

Advanced Placement European History II

Lesson 28 Handout 28 Answers

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Advanced Placement European History II Lesson 28 The Cold War and Decolonization Handout 28 Answers

I This handout explores the intertwined dynamics of the Cold War and Decolonization during the late 20th century. It delves into how the global struggle between the United States and the Soviet Union influenced the process of colonial liberation and how in turn decolonization impacted the Cold War.

II The Cold War and Decolonization: A Complex Relationship

- The Ideological Battleground** Both the United States and the Soviet Union sought to align newly independent nations with their respective ideologies. US Advocated for democracy, free markets, and Western alliances. USSR Promoted communism, state-controlled economies, and anti-imperialist sentiment. Impact: The Cold War struggle fueled tensions between newly independent states, often aligning them with one superpower or the other.
- The Struggle for Influence** Both superpowers engaged in various tactics to gain influence in newly independent nations.
 - Economic Aid:** Providing financial assistance to support development and infrastructure.
 - Military Support:** Offering military aid and training to bolster national security.
 - Propaganda:** Disseminating information and promoting their own narrative.Impact: The Cold War became a competition for dominance in the postcolonial world, creating a complex web of alliances and rivalries.
- The Role of Cold War Superpowers in Decolonization**
 - US:** Initially hesitant to fully embrace decolonization, fearing the spread of communism. However, eventually recognized the inevitability of colonial liberation and sought to shape the process.
 - USSR:** Actively supported anticolonial movements, viewing it as a means to weaken Western influence. Provided political and military support to liberation movements across the globe.Impact: The Cold War significantly influenced the speed and nature of decolonization, with both superpowers vying for control over former colonies.

III Case Studies: The Impact of the Cold War on Decolonization

- India**
 - Background:** Gaining independence in 1947, India faced internal divisions and tensions with neighboring Pakistan.
 - Cold War Influence:** Both superpowers attempted to secure India's allegiance. US Offered economic aid and military support, but India's nonaligned stance limited US influence. USSR Provided military and economic assistance, supporting India's position in the non-aligned movement.
 - Impact:** India's nonaligned stance helped it navigate the Cold War and maintain its autonomy.
- Vietnam**
 - Background:** Vietnam's

struggle for independence from France was fueled by nationalist sentiment and the influence of communism

Cold War Influence

The US and USSR heavily involved themselves in the Vietnam War. The US supported South Vietnam, fearing the domino effect of communist expansion in Southeast Asia. The USSR supported North Vietnam, providing military and economic assistance.

Impact

The Vietnam War became a proxy war between the superpowers with devastating consequences for Vietnam and the region.

3 Africa Background

Decolonization in Africa

Decolonization in Africa occurred at a rapid pace during the 1960s with many nations becoming independent.

Cold War Influence

The Cold War fueled a wave of conflicts and instability across the continent. The US supported anticommunist governments and sought to prevent Soviet influence. The USSR backed revolutionary movements and supported socialist governments.

3 Impact

The Cold War had a profound impact on Africa, shaping its political landscape and contributing to ongoing conflicts.

IV The Impact of Decolonization on the Cold War

1 New Players in the Global Arena

Decolonization led to the emergence of numerous new nations, many of which sought to chart their own course outside of the Cold War framework.

NonAligned Movement

Many newly independent nations joined the NonAligned Movement, advocating for neutrality and peace.

Impact

The Cold War became more complex with the addition of new actors who could challenge the dominance of the superpowers.

2 The Cold War in the Third World

The Cold War extended beyond Europe and North America, becoming a global conflict.

Proxy Wars

Conflicts in the Third World, such as Vietnam and Angola, were often proxy wars between the superpowers.

Impact

The Cold War destabilized many regions of the world, leading to conflict and political instability.

3 Challenges to Superpower Hegemony

Decolonization

Decolonization weakened the global dominance of the superpowers, creating a more multipolar world.

New Alliances

The emergence of new nations led to the formation of new alliances and blocs.

Impact

The Cold War entered a new phase with a more fragmented and multipolar world order.

V Conclusion

The Cold War and decolonization were inextricably intertwined processes that shaped the global political landscape in the late 20th century. The ideological struggle between the United States and the Soviet Union had a profound impact on the process of colonial liberation, while decolonization in turn challenged the superpower rivalry and led to a more multipolar world.

Understanding this complex relationship is crucial to comprehending the global dynamics of the late 20th century and its ongoing legacy in the 21st century.

VI Handout 28 Answers

1 Explain the ideological differences between the United States and the Soviet Union and how these differences impacted their approach to decolonization

4 The US

advocated for democracy, free markets, and Western alliances, aiming to foster a world order based on individual liberty and capitalism. The USSR promoted communism, state-controlled economies, and anti-imperialist sentiment, aiming to create a world order based on collective

ownership and social equality. These differences influenced their approaches to decolonization. The US, fearing the spread of communism, was initially hesitant about decolonization but eventually recognized its inevitability. The USSR actively supported anticolonial movements, seeing them as a way to weaken Western influence. Both superpowers sought to influence newly independent nations to align with their respective ideologies.

2. Describe two specific examples of how the Cold War influenced the decolonization process in different regions of the world.

India: The Cold War shaped India's postindependence foreign policy as both the US and USSR sought to secure India's allegiance. India's nonaligned stance, supported by the USSR, allowed it to maintain its autonomy and develop its own foreign policy.

Vietnam: The US and USSR heavily involved themselves in the Vietnam War, turning it into a proxy war. The US feared the domino effect of communist expansion in Southeast Asia, while the USSR supported North Vietnam, contributing to the war's devastating consequences for Vietnam and the region.

3. Explain how the emergence of newly independent nations affected the Cold War dynamic.

The emergence of newly independent nations created new actors in the global arena, challenging the superpowers' dominance. Many newly independent nations opted for non-alignment, advocating for neutrality and peace, further complicating the Cold War dynamics. Decolonization also led to the Cold War expanding beyond Europe and North America, becoming a global conflict with proxy wars in the Third World, destabilizing these regions and contributing to political instability.

4. How did decolonization contribute to a more multipolar world order?

Decolonization weakened the global dominance of the superpowers, creating a more multipolar world order. The emergence of new nations led to the formation of new alliances and blocs, challenging the established power structures and creating a more fragmented world order. The Cold War entered a new phase with a more complex and multipolar landscape.

5. What are some of the lasting legacies of the Cold War and decolonization on the global political landscape today?

The Cold War and decolonization continue to have lasting legacies on the global political landscape. The conflict's legacy in terms of political instability, ideological divisions, and nuclear arms proliferation remains significant. Decolonization has shaped the contemporary world order, leading to the emergence of new nations and the creation of new global institutions. It has also sparked debates about issues related to development, globalization, and the enduring legacy of colonialism.

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