

NCERT SOLUTIONS

CLASS - 12th



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Subject : Political science

Chapter : 1

Chapter Name : The cold war era

Q1 Which among the following statements about the cold war is wrong?

- (a) It was a competition between the Us and soviet Union and their respective allies.
- (b) It was an ideological war between the superpowers.
- (c) It triggered off an arms race.
- (d) The US and USSR were engaged in direct wars.

Answer. (d) The US and USSR were engaged in direct wars.

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Q2 Which among the following statements does not reflect the objectives of NAM?

- (a) Enabling newly decolonised countries to pursue independent policies
- (b) No to joining any military alliances
- (c) Following a policy of 'neutrality' on global issues
- (d) Focus on elimination of global economic inequalities

Answer. (c) Following a policy of 'neutrality' on global issues

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Q3 Mark correct or wrong against each of the following statements that describe the features of military alliance formed by superpowers.

- a. Member countries of alliance are to provide bases in their respective lands for the superpowers.
- b. Member countries to support the superpowers both in terms of ideology and military strategy.
- c. When a nation attacks any member country, it is considered as an attack on all the member countries.
- d. Superpower assists all the member countries to develop their own nuclear weapons.

Answer.

- (a) Correct
- (b) Correct
- (c) Correct
- (d) Wrong

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Q4 Here is a list of countries. write against each of these the bloc they belonged to during the cold war.

- a. Poland
- b. France
- c. Japan
- d. Nigeria
- e. North Korea
- f. Srilanka

Answer.

- (a) Eastern bloc
- (b) Western bloc
- (c) Western bloc
- (d) NAM
- (e) Eastern bloc
- (f) NAM

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Q5 The cold war produced an arms race as well as arms control. What were the reasons for both these developments?

Answer. The main reasons for the arms race during the cold war were :

- (a) The tensions between the USA and USSR gave rise to the arms stockpile, under both of them as there was a definite creation of circumstances for an upcoming direct war.
- (b) The stockpile of arms also showed the hard or military power of the bloc in the international arena.

The main reasons for the arms control during the cold war were:

- (a) To eradicate the growing tensions between the two blocs in the international arena.
- (b) To decrease the atmospheric tensions of mistrust, fear and suspicion.
- (c) For the arms control, different treaties like the Nuclear Non-Proliferation treaty, the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, SALT-I, SALT-II etc were also signed among the major powers of the world.

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Q6 Why did the superpowers have military alliances with smaller countries? Give reasons.

Answer. USA and USSR had military alliances like NATO, SEATO and CENTO with other countries for the following reasons :

- (a) They wanted military as well as ideological support from these allies as the Cold War was primarily an ideological war between socialism and capitalism.
- (b) They wanted base for the military action against the enemy blocs.
- (c) They wanted economic support and political support from the allies to fight against the opposite bloc and these assistances mainly included oil, arms and ammunitions etc.

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Q7 Sometimes it is said that the Cold War was a simple struggle for power and that ideology had nothing to do with it. Do you agree with this? Give one example to support your position.

Answer. Cold war, was an indirect war fought between USA and USSR. One of the major reasons for such tensions was the ideological divide between both blocs. The ideology of the USA was primarily based upon , 'capitalism' while as the ideology of USSR was based upon communism and socialism.

For example :

The Truman's doctrine was targeted against the rise of communism by the USA against the USSR , as it was declared by President Truman of the USA. So, it can be concluded that Cold war indeed was an 'ideological war'.

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Q8 What was India's foreign policy towards the US and USSR during the cold war era? Do you think that this policy helped India's interests?

Answer. The major tenets of India's foreign policy, during the cold war were:

- (a) It adopted the policy of NAM, by which it didn't join any of the power blocs i.e. USA and USSR.
- (b) It didn't adopt the policy of neutrality as it participated in the global issues of geo-political significance.
- (c) It didn't adopt isolationism either, as it signed treaties with USA and USSR (Treaty of friendship, 1971) to maximise the economic and political domains of the country.

Yes, The respective foreign policy favoured India as it was able to stand by the provisions of territorial integrity, sovereignty etc by not joining any of the blocs. India also had close proximity with USA and USSR , which resulted in an increase in the political and economical stance of India.

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9. NAM was considered a 'third option' by Third World countries. How did this option benefit their growth during the peak of the Cold war?

Answer. NAM was a third option for the 'third-world countries' and it resulted in the political and economic development of their native institutions. It helped in the economic development of the respective countries as they had their own right and complete autonomy over their resources without any scenario of exploitation from Europe. It also allowed them to establish the economic treaties with other countries based upon proper trading rights. New International Economic Order (NIEO) also helped in the economic development of third- world countries in close affinity with the two powerful blocs.

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Q10 What do you think about the statement that NAM has become irrelevant today? Give reasons to support your opinion.

Answer. NAM has not become irrelevant today because of the following reasons:

- (a) It is based upon the ideas of cooperation and coordination in Afro-Asian context and its the need of the hour for the countries belonging to these areas.
- (b) It helps the countries to protect their territorial integrity and sovereignty by not joining the super - powers.
- (c) It aims at the economic development of (African-Asian-Latin American) countries , and works for the establishment of democratic practices also.

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