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| Europe 1945-1990 1-9 on-l | |
| Superpowers | At the end of the World War II, Europe was in ruins. The two victorious nations stood above the others and were seen as superpowers: the Soviet Union and the United States. The superpowers represented opposing forms of government and competing ideas for the future. Since they were both the winners of the war, the superpowers split Europe. |
| Communism | Beginning in the October 1917 Revolution, the Soviet Union was dedicated to communism, the belief in common work and common benefit. All citizens are equal workers. Nothing is owned as private property. The government controls every aspect of life. Joseph Stalin was the heartless, violent dictator of the Soviet Union. He caused 20 million deaths. |
| Eastern Bloc,  Warsaw Pact | *Bloc* is the French word for *group*. After the war, the Soviet Union claimed the eastern half of Germany, plus Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and others. They were forced to become communist and follow Soviet orders. They signed a pact in Warsaw, Poland, in 1955; they are called the Warsaw Pact countries or the Eastern Bloc. The Soviet Union controlled them. |
| Democracy, Capitalism | The US was founded as a democracy, a country governed by the free choice of citizens. Freedom of thought and individual choice are core beliefs of democracy. Capital is the name for a pile of money owned by an individual. Capitalism is the belief in the importance of individual citizens owning private property, or capital. The government stays out of the way |
| NATO  North Atlantic Treaty Organization | The countries of Western Europe, led by West Germany, France, and the United Kingdom, joined with the US and Canada to form the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in 1949. NATO was an alliance of open, free, democratic, capitalist countries against the spread of communism from the Soviet-led Eastern Bloc. The US was the leader of NATO. |
| “Iron Curtain” | Countries in the Eastern Bloc were not allowed to trade or communicate with NATO countries in the west. In a 1946 speech, Winston Churchill said it feels as if an “iron curtain” has cut off Eastern Europe from the West. The metaphor stuck. |
| Cold War | The capitalist, democratic West, led by the US, opposed the communist East, controlled by the Soviet Union. They competed for power in every way except combat. For forty-five years, the two superpowers made the rest of the world take sides; they both built up huge military forces; they both threatened to use nuclear weapons; but they never fought a war. |
| Berlin  Wall | When Europe was divided between the Soviet East and the NATO West, Germany was divided, too. the Soviets got East Germany, and NATO got West Germany. The German city of Berlin was divided into communist East Berlin and democratic-capitalist West Berlin.. So many people wanted to migrate out of East Berlin that in 1961 the communist government put up a huge wall to block the border, ninety miles long and twelve feet high, patrolled by armed guards. For 28 years the Berlin Wall stood as a symbol of the Cold War. |
| Communist  Reforms | In 1985, the Soviet economy started to collapse. Countries in the Eastern Bloc began experimenting with reforms, and the Soviet leaders decided not to use violence to crush them. In 1989, Poland had democratic elections, and Hungary decided to open its border with Austria. The new openness gained energy as every country left the Warsaw Pact. |
| Germany Reunified | By November 1989, the Berlin Wall was pointless. Guards allowed people to cross from East to West Berlin. Huge crowds danced at the Wall, and later it was officially torn down. The fall of the Berlin Wall symbolized the free travel, free speech, and free ideas that were now welcome in countries that had been in the Eastern Bloc. East and West Germany, split by the Superpowers in 1945, were reunified in 1990 as a capitalist democracy belonging to NATO. |
| Breakup of the Soviet Union | The Soviet Union had conquered many areas like Ukraine and Belarus. When the Eastern Bloc countries liberated themselves, many Soviet regions did as well. If Ukrainians could live in freedom, citizens of the Soviet Union wanted to. So in 1991 the Soviet Union collapsed. It was re-named Russia, rejected communism, and moved toward democracy and capitalism |

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| http://media.maps.com/magellan/Images/WRLH024-H.gif | After WWII, what two countries were the Superpowers?  WEST EAST  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  The West side was called The East side was the  N\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ E\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ B \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , or the  T \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ W \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  O \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ P \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
| Winston Churchill described the dividing line with a metaphor: the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | | |
| *The Superpowers had opposing views on everything.* | | |
| Government by citizens is called  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Belief in individual private property is called  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | | Belief in common work and common benefit is  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  How is every part of life controlled?  By the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| *Germany was split in half by the Superpowers.* | | |
| W\_\_\_\_\_ Germany joined  N \_ \_ \_\_ \_\_,  led by the \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,  with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  and the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and others. | | E\_\_\_\_\_ Germany belonged to the  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_,  led by the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,  with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and others. |
| *The German capital Berlin was split in half by the Superpowers* | | |
| West Berlin shared two ideals with the US,  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. | | East Berlin shared the ideal of the Soviet Union,  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Dividing East and West Berlin, the \_\_ \_\_ \_\_ \_\_ \_\_ \_\_ \_\_ \_\_ \_\_ \_\_ was constructed in 1961. | | |
| The tension of the Cold War lasted for forty-five years, from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ until \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  1. The Superpowers made \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  2. They built up \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  3. They threatened \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  4. But \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | | |
| Then in 1985, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ loosened its grip on the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .  In 1989, Poland \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  In 1989, Hungary \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  In 1989 in Berlin, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  In 1990, East and West Germany \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  In 1991, the Soviet Union \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | | |
| Was the Cold War a contest? Did one side win? Write one sentence to express a complete thought. | | |
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