



AS HISTORY

The Cold War, c1945–1991

Component 2R To the brink of Nuclear War: international relations,
c1945–1963

Monday 19 May 2025 Afternoon Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7041/2R.
- Answer **two** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about:
 - 50 minutes on Section A
 - 40 minutes on Section B.

Section AAnswer Question 01.

Source A

From a published statement on China by Dean Acheson, US Secretary of State, 5 August 1949.

Our traditional policy of friendship with China will be profoundly affected by current developments. It will inevitably be influenced by the extent to which the Chinese people come to recognise that the new Communist regime serves not their interests but those of Soviet Russia. One point, however, is clear. Should the Communist regime lend itself to the aims of Soviet Russian imperialism and engage in aggression against China's neighbours, this would violate the principles of the United Nations Charter. This would threaten international peace and security. America's policy will continue to be based upon our own respect for the Charter, our friendship with China, our trade with China and China's independence and territorial integrity.

5

Source B

From an interview given to the official Chinese News Agency by Zhou Enlai, Premier and Foreign Secretary of Communist China, 18 March 1950.

Source B cannot be reproduced here due to third-party copyright restrictions

Source B argues that the USA's involvement in the civil war has resulted in millions of deaths and loss of freedom for the Chinese people.

0	1
---	---

With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two sources is more valuable in explaining relations between the USA and China in the years 1949 to 1950?

[25 marks]

Section B

Answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

Either

0 2

'Disagreements over Germany were the main reason for the growing division between the USA and USSR in the years 1945 to 1949.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

or

0 3

'In the years 1961 to 1963, US policies towards Cuba ended in failure.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

Copyright information

For confidentiality purposes, all acknowledgements of third-party copyright material are published in a separate booklet. This booklet is published after each live examination series and is available for free download from www.aqa.org.uk

Permission to reproduce all copyright material has been applied for. In some cases, efforts to contact copyright-holders may have been unsuccessful and AQA will be happy to rectify any omissions of acknowledgements. If you have any queries please contact the Copyright Team.

Copyright © 2025 AQA and its licensors. All rights reserved.

