Name

TOPIC 1: THE COLD WAR

WHAT WERE THE DIFFERENT RESPONSES TO THE EXPANSION OF COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN EASTERN EUROPE AFTER 1945?

1.1 Refer to Source 1A.

SOURCE 1A

This is an extract from the speech given by Winston Churchill (wartime British Prime Minister) at Westminster College, in Fulton, Missouri, USA on 5 March 1946. This was the first time the phrase 'Iron Curtain' had been used to describe the division in Europe between Western powers and the area controlled by the Soviet Union.

The United States stands at this time at the pinnacle [top] of world power. It is a solemn moment for the American democracy…It is necessary that constancy of mind, persistency of purpose, and the grand simplicity of decision shall rule and guide the conduct of the English-speaking peoples in peace as they did in war. We must, and I believe we shall, prove ourselves equal to this severe requirement.

I have a strong admiration and regard for the valiant Russian people and for my wartime comrade, Marshal Stalin. There is deep sympathy and goodwill in Britain … toward the peoples of all the Russias and a resolve to persevere through many differences and rebuffs in establishing lasting friendships. It is my duty, however, to place before you certain facts about the present position in Europe. From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic an iron curtain has descended across the Continent. Behind that line lie all the capitals of the ancient states of Central and Eastern Europe. Warsaw, Berlin, Prague, Vienna, Budapest, Belgrade, Bucharest and Sofia; all these famous cities and the populations around them lie in what I must call the Soviet sphere, and all are subject, in one form or another, not only to Soviet influence but to a very high and in some cases increasing measure of control from Moscow. The safety of the world, ladies and gentlemen, requires a unity in Europe, from which no nation should be permanently outcast. It is from the quarrels of the strong parent races in Europe that the world wars we have witnessed, or which occurred in former times, have sprung…

I do not believe that Soviet Russia desires war. What they desire is the fruits of war and the indefinite expansion of their power and doctrines. But what we have to consider here today while time remains, is the permanent prevention of war and the establishment of conditions of freedom and democracy as rapidly as possible in all countries…

[From: Internet site: http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/churchill-iron.asp Accessed 10 September 2013]

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1.1.1 According to Churchill in Source 1A, which country was the most powerful in the world at the end of World War II in 1945? (1 x 1) (1)

1.1.2 What information in Source 1A helps explain why Winston Churchill felt 'strong admiration' and 'regard' for the Russian People? (1 x 2) (2)

1.1.3 Explain what Churchill meant by the term 'iron curtain' in the context of post-war Europe. (2 x 2) (4)

1.1.4 Why did Churchill believe that the 'iron curtain' in Europe was a threat to world peace? (2 x 2) (4)

1.1.5 What, according to Churchill, did the Soviet Union want to achieve through their foreign policy after World War II? (2 x 1) (2)

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1.2 Consult Source 1B.

SOURCE 1B

This is an extract from 'Stalin's Reply to Churchill', (taken from an interview with the official Soviet newspaper *Pravda*), published in *The New York Times* on March 14, 1946.

The German racial theory brought Hitler and his friends to the conclusion that the Germans, as the only fully valuable nation, must rule over other nations. The English racial theory brings Mr. Churchill and his friends to the conclusion that nations speaking the English language, being the only fully valuable nations, should rule over the remaining nations of the world....

As a result of the German invasion, the Soviet Union has irrevocably lost in battles with the Germans, and also during the German occupation and through the expulsion of Soviet citizens to German slave labour camps, about 7,000,000 people. In other words, the Soviet Union has lost in men several times more than Britain and the United States together.

It may be that some quarters are trying to push into oblivion these sacrifices of the Soviet people which insured the liberation of Europe from the Hitlerite yoke.
But the Soviet Union cannot forget them. One can ask therefore, what can be surprising in the fact that the Soviet Union, in a desire to ensure its security for the future, tries to achieve that these countries should have governments whose relations to the Soviet Union are loyal? How can one, without having lost one's reason, qualify these peaceful aspirations of the Soviet Union as 'expansionist tendencies' of our Government?. . .

Mr. Churchill wanders around the truth when he speaks of the growth of the influence of the Communist parties in Eastern Europe.... The growth of the influence of communism cannot be considered accidental. It is a normal function. The influence of the Communists grew because during the hard years of the mastery of fascism in Europe, Communists showed themselves to be reliable, daring and self-sacrificing fighters against fascist regimes for the liberty of peoples.

[From: Internet site: http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1946stalin.html Accessed 10 September 2013]

1.2.1 In your own words, explain the comparison which Stalin makes in Source 1B between Hitler's and Churchill's 'racial theory'. (1 x 3) (3)

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1.2.2 Select **TWO** pieces of information from Source 1B which help explain why Churchill says that the British people felt 'deep sympathy' for the Russian people at the end of World War II. (2 x 1) (2)

1.2.3 How did Stalin use the loss of Soviet lives in World War II to justify Soviet expansion of their sphere of influence into Eastern Europe? (1 x 3) (3)

1.2.4 Give any **TWO** reasons why, according to Stalin, the influence of Communism had grown in Eastern Europe during the war years. (2 x 2) (4)

1.3 Study Sources 1A and 1B.

1.3.1 Write a paragraph of about 60 words in which you explain why a historian would find it useful to study **both** Sources 1A and 1B when researching the expansion of communist influence in Eastern Europe after 1945. (6)

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1.4 Read Source 1C.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

SOURCE 1C

This is an extract from US President, Harry S. Truman's address before a joint session of congress, March 12, 1947

The peoples of a number of countries of the world have recently had totalitarian regimes forced upon them against their will. The Government of the United States has made frequent protests against coercion and intimidation, in violation of the Yalta agreement, in Poland, Rumania, and Bulgaria...

At the present moment in world history nearly every nation must choose between alternative ways of life. The choice is too often not a free one.

One way of life is based upon the will of the majority, and is distinguished by free institutions, representative government, free elections, guarantees of individual liberty, freedom of speech and religion, and freedom from political oppression.

The second way of life is based upon the will of a minority forcibly imposed upon the majority. It relies upon terror and oppression, a controlled press and radio; fixed elections, and the suppression of personal freedoms.

I believe that it must be the policy of the United States to support free peoples who are resisting attempted subjugation by armed minorities or by outside pressures.
I believe that we must assist free peoples to work out their own destinies in their own way.

I believe that our help should be primarily through economic and financial aid which is essential to economic stability and orderly political processes...
The seeds of totalitarian regimes are nurtured by misery and want. They spread and grow in the evil soil of poverty and strife. They reach their full growth when the hope of a people for a better life has died. We must keep that hope alive.

The free peoples of the world look to us for support in maintaining their freedoms.
If we falter in our leadership, we may endanger the peace of the world -- and we shall surely endanger the welfare of our own nation.

[From: Internet site: http://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/trudoc.asp. Accessed 10 September 2014]

1.4.1 What was Truman's opinion of the expansion of communist influence in countries such as Poland, Rumania and Bulgaria? (2 x 2) (4)

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1.4.2 Which political system is being described in the highlighted section of Source 1C? (1 x 2)(2)

1.4.3 Extract **THREE** characteristics of a totalitarian state which are identified in Source 1C. (3 x 1)(3)

1.5 Consult Sources 1B and 1C.

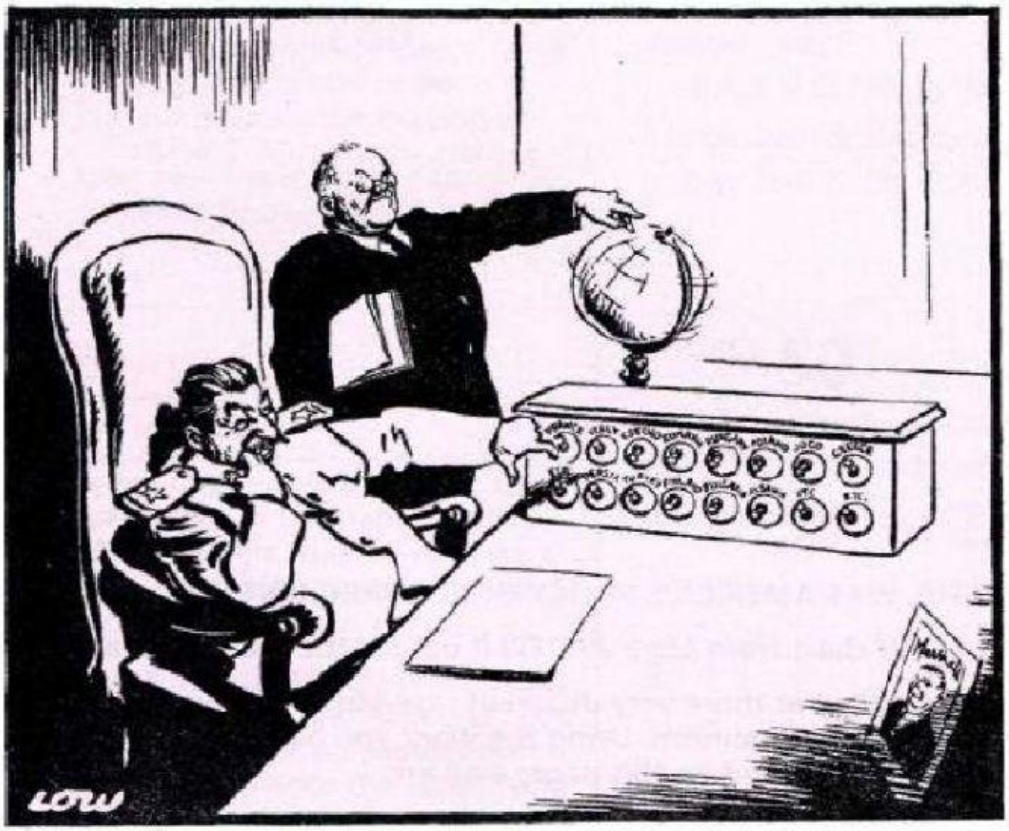
1.5.1 Contrast Truman's explanation for the expansion of communist influence in east Europe (Source 1C) with Stalin's explanation of the same process (Source 1B). (2 x 2) (4)

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1.6 Study Source 1D.

SOURCE 1D

This cartoon was created in 1948 by British cartoonist David Low. It was published in a British newspaper two weeks after communists had taken control of Czechoslovakia via a coup. The man standing next to Stalin is Molotov, the Soviet foreign minister. The countries already 'liberated' are Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Poland, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Finland and Albania. The picture on the desk is US General Marshall, whose economic plan was rejected by Stalin disallowing Eastern Europe access to it.



"WHO'S NEXT TO BE LIBERATED FROM FREEDOM, COMRADE?"

[From: Internet site: http://bobhistory.wikispaces.com/file/view/c1_s4.jpg/76709419/446x325/c1_s4.jpg Accessed 10 September 2013]

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1.6.1 Write a paragraph of about 60 words (6 lines) in which you discuss whether the cartoon in Source 1D provides a reliable explanation for the expansion of communist influence in Eastern Europe after World War II? (6)

LIVEWORKSHEETS