

# **THE COLD WAR RESEARCH PAPER AND PRESENTATION**

**The Cold War is one of the three areas of focus and concentration for our IB History of the Americas course. It will be two of the six questions you will need to answer on your diploma exam at the end of your senior year.**

**For each critical area of the Cold War, two of you will dissect the area of concentration and prepare the following:**

- 1. Research paper- Outside of class; 1500-2000 words; approx. 7% of semester grade (done individually)**
- 2. Presentation; 12-15 minutes; use of power point or some other dynamic media; approx. 5% of grade**

**Your primary source for your investigation will be *The Cold War: A New History* by John Lewis Gaddis. In order to get a perspective of effects on Latin America and Canada, you can use *A History of Latin America* by Keen and Haynes , and *The History of Canada* by McNaught. Also, *Diplomacy* by Henry Kissinger is a valuable source for information on Cold War tactics. I have other books available and as you decide and choose your topic, you will see if I reference those books, as well. Also, there are numerous websites documenting the history of the Cold War. They will be essential to your research.**

**There are 16 different focus areas of research. As you note, four of the topics, 1, 4, 9 and 12 have enough content that two people can split those areas of concentration. I will give you guiding statements on each area for your assistance in starting the projects.**

## **AREAS OF CONCENTRATION:**

- 1. Postwar politics and the beginnings of the Cold War. 2 people**
  - a. Ending WWII**

- b. Yalta and Potsdam Conference**
- c. Views of FDR, Stalin, Churchill, DeGaulle**
- d. FDR to Truman**

**2. The initial East-West split**

- a. United Nations**
- b. NATO**
- c. The Warsaw Pact**
- d. Stalin diplomacy (Diplomacy by Kissinger)**

**3. Postwar domestic policies and Truman**

- a. GI Bill**
- b. Employment Act of 1946**
- c. Taft-Hartley Act**
- d. Election of 1948**

**4. Atomic diplomacy and Containment: 2 people**

- a. The Baruch Plan**
- b. "Iron Curtain" by Churchill**
- c. The Marshall Plan**
- d. The Truman Doctrine**
- e. The Berlin Airlift**

**5. The United States and East Asia**

- a. Reconstructing Japan**
- b. The Chinese Civil War 1945-1949**
- c. National Security Council Paper #68**
- d. "The Domino Theory"**

**6. The Korean War: 1950-1953**

- a. "Defense Perimeter" by Acheson**
- b. Battles along 38<sup>th</sup> Parallel**
- c. McArthur strategies**
- d. China's involvement**
- e. The concept of "limited engagement"**

**7. The policies of Eisenhower**

- a. Suez Canal and Hungary**

- b. View on Krushchev
- c. The space race and Sputnik
- d. Middle East diplomacy
- e. "Eisenhower Doctrine"

**8. The policies of John F. Kennedy**

- a. The Bay of Pigs Invasion and the Cuban Missile Crisis
- b. "Mutual Assured Destruction"
- c. Domestic policies: civil rights, peace corps

**9. The Vietnam War: 2 people**

- a. Beginnings; independence from France
- b. U.S. support through the Kennedy Administration
- c. LBJ's policies and challenges
- d. Nixon and the wind down
- e. U.S. domestic reaction; protests
- f. Paris Peace Conference
- g. CIA influence: (Overthrow: Ch. 7)

**10. Canada and the Cold War**

- a. Reign of Union Nationale and Maurice Duplessis
- b. The Massey Report
- c. The passing of the "British century" to the "American Century"
- d. Positions on NATO, SEATO
- e. NORAD
- f. Participation in the Vietnam Conflict

**11. Latin America and the Cold War**

- a. Post WWII adjustments
- b. Latin American policies of Truman and Eisenhower
- c. The Cuban Revolution
- d. Non-Alignment
- e. Carter's Latin American policy

**12. A Case Study in CIA Involvement with Latin America: Bitter Fruit; The American Coup in Guatemala: 2 people**

**13. The policies of Richard Nixon**

- a. The policy of “détente”
- b. SALT I
- c. Negotiations with Brezhnev and the “Brezhnev Doctrine”
- d. The opening of China
- e. CIA involvement- Chile (Overthrow Ch. 8)
- f. Impact of domestic issues -Watergate

**14. The policies of Jimmy Carter**

- a. Middle East policies- Israel and Egypt Accord
- b. Iranian Revolution of 1979
- c. SALT II
- d. Policy of appeasement

**15. Winning the Cold War- Ronald Reagan policies**

- a. Increase in defense spending
- b. “ The Evil Empire”
- c. Strategic Defense Initiative – “Star Wars”
- d. Negotiations with Gorbachev
- e. Impact of Eastern European independence movements

**16. Other key players in the ending of the Cold War**

- a. Pope John Paul II
- b. Margaret Thatcher
- c. Lech Walesa
- d. Deng Xiaoping
- e. Mikhail Gorbachev