

Scheme of Learning: Year 9 history

Topic Sequence:

1	2	3	4
The Holocaust	The Cold War	Post 1945 Britain	Local History Unit

Topic Overview:

After learning about The Holocaust, we will continue with a chronological approach and will study The Cold War. This unit is broken up into 3 small enquiries, looking at who might be to blame for The Cold War, what the key flashpoints were and how The Cold War “ended.”

Lesson Sequence:

Mini enquiry 1: Who was to blame for The Cold War?

Within this unit, we will look at the end of World War Two, the peace conferences and the ideological differences between Russia and the USA to try and understand what The Cold War was. We will examine the events from 1945 to 1949 and begin to explore who might be responsible for causing the USA and USSR to fall out. We will evaluate what changed between Yalta and Potsdam and how this shaped the early cold war, we will also compare and contrast the US policy of containment with the Soviet Union’s policy of expansion. We will also evaluate the atomic bombs impact in causing an arms race, the establishment of NATO and the Berlin Blockade and airlift. Each lesson we will be using a “balance sheet” to try and assign blame.

Mini enquiry 2: What were the flashpoints of The Cold War

Whilst we cannot explore the whole period, we will look at some of the key events of The Cold War to help students get an understanding of the tension and global fallout from The Cold War. We will look at Korea and how this became a proxy war. Then we will evaluate how and why a wall was built in Berlin. We will also look at the Cuban Missile Crisis, The Vietnam War and the Afghanistan war. We will be evaluating the similarities and differences between these conflicts by looking at themes such as the threat of nuclear war, ideology and guerrilla warfare.

Mini enquiry 3: How did The Cold War End?

This enquiry is going to look at the period where the Cold War began to end. We will look at how the Soviet Union was struggling economically, had numerous high profile disasters, a string of ageing leaders and having to deal with the fallout of the humiliating Afghanistan War. We will learn about how a new leader, Gorbachev, took The Soviet Union in a new direction with his reforms and how this resulted in the breakdown of The Soviet Union. We will learn about the symbolic importance of The Berlin Wall coming down too. Finally, we will learn about the historiography of The Cold War; we will evaluate how the changes in the evidence base after the Soviet Archives impacted historians.

Sequence of Lessons:		Topic Resources:	
1	What was The Cold War? Communism v capitalism	Knowledge Map:	Cold War Knowledge Map
		Any other Resources:	N/A
2	Yalta and Potsdam	Assessment:	
3	The Marshall Plan/ Truman Doctrine	Knowledge:	Knowledge test- multiple choice and short answer factual recall questions
4	Soviet Expansion	Application of Knowledge:	Students will be asked to explain an answer to one of the mini enquiries, using a range of evidence. They will also need to explore an interpretation using historiography
5	Berlin Blockade/Airlift	Supportive Reading:	
6	Nato/Warsaw Pact	Any supported reading listed here	
7	Korea		
8	Berlin Wall		
9	Vietnam		
10	Afghanistan		
11	Gorbachev		
12	Breakdown of Communism/ end of The Cold War (2-3 lessons)		
13	Historiography		