Guided Reading Activity
The Cold War Begins, 1945–1960

Lesson 2 The Early Cold War Years


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

A. Main Idea: The United States practiced a policy of containment with the Soviets as tensions erupted into conflict.

1. How did the Long Telegram shape American policy in dealing with the Soviets?

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2. Where did Soviet aggression occur after World War II?

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3. What was the Truman Doctrine?

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4. Why did Congress pass the Marshall Plan?

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5. Why was the Berlin Airlift necessary?

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6. Why was NATO created?

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B. Main Idea: The Cold War eventually spread beyond Europe and conflicts erupted in Asia, sending American troops into battle.

1. What was the Chinese Revolution?

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2. **How** did a Communist government in China affect U.S. relations with Japan?

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3. **When** did the Korean War begin?

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4. **Why** did China become involved in the Korean War?

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5. **How** did the Korean War mark a turning point in the Cold War?

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**Summary and Reflection**

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

How did the U.S. policy of containment affect its relations with other nations?

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