Study Guide: The Cold War: Truman to JFK

Part A: Important Terms: Instructions: For each item below, **ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER**, write at least one sentence explaining why that term is historically significant when examining The Cold War from President Truman to President John F. Kennedy.

1. President Truman
2. Ethel and Julius Rosenberg
3. The Manhattan Project
4. Dwight Eisenhower
5. George Keenan
6. Satellite Nations
7. West Berlin
8. Warsaw Pact
9. NATO
10. The Iron Curtain
11. Mao Zedong
12. Chiang Kai-shek
13. Joseph Stalin
14. Containment
15. Douglas MacArthur
16. Eisenhower Doctrine
17. Brinkmanship
18. Taiwan
19. John Dulles
20. East Berlin
21. Khrushchev
22. Francis Gary Powers
23. The U-2 Incident
24. McCarthyism
25. Blacklisted
26. The Hollywood Ten
27. FELP
28. Richard Nixon
29. The Federal Republic of Germany
30. Turkey
31. The Berlin Wall
32. Sputnik
33. Yuri Gagarin
34. Neil Armstrong
35. John F. Kennedy
36. Civil Rights Movement
37. Lee Harvey Oswald
38. Jack Ruby
39. Fidel Castro
40. Cuba

Part B: Open Response Questions: Instructions: **ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER**, answer the questions below.

1. What was the purpose of the United Nations? How did the USA use the group? How did the USSR use the group?

2. What caused the Korean War? How did the conflict influence the relationship of the USA and China? How did the conflict change the political future of the Korean Peninsula?

3. What happened at the Bay of Pigs? What was the Cuban Missile Crisis? How did President JFK respond to the event? How was the conflict resolved?

4. What was HUAC? How did the Hollywood 10 respond to HUAC?
### Part A: Important Terms: Instructions

For each item below, **ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER**, write at least one sentence explaining why that term is historically significant when examining The Cold War from President Truman to President John F. Kennedy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>President Truman</strong></td>
<td>He was President when the Cold War began and practiced Containment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ethel and Julius Rosenberg</strong></td>
<td>They leaked information to the USSR to build an Atom Bomb.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Manhattan Project</strong></td>
<td>This was the secret project to create Atom Bombs by the USA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dwight Eisenhower</strong></td>
<td>He was President in the 1950s and practiced Brinkmanship.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>George Keenan</strong></td>
<td>He told Truman to practice Containment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Satellite Nations</strong></td>
<td>These were nations in Eastern Europe who were forced by the USSR to be Communist.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>West Berlin</strong></td>
<td>This was the portion of Berlin still under Democracy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Warsaw Pact</strong></td>
<td>This was a collective security with the USSR and the Satellite Nations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mao Zedong</strong></td>
<td>This man led the Communist takeover of China.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chiung Kai-shek</strong></td>
<td>He wanted to stop the Communist takeover of China and failed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Joseph Stalin</strong></td>
<td>He was the Communist dictator of the USSR when the Cold War began.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Containment</strong></td>
<td>The goal of this policy was to keep Communism in the USSR. It failed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Douglas MacArthur</strong></td>
<td>He led the military efforts to keep South Korea free in the Korean War.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Eisenhower Doctrine</strong></td>
<td>In this policy, the USA would support any Middle East nation to stop them from falling to Communism.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sputnik</strong></td>
<td>The first satellite in space launched by the USSR.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Yuri Gagarin</strong></td>
<td>This Soviet was the first man in space.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Neil Armstrong</strong></td>
<td>This American was the first man on the moon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>John F. Kennedy</strong></td>
<td>He was elected President in 1960 and managed the Cuban Missile Crisis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Civil Rights Movement</strong></td>
<td>This movement sought to ensure minorities, such as African Americans, had their rights protected.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lee Harvey Oswald</strong></td>
<td>He assassinated JFK.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Fidel Castro**                                                     | He led the...
| 9. NATO: This was a collective security of western nations against the USSR. | 18. Taiwan: Those who did not want to be under Communism fled to this island to escape the Chinese government. | 28. Richard Nixon: He lost the election to 1960 to JFK. | 39. Communist revolution in Cuba. |
| 10. The Iron Curtain: This was the metaphorical name given to explain that Eastern Europe was dominated by Communism. | 19. John Dulles: He urged Eisenhower to practice brinkmanship. | 29. The Federal Republic of Germany: This nation consisted of the 3 Democratic zones allowed to merge again after WW II. | 40. Cuba: The USSR tried to put nuclear weapons on this island and it almost led to nuclear war between the USSR and the USA. |

**Part B: Open Response Questions: Instructions:** *ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER*, answer the questions below.

1. **What was the purpose of the United Nations? How did the USA use the group? How did the USSR use the group?**

   In June of 1945, 50 countries signed the UN Charter to try and prevent another world war. This created the United Nations. Woodrow Wilson’s dream of the League of Nations had proven too weak to create change. Yet, the United Nations exists still today as a venue for nations to use diplomacy to address differences and maintain peace. The USA and USSR both tried to utilize the UN to spread their ideas. The USA endorsed Democracy and the USSR endorsed Communism.

2. **What caused the Korean War? How did the conflict influence the relationship of the USA and China? How did the conflict change the political future of the Korean Peninsula?**

   In 1948, The Republic of Korea was formed in South Korea and was led by Syngman Rhee in Seoul. Also in 1948, The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, led by Kim Sung II, in Pyongyang, was formed as a Communist nation in North Korea. They had the support of the USSR. In June of 1950, The Northern Communists invaded the Southern Peninsula. The Korean War began. South Korea asked the United Nations for help, the USSR boycotted the meeting due to the existence of Taiwan. The absence of the USSR helped the vote to pass. Truman sent troops to support South Korea. General Douglas MacArthur led the effort in Korea to keep the South free for Democracy.

   In response to the northern invasion, MacArthur launched a defensive attack to keep the southern region free. China sent troops to assist North Korea. The war was between North and South Korea, but it was also about the Chinese military fighting USA military. There were moments when the North advanced and moments when the South advanced. Yet, for the most part, a standstill developed in Korea. Neither the Communists nor the Democratic South could deliver a decisive victory. MacArthur wanted to unleash the most powerful force the USA could use. He wanted to drop nuclear bombs on China.

   The struggle was against North and South Korea; yet, China was the main force behind North Korea and North Korea would never fall until China stopped helping them. President Truman refused to use nuclear weapons and MacArthur openly critiqued Truman for the decision. Truman fired MacArthur as a result. Neither side could achieve a decisive victory, so an armistice was signed by the two sides. Technically, this did not end the war, it simply meant cooperation...
would exist between the regions. In South Korea, Democracy could be established. Yet, North Korea remained under Communism. To this day, there is tension between the two areas.

3. **What happened at the Bay of Pigs? What was the Cuban Missile Crisis? How did President JFK respond to the event? How was the conflict resolved?**

Fidel Castro made Cuba Communist, with the help of the USSR. In 1960, President Eisenhower let the CIA train Cuban exiles to invade and try to gain control over Cuba. In April of 1961, President JFK allowed the group to invade Cuba at an area called the Bay of Pigs. However, the Soviet Union gave aid to Cuba and the exiles were crushed by Castro. This was a massive failure and embarrassment for the USA. Cuba remained under Communist control. The USSR and Cuba began working together to secure the Communist government of Cuba. The Soviet Union wanted to be Cuba's ally because it would give their nation a close area to keep nuclear weapons pointed at the USA. Nikita Khrushchev, dictator of the USSR, sent missiles to be planted in Cuba and pointed at the USA. This was called the Cuban Missile Crisis. JFK sent a blockade around Cuba. Many feared that nuclear war was about to erupt between the USA and the USSR. Khrushchev and JFK reached an agreement to remove the missiles, if the USA decided not to invade Cuba. It was learned later in history that the USA also secretly removed missiles in Turkey to appease the USSR too. Cuba remained an independent, Communist government. It is still a Communist government today.

4. **What was HUAC? How did the Hollywood 10 respond to HUAC?**

The House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC), in 1947, investigated the movie industry to determine if Communists were working in the industry. The Hollywood 10 was a group who refused to cooperate and went to prison. They claimed the investigations were wrong and unconstitutional. Many people were "Blacklisted," after being accused of being Communist. For those accused, they were often fired from their jobs, abandoned by their families, and ostracized by their friends. Those associated with the accused avoided them to avoid being accused themselves.