

## The Cold War and Its Many Parts

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Use “**The Cold War and Its Many Parts-Vocabulary Analysis**” words and highlight them in the article below. You will be using this for a Vocabulary activity later in the lesson.

**The Cold War: Containment** By the time World War II ended, most American officials agreed that the best defense against the Soviet threat was a strategy called “containment.” In 1946, in his famous “Long Telegram,” the diplomat George Kennan (1904-2005) explained this policy: The Soviet Union, he wrote, was “a political force committed fanatically to the belief that with the U.S. there can be no permanent modus vivendi [agreement between parties that disagree]”; as a result, America’s only choice was the “long-term, patient but firm and vigilant containment of Russian expansive tendencies.” President Harry Truman (1884-1972) agreed. “It must be the policy of the United States,” he declared before Congress in 1947, “to support free peoples who are resisting attempted subjugation...by outside pressures.” This way of thinking would shape American foreign policy for the next four decades.

**The Cold War: The Atomic Age** The containment strategy also provided the rationale for an unprecedented arms buildup in the United States. In 1950, a National Security Council Report known as NSC-68 had echoed Truman’s recommendation that the country use military force to “contain” communist expansionism anywhere it seemed to be occurring. To that end, the report called for a four-fold increase in defense spending. In particular, American officials encouraged the development of atomic weapons like the ones that had ended World War II. Thus began a deadly “arms race.” In 1949, the Soviets tested an atom bomb of their own. In response, President Truman announced that the United States would build an even more destructive atomic weapon: the hydrogen bomb, or “super bomb.” Stalin followed suit. As a result, the stakes of the Cold War were perilously high. The first H-bomb test, in the Eniwetok atoll in the Marshall Islands, showed just how fearsome the nuclear age could be. It created a 25-square-mile fireball that vaporized an island, blew a huge hole in the ocean floor and had the power to destroy half of Manhattan. Subsequent American and Soviet tests spewed poisonous radioactive waste into the atmosphere. The ever-present threat of nuclear annihilation had a great impact on American domestic life as well. People built bomb shelters in their backyards. They practiced attack drills in schools and other public places. The 1950s and 1960s saw an epidemic of popular

films that horrified moviegoers with depictions of nuclear devastation and mutant creatures. In these and other ways, the Cold War was a constant presence in Americans' everyday lives.

**The Cold War Extends to Space** Space exploration served as another dramatic arena for Cold War competition. On October 4, 1957, a Soviet R-7 intercontinental ballistic missile launched Sputnik (Russian for "traveler"), the world's first artificial satellite and the first man-made object to be placed into the Earth's orbit. Sputnik's launch came as a surprise, and not a pleasant one, to most Americans. In the United States, space was seen as the next frontier, a logical extension of the grand American tradition of exploration, and it was crucial not to lose too much ground to the Soviets. In addition, this demonstration of the overwhelming power of the R-7 missile—seemingly capable of delivering a nuclear warhead into U.S. air space—made gathering intelligence about Soviet military activities particularly urgent. In 1958, the U.S. launched its own satellite, Explorer I, designed by the U.S. Army under the direction of rocket scientist Wernher von Braun, and what came to be known as the Space Race was underway. That same year, President Dwight Eisenhower signed a public order creating the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), a federal agency dedicated to space exploration, as well as several programs seeking to exploit the military potential of space.

That May, after Alan Shepard became the first American man in space, President John F. Kennedy (1917-1963) made the bold public claim that the U.S. would land a man on the moon by the end of the decade. His prediction came true on July 20, 1969, when Neil Armstrong of NASA's Apollo 11 mission, became the first man to set foot on the moon, effectively winning the Space Race for the Americans. U.S. astronauts came to be seen as the ultimate American heroes, and earth-bound men and women seemed to enjoy living vicariously through them. Soviets, in turn, were pictured as the ultimate villains, with their massive, relentless efforts to surpass America and prove the power of the communist system.

## **The Cold War and Its Many Parts-Vocabulary Analysis**

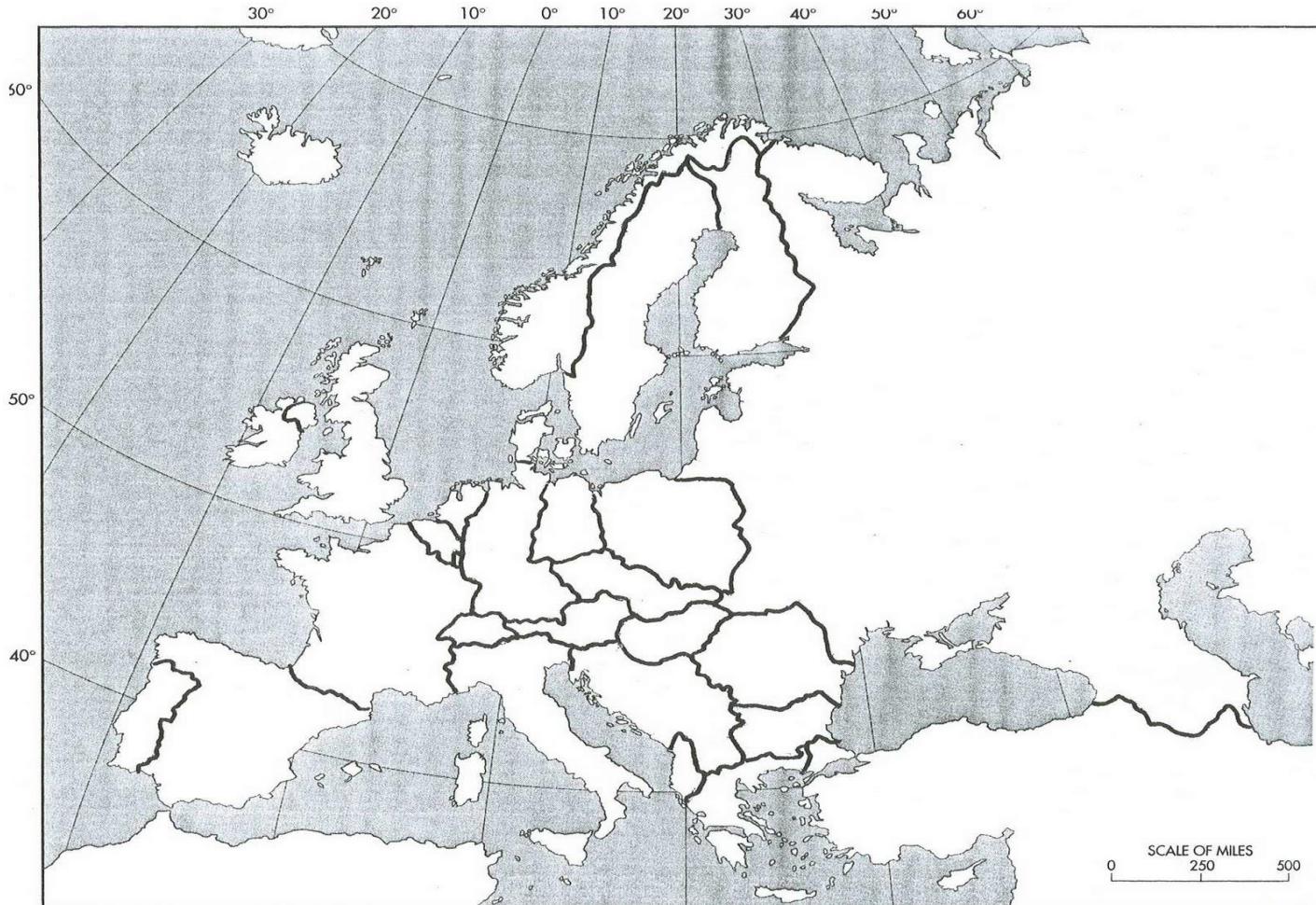
**Directions:** Using the context from the article, *The Cold War and Its Many Parts*, write in your opinion what the word means. Then, look the words up in a dictionary and write out the definition.

<b>Words</b>	<b>My Thoughts</b>	<b>Actual Definition</b>
1) Containment		
2) Vigilant		
3) Subjugation		
4) Unprecedented		
5) Perilously		
6) Vaporized		
7) Subsequent		
8) Extension		
9) Urgent		
10) Vicariously		
11) Villains		

## Cold War Geography

**Directions:** The map shown below is a blank map of cold war Europe. Use the guide on the next page and label each “**Communist**” and “**Non-Communist**” country. Color all of the “**Communist**” countries, the same color (your choice) and color all of the “**Non-Communist**” countries a different (but same) color. (Still your choice). **PS-NATO** states were “**Non-Communist**” and Warsaw Pact states were **Communist**. One other thing-Color all of the “**Non-aligned States**” yellow. (We will get to that later!)

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### Countries Word Bank

The list below contains the countries that you are to label on the above map.  
Use the map on the back of this sheet for guidance.

Albania	Austria	Belgium	Bulgaria	Czechoslovakia	Denmark
East Germany	Finland	France	Greece	Hungary	Iceland
Ireland	Italy	Luxembourg	Netherlands	Norway	Poland
Portugal	Romania	Spain	Sweden	Turkey	USSR
	United Kingdom	Switzerland	West Germany	Yugoslavia	



**Read each question listed below. Using the above map, write down your own opinion.**

**Remember, there is no right or wrong answer.**

- If the Cold War had actually been a “fighting war,” who do you think would have won and why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- According to the map, there were many countries that remained neutral throughout the Cold War. Why do you think neither side (Communists and Non-Communists) tried to overtake any of the neutral countries and Why?  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- What do you think the difference is between a “Cold War” and a “Hot War?” Explain.  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## The Cold War Two Column Notes

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**Directions:** Read the article entitled “The Cold War and Its Many Parts.” Under each heading, write in seven (7) facts that pertain to the article. Each fact must be numbered.

Topic:	Different parts of the Cold War
Main Ideas	Details
<b>The Cold War- CONTAINMENT</b>	
<b>The Cold War- THE ATOMIC AGE</b>	
<b>The Cold War- EXTENDS TO SPACE</b>	