The Cold War
Confrontation and Detente: 1953-1969

- Please make sure you include your name (so you get credit!)
- Number the terms and questions, and keep everything as orderly as possible.
- Create an account so that I can verify your identity and who does what.

Terms (2 from each student - no duplicates!)

1. **Sputnik 1** - the world’s first successfully launched earth satellite by the Russians in 1958. The Americans did not want to be behind the Russians so within a few months they had launched an earth satellite of their own. *(Kayla)*

2. **Hot-line** - after the Cuban Missile Crisis, a telephone link was introduced between Moscow and Washington. It allowed for swift consultations between nations. It showed that the USSR and the USA were communicating. *(Kayla)*

3. **Baghdad Pact** - In 1955, this pact was formed between Iraq and Britain (and later Iran and Pakistan) in order to keep the USSR out of the Middle East. This pact helped prevent communist expansion and to contain USSR. *(Kara)*

4. **South-East Asian Treaty Organization (SEATO)** - was formed in 1954 by the US, France, Britain, Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Thailand and Pakistan. This was an alliance directed against the communists and further prevented the spread of communism in South-East Asia. *(Kara)*

5. **Berlin Wall** - Was built in 1961 of reinforced concrete and barbed-wire it was later stationed with armed guards. Communists in East Berlin were embarrassed by the amount of people that had escaped to the west, and thus had set up the barrier to prevent those still in the East who wanted to escape to the West from doing so. The wall was also a symbol that solidified the separation between the U.S and the USSR. *(Marco)*

6. **The New Look** - A new foreign policy introduced by Eisenhower. It stated that Communism should be contained, nuclear weapons were now regarded as weapons of first resort and the Baghdad pact was formed between Britain, Iraq, Iran and Pakistan. *(Alex L.)*

7. **Prague Spring** - It only temporarily halted the process of detente. November 1968 was when the Brezhnev Doctrine was announced and indicated that the Soviets believed that socialism could control all of the East. *(Alex L.)*

8. **Spirit of Geneva** - This was a Great Power Summit in Geneva between the USSR, USA, Britain, and France. This was the first time the leaders met since the Potsdam
Conference in 1945. This new and positive atmosphere was referred to as “The Spirit of Geneva.” (Marco)

9. **Secret Speech** - February 1956; speech given by Krushchev at a secret session of the 20th Party Congress. His aim was to promote de-Stalinisation and liberalisation. It began a de-Stalinisation process in the USSR and can be seen as a domestic political struggle against old Stalinists (i.e. Molotov). He had introduced the idea of peaceful co-existence with the capitalists. Mao took it as an indirect attack on his own ruling. Communist rule became questioned (Eastern Europe, Hungary, Poland). (Susan)

10. **The Suez Crisis** - 1956; Gamel Abdel Nasser, an Arab nationalist, became the new leader of Egypt. He opposed Western domination in the Middle East as well as the foundation of the state of Israel. He wanted full control of the Suez Canal. In 1955 he made an arms deal with the USSR; Czechoslovakia & Soviet experts began training the Egyptian army. In 1956, he concluded an alliance between Egypt, Syria, Saudi Arabia and Yemen, against Israel. The US and Britain, after seeing Nasser’s pro-communist/ anti-west attitude, cancelled a loan which would have helped to finance the building of the Aswan Dam. In return, Nasser nationalised the Suez Canal. Israel, Britain and France invaded Egypt to humiliate Nasser and replace him with a pro-western leader. Some of the effects were: Nasser’s prestige (Arab nationalism grew in strength), Soviet influence increased in the Middle East (Soviet money financed Aswan Dam), took away attention from the Hungarian uprising, and Eisenhower brought out his “Eisenhower Doctrine.” (Susan)

11. **Nikita Khrushchev**: A Russian leader who came to power after the death of Stalin with two other leaders, Malenkov, and Bulganin. Khrushchev strongly believed that relations with the USA should be improved because both sides had a hydrogen bomb and they were so evenly balanced that tensions needed to be relaxed in order to prevent a nuclear war. He explained the new policy in a famous speech where he criticized Stalin and said “peaceful co-existence” with the West was essential. However he did not give up the idea of a communist-dominated world, but it would be achieved only after the western powers recognized the superiority of the Soviet economic system, not when they were defeated in war. (Jaycee)

12. **Cuban Missile Crisis**: Cuba became involved in the Cold War in 1959 when Fidel Castro, who had just seized power from the corrupt, American-backed dictator Batista, outraged the USA by nationalizing American owned estates and factories. Cuba’s relations with the USA worsened right as their relations with the USSR strengthened. In January 1961 USA broke off diplomatic relations with Cuba and the Russians increased their economic aid. The new US President, John F. Kennedy was convinced that Cuba was now a communist country and approved a plan by a group of Batista supporters to invade Cuba from American bases in Guatemala. Kennedy sunk Cuban merchant ships,
installations on the island were sabotaged and American troops carried out invasion exercises. Khrushchev decided to set up nuclear missile launchers in Cuba aimed at the USA with a range of up to 2,000 miles which meant all major cities of central and eastern USA such as New York, Washington, Chicago and Boston would be under threat. However in October 1962, photographs taken from spy planes showed a missile base under construction. (Jaycee)

13. Brinkmanship: John Foster Dulles, US Secretary of State under President Eisenhower described the policy brinkmanship specifically pertaining to the possibility of a nuclear war with the Soviets. Explained as “the ability to get to the verge of war is the necessary art. If you run from it and you are scared, you are lost.” This philosophy was seen during the Cuban missile crisis in which the Soviets ‘flinched’ first in turning back from delivering missiles to Cuba. (Shayne)

14. Fidel Castro: A young lawyer in Cuba and a member of the reformist Cuban people’s party. Elections were scheduled for 1952 and Castro wanted a seat on the House of Representatives; however, Batista carried out a coup and elections were cancelled. Castro organized an armed oppositions and in 1953 led an attack on the Moncada military barracks that failed and he was imprisoned. Released in 1955, he went to Mexico where Cuban exiles organized the 26th of July movement, wanting a social revolution but did not declare themselves communists. After two years, Castro’s units controlled the country; however, after going to the US for support economically and politically, the US refused to meet him. Castro designed a land reform programme and industries were nationalised but was still not an outspoken communist. As this continued, the US begun a trade embargo forcing Castro to sign a deal with the USSR and relations and a trade agreement with China. (beginning of his leadership and a bit of his initial life. I could go on for essays on Castro but have no wish to do so) --> Do it! (Shayne).

15. Warsaw Pact (1955): a treaty between Soviet Russia and her satellite states shortly after Western Germany was admitted into NATO; the Warsaw Pact was an agreement of mutual defense which the West took as a gesture against Western Germany’s membership of NATO, consequently, this alliance further increased the brewing discord between the USSR and the USA. (Kai)

16. Hungarian Uprising (1956): When the Hungarians tried to exert their independence from Russian control, Soviet troops extended to Hungary to crush the revolt. Although Hungary appealed to the UN, the Russians ignored the verdict and refused to cooperate; the international groups did nothing to intervene and the USSR ‘got their way’ so to speak. As a result of the Hungarian uprising, Soviet Russia’s role as a model of communism was questioned and other Western/Eastern communist parties also lost support. (Kai)
17. **The Non-Aligned Movement:** The Non-Aligned Movement was created through which the Middle East agreed to resist colonialism and imperialism in all forms and perform Afro-Asian co-operations. This movement was critical to UN voting patterns that would provide a solution to the situation in the Middle East and decry the colonialism of Western Democracies. *(Gary)*

18. **The Hungarian Revolution:** The situation in Hungary ended very differently from the one in Poland. After Stalin’s death (1953), the pro-Stalin leader, Rakosi, was replaced by a more moderate communist, Imry Nagy. Rakosi continued to interfere and overthrew Nagy in 1955. From then on resentment steadily built up against the government until it exploded in a full-scale rising in October 1956 (from here, please refer to The Hungarian Uprising). *(Gary)*

19. **Crisis in Poland:** There was a general strike and massive anti-government and anti-soviet demonstration in Posen (Poznan) in June 1956. The banners demanded bread and freedom and the workers were protesting against poor living standards. *(Gary)*

20. **National Security Act:** An act passed in 1947 that reorganized the U.S military and espionage services in order to better meet the soviet threat. The act placed the armed forces under the new secretary of defense and Joint Chiefs of Staff and also created the Central Intelligence Agency and the National Security Council to advertise the president. *(Robyn)*

21. **Red Hunt:** The wrongful persecutions of thousands of Americans for being Communists or Soviet spies that took place in the 1940s and 50s and were led by the Loyalty Review Board and the House of Un-American Activities committee. Congressman Richard Nixon, senator Joseph McCarthy, and others led these communist “witch-hunts”, often without any shared evidence. Liberal playwright Arthur Miller, himself among the accused communists, criticized the Red Hunts and McCarthyism is his critically acclaimed *The Crucible*, which dealt with the Salem witch trials in seventeenth-century New England. *(Robyn)*

22. **Eisenhower Doctrine:** Launched January 1957 by Eisenhower, it allows a country to request American economic assistance and/or aid from U.S. military forces if it was being threatened by armed aggression from another state. The US congress gave Eisenhower the right to provide economic assistance to any Middle Eastern country threatened with armed aggression or internal subversion. This resulted in the US intervening in Lebanon in July 1957. This was also an effect of the Suez Crisis. *(Alyssa)*

23. **The Monroe Doctrine:** A policy of the United States introduced on December 2, 1823. It stated that further efforts by European countries to colonize land or interfere with the states (the New World) in the Americas would be views as acts of aggression and regarded by the US and an unfriendly act. This ultimately caused isolationism of the US. *(Alyssa)*
24. **The death of Stalin**: (March 5, 1953) This was the starting point of the thaw, it brought new Russian leaders to the forefront- Malenkov, Bulganin and Khrushchev- they wanted to improve relations with the U.S. By August 1953 both the Americans and Russians had created hydrogen bombs. Thus, in order to avoid the possibility of a nuclear war this was most likely the reason that the new leaders wanted to improve relations. (Cassidy)

25. **Signing of the Austrian State Treaty**- The most important development in the thaw. At the end of the war in 1945, Austria was divided into four zones of occupation including the capitol. She was allowed her own government because she was a state liberated from the Nazi’s. There were problems in the zones of Austria just as had been in Germany. Due to the agreement, all occupying troops were withdrawn and Austria became independent. She was not to reunite with Germany, nor join NATO or the European Economic Community. (Cassidy)

26. **Eisenhower**: 5-star general in the US Army and the 34th President of the US. Fierce anti-communist, crusaded against the Koreans, and corruption and introduced a new foreign policy, called the New Look. Obtained a truce in Korea and worked incessantly during his two terms to ease the tensions of the Cold War. Pursued the moderate policies of “Modern Republicanism.” Also took supreme command over the new NATO forces being assembled in 1951. (Ashley)

27. **Red Army**: Started out as the Soviet Union’s revolutionary militia during the Russian Civil War (1918-1922). Grew into the national army of the Soviet Union. By the 1930s, it was among the largest armies in history. Khrushchev used the Red Army to crush Hungarian uprising in 1956. (Ashley)

28. **The Congo crisis**: showed that Africa also was involved in a tension of the Cold War. Shortly after Congo was given independence from Belgium in June 1960, the government led by prime minister Patice Lumumba and the president Joseph Kasavubu, ran into difficulties when the army mutinied against their Belgian officers, and the southern part of the country, in the Katanga province led by Moise Tshombe also challenged the government. Tshombe was supported by European investors and industrialists as the province was rich in natural resources. The Lumumba government appealed to the UN in this very problematic situation. However, Lumumba accused the UN for siding with the Europeans or Western powers and turned to the USSR for help. After Lumumba received massive military aid and about thousand Soviet technical advisers, he decided to attack on Tshombe in the south which was unsuccessful. This caused major problems for the president and the army chief of staff, Mobutu as the Americans saw the Soviet activity as an attempt to spread communism in Congo. As a result, Kasavubu decided to dismiss Lumumba, and the disintegration of the new state accelerated. The USSR supported Lumuba with weapons, and Mobutu took control in a CIA-sponsored coup placing Lumumba under house arrest. He was later publicly beaten
and murdered on the same day he disappeared. In 1961 the country was on the verge of
the full scale civil war. The UN decided to take actions and the new government under
Cyrille Adoula was established. As both superpowers were involved in the crisis, it has
been argued that CIA was responsible for the assassination of the pro-Soviet Lumumba.
Despite his corrupt and brutal regime, Mobutu was able to sustain his power between
1965 and 1996 due the CIA’s support. (Alex.J)

29. **The Sino Soviet split:** There were various reasons that led the split between the two
leading communist states in the late 50s. Mao did not want China to be one of the
Russia’s satellite countries as a Chinese Nationalist. Ideological disagreements between
Mao and Stalin, terms offered by the USSR in the Sino Soviet Friendship treaty of 1950
that were not favoured by the Chinese, and the Secret Speech in 1956 deteriorated the
relations between China and the USSR. (Alex.J)

30. **Cold Warrior(s)** - Strongly anti-communist people. Both Eisenhower and his secretary
of state, Dulles, were considered such. It is a term still used in modern politics which
implies that someone’s views are obsolete or outdated. (Paul)

31. **John Foster Dulles** - Dulles was the U.S. Secretary of State who served under
Eisenhower for 7 years (1953-1959). He held a very aggressive stance against
communism and was regarded as a “cold warrior”. His political career began when
Woodrow Wilson sent him to take part in the Versailles peace treaty where he served
under his uncle Robert Lansing (the secretary of state at the time) in 1918. He urged for
the United Sates to support the French in the Vietnam War. (Paul)

1. **Why did Castro come to power?**

   - There was a long standing resentment from many Cuban citizens
     about the amount of American influence in the country. This resentment
even dated back to 1898 when the USA had helped rescue Cuba from
Spanish control. American troops were needed from time to time to
maintain stability and the American financial aid and investment kept the
Cuban economy afloat. Also there was some truth to the statement that
the USA controlled the Cuban economy, they were also the main market
for Cuba’s exports, of which sugar was by far the most important. The
American influence would have not been so resented if it had resulted in
an efficiently run country; however this was not the case.

   - Although Cuba was one of the more prosperous Latin American
countries, she was too dependent on the export of sugar, and the wealth
of the country was concentrated in the hands of a few. Unemployment
was a serious problem, yet there was no unemployment benefit, and the
trade unions, dominated by workers who had all the year round jobs in sugar mills did nothing to help. The poverty of the unemployed was in stark contrast to the wealth in Havana, therefore social tensions were high.

- No effective political system had been developed and in 1952, Fulgencio Batista seized power in a military coup and began to rule as a dictator. He introduced no reforms and paid more attention to his personal affairs rather than his foreign affairs, as well as being corrupt his regime was also brutal.

- Since there was no prospect of a peaceful social revolution, the feeling grew that violent revolution was necessary. The leading exponent of this view was Fidel Castro who was more of a liberal nationalist than a communist and tried to overthrow Batista in 1953 but only ended up serving two years in jail. Castro then launched a campaign of guerrilla warfare and sabotage in the cities.

- Batista took savage reprisals against the guerrillas which played right in the hands of Castro. After torturing and murdering many guerrillas, the middle classes began to support Castro as the most likely way of getting rid of a brutal dictator. The USA began to feel ashamed of Batista and cut off arms supplies. On January 1st 1959 Batista fled from Cuba and a liberal government was set up with Castro at its head after a small rebel force under Che Guevara, a supporter of Castro, gained control of the main road across the island and prepared to move on Santa Clara. (Jaycee)

*Lol Ashley sucks*