment Movement initiated by Jawaharlal Nehru not only served international interest but also served India's interest directly through the following ways –

- First, non-alignment allowed India to take international decisions and stances that served its interests rather than the interests of the super powers and their allies.
- Second, India was often able to balance one super power against the other. If India felt ignored or unduly pressurized by one super power, it could tilt towards the other. Neither alliance system could take India for granted or bully it.

However, the policy of NAM was criticized on a number of counts. They are –

- First, India's non-alignment was said to be unprincipled. In the name of pursuing its national interests, India often refused to take a firm stand on crucial international issues.
- Second, it suggested that India was inconsistent and took contradictory postures. Having

criticized others for joining alliances, India signed the Treaty of Friendship in August 1971 with the USSR for 20 years. This was criticized by outsiders as India virtually joined the Soviet Bloc.

Q. NAM is a unique organization which faces challenges from various quarters. Highlight these challenges.

Ans.

- NAM represents nearly two-thirds of the United Nations' members and 55% of the world population. In spite of being one of the largest organizations, only developing countries have become part of this movement.
- Majority of the issues in world politics is often dictated by US and its allies and the developing world have little say on important matters.
- While NAM stood for non-alignment with any of the superpowers, it does not refer to isolationism or neutrality. Neutrality strictly means staying away from war and conflict.
- NAM is not a homogeneous movement and serious differences have existed amongst its members.
- The relevance of NAM in the post cold war era continues to be debated among political and academic circles.

Q. What do you think about the statement that NAM has become irrelevant today? Give reasons to support your opinion.

Or

What is the relevance of non-aligned movement after the end of Cold War?

Answer:

- By the mid-1970s, NAM had become an economic pressure group and by late 1980s, the NIEO initiative had faded due to stiff competition from developed countries.
- Non-alignment both as an international movement and as a core of India's foreign policy lost some of its earlier relevance.
- Though non-alignment contained some core values and enduring ideas.
- It was based on a recognition that decolonised states shared a historical affiliation and can become powerful force if they come together, as very small and poor countries need not to become follower of any big powers instead, they could pursue an independent foreign policy also.
- In nutshell, it can be concluded that NAM has not lost its relevance. It has stood test of adverse circumstances. It has served an important purpose of protecting and preserving interests of third world countries.