Guided Reading Activity
The Cold War
Lesson 1 The Cold War Begins

Review Questions
DIRECTIONS: Read each main idea and answer the questions below. Refer to your textbook to write the answers.

A. Main Idea: The United States and the Soviet Union became political rivals after World War II.

1. Where did the Soviet Union set up pro-Soviet regimes?
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2. What was the Truman Doctrine?
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   ______________________________________________________
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3. What was the Marshall Plan? What was COMECON?
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4. Who was George Kennan?
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
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5. Why did the Soviets lift the blockade of Berlin?
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B. Main Idea: Increased tensions between the superpowers resulted in an arms race.

6. What nations became members of NATO?
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7. What was the Warsaw Pact?
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8. What was the cause of the Korean War?
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9. How was the policy of deterrence meant to prevent nuclear war?
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10. Why did the Soviets build the Berlin Wall?

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Summary and Reflection
DIRECTIONS: Summarize the main ideas of this lesson by answering the question below.

11. What were the causes and effects of the conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union?
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Guided Reading Activity
The Cold War
Lesson 2 China After World War II

Review Questions
DIRECTIONS: Locate each heading below in your textbook. Then use the information under the correct heading and subheading to help you write each answer.

I. A Civil War in China

12. Who supported the Communist party during the civil war, and why did they support it?
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13. What events led to the victory statement of Mao Zedong?
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14. What was the “Great Leap Forward”?
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15. How did the Communist government intervene in family life during the Cultural Revolution?
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II. China and the Cold War

16. Why did American fears about the spread of communism intensify after the Communist victory in the Chinese civil war?
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17. What issues divided China and the Soviet Union?
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18. Why did some Chinese leaders decide to improve relations with the United States?

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19. How did the end of the Cultural Revolution affect Chinese foreign policy?

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Summary and Reflection

DIRECTIONS: Summarize the main ideas of this lesson by answering the question below.

20. What changes did China undergo between the end of World War II and the 1980s?

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A. Main Idea: The Cold War conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union grew stronger as nations around the world sided with one or the other.

21. Detail: A _____________ occurs when two powers in conflict use substitutes instead of fighting each other directly.

22. Detail: _____________ and _____________ aid were used by each superpower to win the support of other nations.

23. Detail: United States-led alliances around the world included _____________ in Europe, _____________ in Southeast Asia, and _____________ in the Middle East.

B. Main Idea: The Korean War confirmed American fears of Communist expansion and made the United States more determined to contain Soviet power.

24. Detail: Korea was divided into two zones at the _____________ after World War II.

25. Detail: Although the plan was to _____________ Korea after the war, two separate _____________ emerged as tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union grew worse.
C. Main Idea: The Cold War conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union reached frightening levels during President John F. Kennedy’s administration.

D. Main Idea: After a long war in Vietnam, a new era in American-Soviet relations began to emerge.

26. Detail: An _______________ was signed in _______________ after three years of fighting.

27. Detail: In _______________, a left-wing revolutionary named _______________ set up a Soviet-supported regime in Cuba.

28. Detail: A CIA plan to cause a revolt against _______________ with the _______________ invasion failed; after this, the Soviet Union sent _______________ missiles to Cuba meant to counteract U.S. nuclear weapons in Turkey.

29. Detail: The United States sent troops to _______________ in _______________ to keep the communists in North Vietnam from gaining control.

30. Detail: In 1973, President _______________ reached an agreement with North Vietnam in the _______________. Within two years, Communist armies from the North had forcibly reunited Vietnam.
Summary and Reflection

DIRECTIONS: Summarize the main ideas of this lesson by answering the question below.

31. How did political divisions during the Cold War affect the Korean War, the Cuban missile crisis, and the Vietnam War?

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Answer Key

1. Poland, Romania, Bulgaria, and Hungary

2. The Truman Doctrine was a response by President Truman in 1947 to Communist encroachment on the West. It said the United States would provide money to countries that were threatened by Communist expansion.

3. General George C. Marshall, U.S. Secretary of State, proposed the Marshall Plan, which would provide close to $13 billion to rebuild war-torn Europe. He believed that communism was successful only in countries with economic problems. COMECON was the Soviet response to the Marshall Plan in Eastern Europe.

4. He was a U.S. diplomat who argued for a policy of containment to keep communism within its existing boundaries and prevent further Soviet expansion. It became formal U.S. policy.

5. They lifted the blockade in response to the Berlin Airlift and because they did not want war.

6. Belgium, Luxembourg, France, the Netherlands, Great Britain, Italy, Denmark, Norway, Portugal, Iceland, Greece, Turkey, West Germany, Canada, and the United States.

7. a military alliance that included the Soviet Union, Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Poland, and Romania

8. The Korean War began in 1950 as an attempt by the Communist government of North Korea to take over South Korea.

9. It held that huge arsenals of nuclear weapons on both sides prevented war. The belief was that neither side would launch a nuclear attack because both knew that the other side would be able to strike back with devastating power.

10. They built it to stem the flow of people trying to escape poverty-stricken East Germany.

11. A complete answer should include: after the end of World War II, the United States and the Soviet Union competed for political domination of the world; European countries became supporters of one side or the other through military alliances such as NATO or the Warsaw Pact; the policy of deterrence helped to fuel the arms race between the two superpowers.

12. Peasants attracted by promises of land and middle-class Chinese alienated by the repressive policies of the Nationalist government. Some Nationalist troops also changed sides.

13. The People’s Liberation Army surrounded Beijing in 1948, and the following spring they crossed the Chang Jiang and occupied Shanghai. Chiang Kai-shek and two million of his followers fled to the island of Taiwan.

14. It was a program that Mao Zedong began in 1958 that combined the existing collective farms into 26,000 giant communes, each of which contained more than 30,000 people who lived and worked together. It was an effort to speed up economic growth. The program was unsuccessful.

15. To ensure loyalty to the state over loyalty to the family, Mao gave women equal marital rights. Mao also encouraged children to report negative comments their parents made about the government.

16. The new Chinese Communist leaders made it clear that they supported “national wars of liberation” in Africa, Asia, and Latin America and signed a pact of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union in 1950.
The Chinese wanted the Soviets to go on the offensive to promote world revolution. Specifically, China wanted Soviet aid in retaking Taiwan from Chiang Kai-shek. The Soviets, however, were trying to improve relations with the West and refused. The Chinese were also unhappy with the amount of economic aid provided by the Soviets.

18. Chinese leaders wanted to improve relations with the United States because disputes between China and the Soviet Union became more frequent in the 1960s, with a number of clashes on both sides of the frontier.

19. Diplomatic ties were established with the United States in 1979. In the 1980s, relations with the Soviet Union gradually improved. By the 1990s, China emerged as an independent power and was playing an increasingly active role in Asian affairs.

20. A complete answer should include: in 1949, Chiang Kai-shek lost control of China, and the Communist Mao Zedong announced the formation of the People’s Republic of China; to build his socialist society in China, Mao Zedong launched the Great Leap Forward in 1958 and the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution in 1966; neither program was especially successful; at the onset of the Cold War, Communist China and the Soviet Union signed a pact of friendship and cooperation; the cooperation soon collapsed over political differences; Chinese leaders eventually established relations with the United States and emerged as an independent power.

21. proxy war

22. Military, economic

23. NATO, SEATO, CENTO

24. 38th parallel

25. reunify, governments

26. armistice, 1953

27. 1959, Fidel Castro

28. Castro, Bay of Pigs, nuclear

29. South Vietnam, March 1965


31. A complete answer should include: since the United States and the Soviet Union were both armed with devastating nuclear arsenals, neither side wished to fight each other directly; instead, they fought a series of indirect proxy wars, Korea and Vietnam being the largest; the Cuban missile crisis marked a moment of direct tension between the United State and the Soviet Union; the United States was motivated by a fear of the spread of communism and continued to follow a policy of containment until the end of the Vietnam War.