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CRESCENT GIRLS' SCHOOL
SECONDARY FOUR
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2025

HUMANITIES (HISTORY)

Paper 2

2261/02

Additional Materials: Answer Paper

22 August 2025
1 hour 50 minutes

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name, register number and class in the spaces provided at the top of this page and on all separate sheets of paper used.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

You may use a soft pencil for any rough working.

Do not use staples, paper clips, glue or correction fluid.

Section A

Answer **all parts** of Question 1.

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

Write all answers on the writing paper provided.

Start each question on a fresh sheet of paper.

At the end of the examination, fasten Section A and Section B SEPARATELY.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

Section A (Source-Based Case Study)

Question 1 is **compulsory** for all candidates

Study the Background Information and the sources carefully, and then answer **all** the questions.

You may use any of the sources to help you answer the questions, in addition to those sources you are told to use. In answering the questions, you should use your knowledge of the topic to help you interpret and evaluate the sources.

1 (a) Study Source A.

Why was this leaflet published and dropped in Korea in 1952? Explain your answer.

[5]

(b) Study Sources B and C.

To what extent would Zhou Enlai have agreed with President Truman? Explain your answer.

[6]

(c) Study Source D.

Are you surprised by this source? Explain your answer.

[5]

(d) Study Sources E and F.

To what extent can Source F prove Source E wrong? Explain your answer.

[6]

(e) Study all the sources.

'The USSR was the main aggressor behind the Korean War.' How far do these sources support this view? Use the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer.

[8]

The Korean War

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Read this carefully. It may help you answer some of the questions.

The Korean War (1950–1953) was a brutal conflict between North and South Korea, each backed by powerful allies. North Korea, supported by China and the Soviet Union, invaded the South in 1950. In response, South Korea, aided by United Nations forces, mainly from the United States, fought to repel the invasion. Chinese troops played a major role in turning the tide for the North, while American and South Korean forces led major counteroffensives. While China and the U.S. were the most visible players, many argue that the USSR was the true force behind the communist effort. So, who contributed more to the Korean War? Was it the massive military support from the U.S. China and the USSR, or the resilience and sacrifice of the Korean people themselves?

Study the sources to find out who was main aggressor behind the Korean War.

Source A: *An American leaflet published and dropped for the Chinese in Korea in 1952.*



共產黨是騙子的祖宗

"Communists – Masters of Deceit"

[Turn over

Source B: *Adapted from a speech by President Truman during a News Conference on 30 November 1950.*

Recent developments in Korea confront the world with a serious crisis. The Chinese Communist leaders have sent their troops to launch a strong and well-organized attack against the United Nations forces in North Korea. This was despite prolonged and earnest efforts to bring home to the Communist leaders of China the plain fact that neither the United Nations nor the United States has any aggressive intentions toward China.

Some had hoped for a normal peaceful process of negotiation. However, the Chinese had not shown any willingness to engage in this process. Instead, they have been making violent and wholly false statements, the type often been used by the Soviet representatives, to prevent the Security Council from acting. We hope that the Chinese people will not continue to be forced or deceived into serving the ends of Russian colonial policy in Asia.

Source C: *Adapted from a speech by Zhou Enlai on 24 October 1950 to the Chinese.*

The Korean question is an international one. If they are to win, they must secure international assistance, especially now that they are in difficulty. We should uphold revolutionary morality. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) must be victorious.

China and Korea are neighboring countries as closely related as lips and teeth. If the lips are gone, the teeth are exposed to the cold. If the DPRK is subjugated by US imperialism, there will be no security for northeast China. Half of our heavy industry is in the Northeast. Just in the two months between August 27 and yesterday, planes of the US imperialists have invaded our airspace 12 times. If the US imperialists get close to the Yalu River, how can we have peace of mind to go about our own production?

Source D: *Adapted from a report by a Polish Marxist writer on the Korean War on 1 August 1950.*

The communist victory in China gave the Korean problem a new importance. Previously, North Korea had served merely to safeguard the Russian interest in Manchuria. Since Mao's victory, the Russian stake in Asia has grown immensely. From Korea an enemy might threaten the Russian influence in Manchuria and more importantly Russian influence in China.

There was no such threat when Stalin and Mao were making up their minds about Korea. They were dealing with potential rather than actual dangers. However, Stalin and Mao could not take the stability of the Communist government of North Korea for granted as long as South Korea, comprising two-thirds of the Korean population, remained under American influence. Stalin took a 'bold' line in Korea: let Kim Il Sung attack. This would help him maintain his position as leader of the communist world and eliminate American influence from the whole of the peninsula.

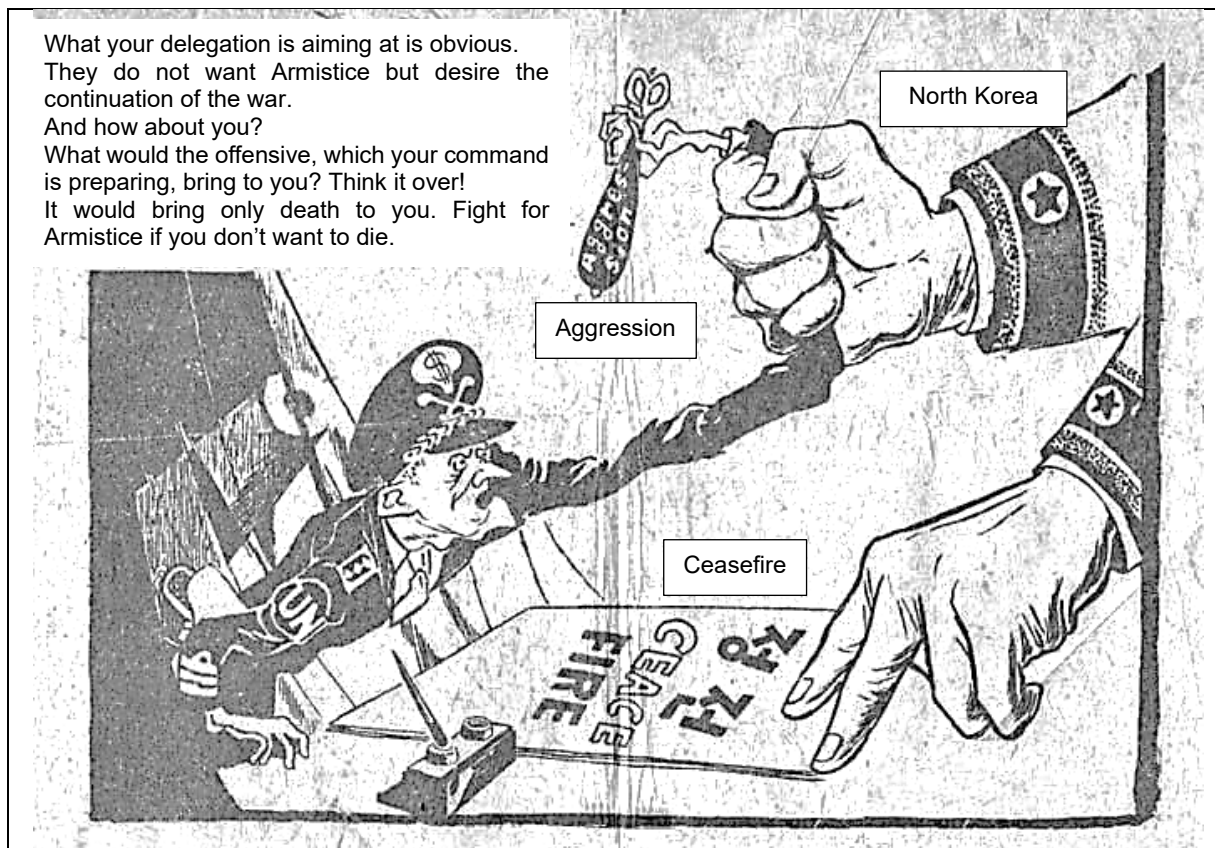
Source E: *Adapted from a leaflet in the form of a letter written by General MacArthur to Kim Il-Sung in October 1950.*

This is to inform you of the resolution adopted by the United Nations General Assembly, on October 8, 1950.

In order that the decisions of the United Nations may be carried out with a minimum loss of life and destruction of property, I, as the United Nations Commander-in-Chief, for the last time, call upon you and the forces under your command, to lay down your arms and cease hostilities. I call upon all North Koreans to cooperate fully with the United Nations in establishing a unified, independent and Democratic Government of Korea. They will be treated justly and that the United Nations will act to relieve and rehabilitate all parts of a unified Korea.

Unless immediate response is made by you in the name of the North Korean Government, I shall at once proceed to take such military action as may be necessary to enforce the decrees of the United Nations.

Source F: *A North Korean leaflet dropped in Korea between 1951-1953.*



Section B: Essays

Answer **two** questions.

- 2** “The political weaknesses of the Weimar government was the main reason for the rise of Hitler.” How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. **[10]**
- 3** “US foreign policy towards Japan was the main reason for the outbreak of WWII in the Asia-Pacific.” How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. **[10]**
- 4** “American economic strength was the main reason for the end of the Cold War.” How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. **[10]**

End of Paper.

Acknowledgements:

- Source A Taken from <https://www.alamy.com/vintage-chinese-propaganda-poster-communists-masters-of-deceit-leaflet-for-chinese-soldiers-at-korean-war-united-states-1952-image464681592.html>
- Source B Taken from <https://www.trumanlibrary.gov/library/public-papers/295/presidents-news-conference>
- Source C Taken from <http://www.china.org.cn/e-America/historical/zhou.htm>
- Source D Taken from <https://www.marxists.org/archive/deutscher/1950/stalin-mao-korea.htm>
- Source E Taken from <http://www.psywarrior.com/KoreaPSYOPHist.html>
- Source F Taken from <https://www.psywarrior.com/NKoreaH.html>



**CRESCENT GIRLS' SCHOOL
SECONDARY FOUR
PRELIMINARY EXAM 2025**

HISTORY

Paper 2

Additional Materials: Answer Paper

2261/02

22 August 2025

1 hour 50 minutes

MARKING SCHEME

Section A (Source-Based Case Study)

1(a) Study Source A.
 Why was this leaflet published and dropped in Korea in 1952?
 Explain your answer. **[5]**

Levels	Descriptors	Mark Range
1	Describes source	1
2	Making Inference, unsupported	2
3	Making Inference, supported <i>Award 3m for inference, explained</i> <i>Award 4m for inference, explained with contextual knowledge</i>	3-4
4	Making Inference, supported with purpose <i>Award 4m for inference with purpose, explained</i> <i>Award 5m for inference with purpose, explained with contextual knowledge</i> Eg. The leaflet was published and dropped in Korea in 1952 to convince the Chinese that they were being deceived by their leaders to fight a war for the evil Stalin who would bring harm and oppression to the people so that the Chinese would stop fighting in the Korean War. Source A shows a picture of Stalin, pulling off his smiling mask to reveal an evil face with dagger-looking eyes and fangs in his mouth. His nails are also long. He seems to be inflicting fear on three people who have been chained up. There is a caption that states "Communists – Masters of Deceits". This seems to suggest that the communists would deceive the people into supporting them before showing their true colours. These people would be tortured and they would live in fear. Since this leaflet was published and dropped in Korea in 1952 during the period of the stalemate where there was no clear end to the war, with no party having an advantage over the other, the Americans had hoped to use this leaflet to sway the Chinese into questioning their presence in the Korean War and whether they should continue to fight this war for an evil regime. This would shake the morale of the Chinese soldiers and in turn the give up the fight, This would give an advantage to the Americans to turn the war in their favour since the Chinese were a strong force during the Korean War.	4-5

1(b) Study Sources B and C.

To what extent would Zhou Enlai have agreed with President Truman? Explain your answer.

[6]

Levels	Descriptors	Mark Range
1	Answers based on Provenance	1
2	Agree &/OR Disagree based on Content, unsupported	2
3	Agree &/OR Disagree based on Content, supported <i>Award 3m for one-sided based on content, supported.</i> <i>Award 4m for two-sided based on content, supported.</i> Eg. Zhou Enlai would have agreed with President Truman on the commitment of the Chinese to involve themselves in the war. Truman in Source B states “The Chinese Communist leaders have sent their troops to launch a strong and well-organized attack against the United Nations forces in North Korea.” This suggests that the Chinese had committed themselves to fight to protect the North Koreans who were facing attacks from the United Nations. Similarly, Zhou Enlai in Source C states “If they are to win, they must secure international assistance, especially now that they are in difficulty. We should uphold revolutionary morality.” This too suggests that the Chinese were committed to helping their fellow communists to fight against whom they deemed as the aggressor, namely the USA. Thus, this shows that Zhou Enlai would have agreed that the Chinese would be committed to enter the war on the side of the North Koreans to protect them from their enemies. Eg. Zhou Enlai would not have agreed with President Truman regarding the reason for Chinese involvement in the war. Truman in Source B states “We hope that the Chinese people will not continue to be forced or deceived into serving the ends of Russian colonial policy in Asia.” This seems to suggest that the Chinese had entered the war because they were fighting the war for the Soviets, to advance their cause. As such, it shows that the Chinese were under the directive of the Soviets to enter the war. However, Zhou Enlai in Source C disagrees with this as he stated, “China and Korea are neighboring countries as closely related as lips and teeth. If the lips are gone, the teeth are exposed to the cold.” This suggests that they had entered the war because of the strong relationship between China and North Korea and it was only right for them to help the North Koreans. Furthermore, he also stated that “If the US imperialists get close to the Yalu River, how can we have peace of mind to go about our own production?” This shows that the Chinese had also entered the war for their own protection against possible threat from the Americans on their land. As such Zhou Enlai would not have agreed with Truman as both differ on the reason why the Chinese entered the war.	3-4

[Turn over

4	L3 + Agree /Disagree based on Evaluation of Provenance <i>Award 5m for answers based on evaluation of provenance only.</i> <i>Award 6m for answers based on content and an evaluation of the provenance.</i> Agree in L3 + Eg. Zhou Enlai would not have agreed with Truman due to the difference in the intent of their speeches. Truman, in Source B, wanted to convince the Americans that the United Nations had not deliberately provoked the Chinese into the war. Instead, the Chinese had entered the war because they had been directed by the Soviets which would mean that this entry should be seen as an extension of the Cold War tensions in Europe and that the Soviets were making use of the Chinese in the Korean War to extend their influence. This would convince the Americans on the need for the Americans to continue their fight despite facing setbacks in the war in November 1950. Zhou Enlai, however, wanted to convince the Chinese on the importance of entering the war since the Americans were pushing northward and was reaching the border of the Yalu River. This would be a threat to the newly formed Communist China and so he was using this speech to convince the Chinese that they needed to enter the war to support their fellow communists and protect their own homeland. As such, due to the differences in intention, Zhou Enlai would not have agreed with Truman.	5-6

1(c) Study Source D.

Are you surprised by this source? Explain your answer.

[5]

Levels	Descriptors	Mark Range
1	Answers based on provenance	1
2	Surprised or Not surprised based on content, unsupported	2
3	Surprised or Not surprised based on content, supported	3
4	Surprised or Not surprised based on content, supported and cross-reference Eg. I am not surprised by Source D regarding Soviet's intention to start the Korean War. Source D states "However, Stalin and Mao could not take the stability of the Communist government of North Korea for granted as long as South Korea, comprising two-thirds of the Korean population, remained under American influence. They aimed at the elimination of American influence from the whole of the peninsula." This shows that the Soviets wanted to start the Korean War to end American domination in Korea and to establish a firm control over the whole of Korea under the leadership of Kim Il-Sung. This is supported by my contextual knowledge as Stalin had shifted his position on	4

	Korea in the light of several developments. Firstly, China had been taken over by the Chinese Communist Party and together with North Korea, they would be able to form a strong communist bloc. Secondly, by 1950, there had been new developments in the Cold War tensions. Both superpowers sought to expand their global influence, especially in the Asia-Pacific region. Having control and influence over North Korea would provide USSR with the platform to spread communist ideology and to counterbalance the United States influence in Japan. Thus, he supported North Korea's decision to start the war so that he could get rid of American influence in Korea completely and from there. Use Korea as a base to spread the communist ideology in Asia. Since my contextual knowledge supports Source D, Source D is not surprising.	
5	Evaluation based on Provenance in context Eg. Source D is surprising because as a communist supporter, one would not expect the writer to expose the intent of their own counterparts, especially when the war had just started about slightly more than a month. By sharing that the intent of the Soviets to eliminate the Americans in this war at this stage would show that the Soviets were in this for their own interest since it was stated "From Korea an enemy might threaten the Russian influence in Manchuria and more importantly Russian influence in China." This would put them at a disadvantage as the rest of the nations in the United Nations would fear the intent of the Soviets in the war and thus be more committed to ensure that the Korean Peninsula would not fall into the hands of the communists. Thus it is surprising that the Polish writer would write about the Soviets in this manner.	5

1(d) Study Sources E and F.
Does Source F prove Source E wrong? Explain your answer.

[6]

Levels	Descriptors	Mark Range
1	Answers based on Provenance	1
2	Prove/ Not prove based on Content, unsupported	2
3	Prove &/Or Not prove based on Content, supported Eg. Source E can prove Source F wrong regarding the role of the United Nations in the war. Source F which shows the United Nations as the aggressor. Source F shows the United Nations official holding on to a missile labelled aggression in his hand. He was seen attacking the North Koreans. However, the North Koreans were too strong for them as seen by the tight grip it had over the aggressive hand of the UN. However, this is	3

[Turn over

	contradicted by Source E shows that the United Nations entered the war to bring about peace to the Korean Peninsula. Source E states “I, as the United Nations Commander-in-Chief, for the last time, call upon you and the forces under your command, to lay down your arms and cease hostilities.” This shows that the UN had entered the war with the intention of getting the aggressor, the North Koreans, to end their acts of aggression against the South. They were simply carrying out their responsibility as the international organisation to bring about peace to the world. Thus Source E can prove Source F wrong. Eg. Source E cannot prove Source F wrong regarding the aggressiveness of the UN forces. Source F shows that the UN forces were aggressive and had tried to attack the North Koreans. The caption in Source F states “What your delegation is aiming at is obvious. They do not want Armistice but desire the continuation of the war.” This shows that the UN was the aggressor in the Korean War.” It shows the ambitions of the UN forces in wanting to attack the North and that they had no intention to negotiate for peace. This is contradicted by Source E who showed that they were keen to negotiate for peace. Source E states “I call upon all North Koreans to cooperate fully with the United Nations in establishing a unified, independent and Democratic Government of Korea.” This shows that the UN forces had offered peace as a way of settlement but it was rejected by the Chinese. Thus showing that the UN had no intention of using force. Thus, Source E cannot prove Source F wrong.	
4	Prove &/Or Not prove based on Content, supported and cross-referred <i>Award 4m for one-sided cross-referred.</i> <i>Award 5m for both sides cross-referred.</i> Eg. Source E can prove Source F wrong regarding the role played by North Korea in the war. Source F shows North Korea as the peace loving party who wanted to end the war. Source F shows the United Nations official holding on to a missile labelled aggression in his hand. He was seen attacking the North Koreans. However, the North Koreans were too strong for them as seen by the tight grip it had over the aggressive hand of the UN. The North Korean hand had his finger pointed at the Ceasefire Agreement, showing the intent was to come to a peaceful resolution, unlike the USA. The caption states “It would bring only death to you. Fight for Armistice if you don’t want to die.” This shows that the North Korean poster was aimed at getting the UN forces to stop fighting and to go to the negotiation table to sign a ceasefire agreement. However, this is contradicted by Source E shows that the United Nations entered the war to bring an end to the war started by the North Koreans. Source E states “I, as the United Nations Commander-in-Chief, for the last time, call upon you and the forces under your command, to lay	4-5

	down your arms and cease hostilities.” This shows that the UN had entered the war with the intention of getting the aggressor, the North Koreans, to end their acts of aggression against the South. They were simply carrying out their responsibility as the international organisation to bring about peace to the world. Source E is supported by my contextual knowledge as the North Koreans were the ones who started the war on 25 June 1950. The United Nations condemned the actions of the North Koreans and passed a resolution to demand that they withdrew from South Korea. North Korea ignored the call by UN and continued to progress in the war. UN committed their member forces to drive out the North Koreans. UN forces, led by US General MacArthur, included troops from the US, Britain, Turkey, the Philippines, India and Thailand and they fought alongside the South Korean troops. The aim of this troop was to drive the North Koreans out of the South. This is known as the police action. Since my contextual knowledge supports Source E, Source E is reliable and therefore can prove Source F wrong. Eg. Source E cannot prove Source F wrong regarding the aggressiveness of the UN forces. Source F shows that the UN forces were aggressive and had tried to attack the North Koreans. The caption in Source F states “What your delegation is aiming at is obvious. They do not want Armistice but desire the continuation of the war.” This shows that the UN was the aggressor in the Korean War.” It shows the ambitions of the UN forces in wanting to attack the North and that they had no intention to negotiate for peace. This is contradicted by Source E who showed that they were keen to negotiate for peace. Source E states “I call upon all North Koreans to cooperate fully with the United Nations in establishing a unified, independent and Democratic Government of Korea.” This shows that the UN forces had offered peace as a way of settlement but it was rejected by the Chinese. Thus showing that the UN had no intention of using force. However Source E is unreliable based on my cross-reference to contextual knowledge which states that in September 1950, after MacArthur and the UN forces had already achieved their original objectives of driving the North Koreans out of the South, MacArthur, with the permission granted by Truman and the UN, continued to advance into North Korea. This shows that the UN was not merely carrying out their police action but had intended to use the opportunity to try to eradicate the communists which can be deemed as an act of aggression. Since my contextual knowledge contradicts Source E, Source E is unreliable and therefore cannot prove Source F wrong.	
5	Evaluation based on Provenance of Source B <i>Award 5m for answers based on content with explanation and evaluation of provenance</i> <i>Award 6m for answers based on content with cross reference and evaluation of provenance of Source C.</i>	5-6

	Eg. Source E cannot prove Source F wrong since the letter was written when the UN forces had already crossed the 38th Parallel and pushed the Northern troops near to the Yalu River, demonstrating that the UN forces, by this time, was the aggressor. When MacArthur wrote this letter, his objective was to convince Kim Il-Sung to stop fighting and give in to the call for democracy and thus, this would help put an end to the war, in favour of the democratic world. As such, he would only paint the North Koreans in a bad light and not admit that they too were the aggressor. Instead, the tone in his letter seemed to suggest that the UN forces were carrying out a noble act and that the North should therefore stop their actions and submit to the UN's decision. Since this was the intent, he cannot be trusted to prove Source F wrong.	
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1(e) Study all the sources.
 “The USSR was the main aggressor during the Korean War.’
 How far do these sources support this view? Use the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer. **[8]**

Levels	Descriptors	Mark Range				
1	Identifies sources that support AND/OR not support the statement, unsupported with source details	1				
2	Yes OR No, supported by valid source use <i>Award 2m for one Y or N supported by valid source use, and an additional mark for each subsequent valid source use up to a maximum of 4m.</i>	2-4				
3	Yes AND No, supported by valid source use Award 5m for 1 Yes and No supported by valid source use, and an additional mark for each subsequent valid source use up to a maximum of 7m. Bonus of two marks (i.e. +1, +1) for use of contextual knowledge to evaluate a source in relation to its reliability, sufficiency etc. but the total marks must not exceed 8. <table><tr><td>Support</td><td>Does not support</td></tr><tr><td>A, B, D</td><td>C, E, F</td></tr></table>	Support	Does not support	A, B, D	C, E, F	5-8
Support	Does not support					
A, B, D	C, E, F					

SUPPORTS

Eg. Source A supports the view as Source A shows Stalin, the leader of USSR, with an evil look, hiding behind a friendly mask. Source A shows a picture of Stalin, pulling off his smiling mask to reveal an evil face with dagger-looking eyes and fangs in his mouth. His nails are also long. He seems to be inflicting fear on three people who have been chained up. There is a caption that states "Communists – Masters of Deceits". This suggests that behind this smiling façade lies an evil man with evil intention during the war. By capturing the people, his intention was to inflict harm and fear, thus showing that he was the aggressor during the war. However, this source is limited in usefulness as it failed to show how this evilness was demonstrated in the Korean War. Based on my contextual knowledge, Stalin had given permission for Kim Il-Sung to start the war and provided military and strategic aid to him. Stalin had also requested for Chinese support for the North Koreans, distancing themselves from the actual involvement. The intent was to direct the Americans to focus on the war in Asia while he consolidated communist influence in Europe. This would give him both dominance in Europe as well as a road into Asia through China and North Korea. In this way, he was making use of his Asian counterparts to his own advantage, demonstrating his sinister behaviour. Since this is not evident in Source A, Source A is limited in its usefulness in showing that USSR was the aggressor behind the Korean War.

Eg. Source B supports the view as Source B shows that USSR was the aggressor behind China's aggressive behaviour. Source B states "Instead, they have been making violent and wholly false statements, the type often been used by the Soviet representatives, to prevent the Security Council from acting. We hope that the Chinese people will not continue to be forced or deceived into serving the ends of Russian colonial policy in Asia." This suggests that China's aggressive behaviour despite assurance from the UN that the Chinese was not targeted in the Korean War, stemmed from the fact that they were directed by the Soviet government and thus the call for the Chinese to stop their aggressive behaviour since it was not for the purpose of protecting China but for the sake of Soviet aggressive expansionist goal into Asia.

Eg. Source D supports the view as it shows that the Soviets were ultimately the ones in control and gave the permission to Kim Il-Sung to attack South Korea. Source D states "Stalin took a 'bold' line in Korea: let Kim Il Sung attack. This would help him maintain his position as leader of the communist world and eliminate American influence from the whole of the peninsula." This shows that the Soviet Union was the main force, manipulating the situation to his advantage by allowing the attack on the South to happen. He would be able to get rid of his opponent, the USA and maintain his position as leader of the

communist world. Thus, this shows that he was the key decision maker in the war.

DOES NOT SUPPORT

Eg. Source C does not support the view as it suggests that the Chinese had a mind of their own and the main force behind the Korean War were the Americans.. They were involved in the war because they saw the benefits of having North Korea as their ally. Source C states “China and Korea are neighboring countries as closely related as lips and teeth. If the lips are gone, the teeth are exposed to the cold. If the DPRK is subjugated by US imperialism, there will be no security for northeast China.” This shows that China was not influenced by anyone but had considered their own needs before entering into the war. They felt that their position as a new communist country would be threatened in the event of North Korea falling into the hands of the Americans. As such, this suggests that the key aggressor and force behind the war were the Americans as they had caused the war to escalate due to their desire to spread their influence and China was merely responding to that.

Eg. Source E does not support this view as it suggests that the North Koreans were the main aggressor behind the Korean War. Source E states “I, as the United Nations Commander-in-Chief, for the last time, call upon you and the forces under your command, to lay down your arms and cease hostilities.” This suggests that the ones who started the Korean War were the North Koreans and thus there was a call by the UN for them to stop their acts of aggression. This is reliable as it is supported by my contextual knowledge. As early as 1949, Kim had approached Stalin for support to start the war. Stalin, however, was unwilling to commit to it till after they had achieved atomic parity with the USA, Dean Acheson’s speech that excluded Korea in its defence perimeter and China turning communist and agreeing to support North Korea. This occurred between March and April when Kim managed to change Stalin’s mind to support his choice to attack South Korea. This shows that Kim was the architect behind the Korean War and thus, this makes Source E reliable and a valid source to support the view.

Eg. Source F does not support the view as it shows that the main aggressor of the war the United Nations. Source F shows North Korea as the peace loving party who wanted to end the war but the United Nations official holding on to a missile labelled aggression in his hand. He was seen attacking the North Koreans. However, the North Koreans were too strong for them as seen by the tight grip it had over the aggressive hand of the UN. The North Korean hand had his finger pointed at the Ceasefire Agreement, showing the intent was to come to a peaceful resolution, unlike the UN. The caption states “It would bring only death to you. Fight for Armistice if you don’t want to die.” This shows that the main aggressor behind the Korean War

	was the UN who would not stop at just pushing the North Koreans back to North Korea but wanted to continue their attack on the North, showing their aggressiveness.	
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Section B: Essay Questions

Answer **two** questions.

2	“The political weaknesses of the Weimar government was the main reason for the rise of Hitler.” How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer.		[10]								
Level	Level Descriptors	Marks									
L1	Identifies / Describes given or other reasons <i>Award 1m for identifying one reason, and 2m for identifying 2 or more reasons.</i> <i>Award 2m for describing one reason, and 3m for describing 2 or more reasons.</i>	1 – 3									
L2	Explains given reason or other reasons <i>Award 4m for an explanation of given reason OR other reason, and an additional mark for additional reasons / supporting detail, to a maximum of 5m.</i>	4 – 5									
L3	Explains given reason AND other reasons <i>Award 6m for an explanation of given AND other reasons, and additional mark(s) for further supporting detail or reason, to a maximum of 8m (which include given reason).</i>		6 – 8								
<table><tr><th>Level / Marks</th><th>Requirement</th></tr><tr><td>L3/6</td><td>2 weak explanations</td></tr><tr><td>L3/7</td><td>1strong explanation + 1 weak explanation</td></tr><tr><td>L3/8</td><td>2 strong explanations OR 1 strong explanation + 2 weak explanations OR 4 weak explanations</td></tr></table>				Level / Marks	Requirement	L3/6	2 weak explanations	L3/7	1strong explanation + 1 weak explanation	L3/8	2 strong explanations OR 1 strong explanation + 2 weak explanations OR 4 weak explanations
Level / Marks	Requirement										
L3/6	2 weak explanations										
L3/7	1strong explanation + 1 weak explanation										
L3/8	2 strong explanations OR 1 strong explanation + 2 weak explanations OR 4 weak explanations										
<i>*To qualify for +2 for evaluation, answers must achieve at least L3/7 (i.e. have least 1 strong paragraph).</i>											
E.g. The political weaknesses of the Weimar government resulted in the German population losing faith in democracy and being more inclined to support radical parties like the Nazi, giving rise to Hitler. In a move away from the authoritarian rule of the Kaiser, the Weimar government attempted to have more views and interests represented in the Reichstag. They implemented constitutional changes like proportional representation where any party taking part in the elections would gain seats in the Reichstag equal to the number of votes it received. However, this meant that there were many different parties in the Reichstag, and it was difficult for one party to gain a majority. This led to coalition governments which made it challenging for the Reichstag to pass laws. In many of these coalition governments, they were weak and often short-lived. As a result, there was minimal effective solutions implemented by the Weimar and the Germans would continue to suffer. Furthermore, with uprisings like the Kapp Putsch in 1920, it only worsened the suffering of the German people. In March 1920, Wolfgang Kapp led 5,000 Freikorps into Berlin to forcibly overthrow the Weimar and											

	return Germany to a more authoritarian system. Although the army was ordered by the Weimar to attack the Freikorps, they refused to act. Instead, it was the trade unions and their 12 million industrial workers that came to the aid of the Weimar. They declared a general strike and it resulted in Germany not having any transport, power and water, bringing the Kapp Putsch movement to a halt. The ineffectiveness of the Weimar to govern Germany effectively led to political instability in Germany. The Germans would suffer and lost faith in the Weimar government and democracy as an ideology. As such, they began looking for alternative forms of government and when Hitler later promised them political stability, they would readily support him by voting for him in the elections, leading to the rise of Hitler and the Nazi Party. E.g. The economic problems faced by Germany led to the rise of the Nazi Party as it created German desperation for a solution, which the Nazi Party willing exploited. With the signing of the Treaty of Versailles, it forced Germany to pay reparations of 6.6 billion pounds. When Germany failed to make a payment in January 1923, French and Belgium troops occupied the Ruhr valley to take what was owed to them in the form of raw materials and goods. In response, the German government ordered the workers to go on strike and also continued to print more banknotes. This led to the drop in the value of the currency and the flood of money led to hyperinflation, with prices of goods and services rising rapidly. The working class was most affected as their personal savings were wiped out and unemployment was widespread. Although Chancellor Gustav Stresemann managed to stabilised the economy by implementing a new currency, the Rentenmark, and negotiated the Dawes Plan in 1924, many Germans would blame the Weimar for their suffering. Furthermore in 1929, the Great Depression hit Germany. The New York Stock Market crashed, and the US economy was in a severe disaster. The US recalled their foreign loans and removed their investment in Germany. This resulted in an economic collapse in Germany where businesses went bankrupt, workers were laid off and unemployment was rampant. By 1932, unemployment was at six million or 40 per cent of the workforce. The income of the average German fell by 40 per cent between 1929 and 1932. It led to widespread hunger and illnesses. In both instances of hyperinflation of 1923 and the Great Depression of 1929, many Germans had to endure intense suffering and experienced a sense of hopelessness. They blamed the Weimar and lost faith in their ability to govern Germany. The Germans were desperate for a change in government and when Hitler and the Nazi Party promised to revive the German economy and bring back jobs, many would support him in the elections, resulting in his rise to power. E.g. The appeal of Hitler was a reason that led to his rise to power as he was able to convince the Germans that he was a capable leader and managed to gain their support. Hitler was a powerful and confident speaker who prepared and practised his speeches. He	
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	was good at gauging the mood of the audience and appeared sincere to them. Many of his speeches, some delivered in beer halls, addressed the people's concerns. He took advantage of their drunkenness and vulnerability to garner support for the Nazi Party. Furthermore, Hitler used film, radio, and print to spread his message to millions. He travelled by plane on a hectic tour of rallies all over Germany and Hitler appeared as a dynamic man of the moment, the leader of a modern party with modern ideas. He also appeared as a man of the people who understood the people and their problems and promised to revive the German nation and make it great again. After years of coalition governments, with politicians from many different parties all fighting for their own interests, many Germans remembered the days before democracy fondly and Hitler seemed to offer the opportunity to return to those days. With his brilliant oratorical skills and ability to convince the Germans that he empathised with their suffering, Hitler was able to enjoy mass support from the German citizens. He appeared to the Germans as their saviour to rescue them from their suffering and created a cult of followers who were willing to support him. This would eventually translate into votes during the elections, resulting in Hitler and the Nazi Party coming to power. <i>Award an additional 2m (to a maximum of 10m for a balanced conclusion based on explicit consideration of the relative importance of different reasons.</i> <i>The total marks to be award for the response will be based on marks obtain at L3 + 2 bonus marks: i.e. L3/6 + 2; L3/7 + 2; L3/8 + 2)</i> E.g. I disagree that the main reason for the rise of Hitler was the political weakness of the Weimar. Although the weakness of the Weimar did create mass discontentment towards the incumbent government, it was Hitler's appeal that took advantage of German dissatisfaction towards the political weaknesses of the Weimar and their failure to address economic problems. In addition, there were also other political parties like the communists who were also attempting to seize control of Germany. But what differentiated Hitler and resulted in him becoming the leader of Germany was his own appeal. He was able to identify the desperation of the Germans and fully exploited them, eventually leading to him gaining mass support and coming to power.	
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3 “US foreign policy towards Japan was the main reason for the outbreak of WWII in the Asia-Pacific.” How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]										
Level	Level Descriptors	Marks								
L1	Identifies / Describes given or other reasons <i>Award 1m for identifying one reason, and 2m for identifying 2 or more reasons.</i> <i>Award 2m for describing one reason, and 3m for describing 2 or more reasons.</i>	1 – 3								
L2	Explains given reason or other reasons <i>Award 4m for an explanation of given reason OR other reason, and an additional mark for additional reasons / supporting detail, to a maximum of 5m.</i>	4 – 5								
L3	Explains given reason AND other reasons <i>Award 6m for an explanation of given AND other reasons, and additional mark(s) for further supporting detail or reason, to a maximum of 8m (which include given reason).</i> <table><tr><td>Level / Marks</td><td>Requirement</td></tr><tr><td>L3/6</td><td>2 weak explanations</td></tr><tr><td>L3/7</td><td>1strong explanation + 1 weak explanation</td></tr><tr><td>L3/8</td><td>2 strong explanations OR 1 strong explanation + 2 weak explanations OR 4 weak explanations</td></tr></table> <i>*To qualify for +2 for evaluation, answers must achieve at least L3/7 (i.e. have least 1 strong paragraph).</i> E.g. US foreign policy towards Japan resulted in Japan realising that it needed to be self-sufficient and contributed to its aggressive foreign policy, leading to the outbreak of WWII in Asia-Pacific. With the 1929 Wall Street Crash in New York and the resulting Great Depression, it severely damaged Japan’s economy due to its heavy reliance on foreign trade with the Americans. The US would introduce a range of tariffs on Japanese imports in the 1930s to protect its own economy. Examples include a tariff of 25 per cent on Japanese electric light bulbs, 50 per cent on canned fish and 70 per cent on clothing respectively. These made Japanese products more expensive to consumers in the US and in turn reduced their demand and the profits of Japanese firms. As a result, thousands of Japanese workers were left unemployed. Furthermore, the 1937 invasion of China prompted the American government to take a progressively harder line on Japan. President Roosevelt was worried about Japan’s growing ambitions and wanted to keep its expansion in check. In light of failed negotiations, Roosevelt announced embargoes on raw materials such as steel and iron in October 1940 with an accompanying oil embargo in August 1941. Roosevelt also resurrected a law from WW1, Trading with the Enemy Act, which seized Japanese assets in the US, making it unable to buy essential goods. The US policy would cut off almost	Level / Marks	Requirement	L3/6	2 weak explanations	L3/7	1strong explanation + 1 weak explanation	L3/8	2 strong explanations OR 1 strong explanation + 2 weak explanations OR 4 weak explanations	6 – 8
Level / Marks	Requirement									
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	90 per cent of Japan's oil supplies and strangle Japan economically. Considering the heavy reliance of its modern army on fuel, the former was especially damaging for Japan. Due to the impact of the Great Depression and the American embargoes, Japan realised that it had been overly reliant on the Americans and had to be self-sufficient. This resulted in Japan embarking on an expansionistic foreign policy to seize the abundant natural resources in Asia. Their plans resulted in them launching a pre-emptive strike on the American Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941. It was supposed to disable the American fleet that protected US and other Western interests in Asia, hindering American ability to respond to the Japanese invasion of Southeast Asia. The attack on Pearl Harbor would directly lead to the entry of the Americans into WWII and mark the outbreak of WWII in Asia-Pacific. E.g. The ineffectiveness of the League of Nations in the 1930s would encourage Japanese expansion into Asia and lead to the outbreak of WWII in Asia-Pacific. Colonel Ishiwara of the Kwantung Army had ordered his forces to blow up a part of a railway track at Mukden in September 1931. They would blame it on the Chinese government and use it as an excuse to take over Manchuria and by December, they controlled most of the resource rich region. Although China appealed to the League, its members countries could not ban arms sales to Japan because they could not agree; they were worried that Japan would retaliate and escalate the situation. In addition, the leaders of the League, Britain and France, would not risk their armies in a war to stop Japan. Consequently, the League remained passive and did not come to the aid of China. The inaction of the League would embolden Japan to further expand into Asia as they recognised that the League was reluctant to stand firm and implement concrete actions. It appeared that the League was willing to allow Japan to expand and the Japanese were willing to exploit their lack of conviction and indecisiveness. In addition, with their control over Manchuria, the Japanese was now in possession of much needed raw materials and resources for its modern military. As such, the Japanese armed forces now had access to the necessary resources to support their expansion into Asia. Therefore, with the ineffectiveness of the League, Japan would be incited to embark on an aggressive foreign policy and also have the resources to fuel their expansion. This would lead to Japan eventually bombing Pearl Harbor, resulting in the outbreak of WWII in Asia-Pacific. E.g. Japan's aggressive foreign policy led to them initiating the bombing of Pearl Harbor and led to the outbreak of WWII in Asia-Pacific. The Communist ideology believed that societies should not be run by emperors and kings. For the Japanese who believed strongly in loyalty to the Emperor, communism was a dangerous ideology that had to be combated. Consequently, the USSR's border with Japan's empire in Manchuria was a major cause of concern and in 1936, Japan signed the Anti-Comintern Pact with	
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	Italy and Nazi Germany. The 3 nations agreed to form an alliance to oppose communism. Japan's fear of Soviet expansion into East Asia fuelled its aggressive foreign policy to further extend its influence and control over Asia. Lacking sufficient domestic supplies of critical resources like iron ore and coal, Japan perceived territorial expansion as essential not only for securing these materials for its nation, but also for the establishment of defensive positions against potential Soviet aggression. In addition, the deteriorating relationship with the British also contributed to Japan's expansionist foreign policy. In the 1930s, the British were critical of Japan's invasion of Manchuria and were on friendly terms with the US. It appeared to Japan that Britain did not recognise her lack and legitimate drive for natural resources. Instead, Britain was willing to cooperate with the Americans, who were seen as one of the major culprits for Japan's existing economic suffering. Moreover, since Britain had colonies throughout Asia, including Hong Kong, Burma and Malaya, Japan viewed it as a rival power which contested its rule over Asia. With Britain being perceived as an obstacle that hindered Japan from achieving her ambitions of increasing its influence over Asia, Japan justified its expansionist foreign policy and embarked on an invasion of Asia. This would lead to the bombing of Pearl Harbor to prevent the Americans from responding effectively and contribute to the outbreak of WWII in Asia-Pacific. <i>Award an additional 2m (to a maximum of 10m for a balanced conclusion based on explicit consideration of the relative importance of different reasons.</i> <i>The total marks to be award for the response will be based on marks obtain at L3 + 2 bonus marks: i.e. L3/6 + 2; L3/7 + 2; L3/8 + 2)</i> E.g. I agree that the main reason for the outbreak of WWII in Asia-Pacific was due to the American foreign policy towards Japan as it had a more direct and decisive impact. While the League's ineffectiveness emboldened Japan, it did not create an immediate need for it to expand. However, it was the American foreign policy and sanctions that they imposed that ignited Japanese desire for self-sufficiency. It created an urgency and desperation for Japan to embark on an aggressive foreign policy which would lead to the bombing of Pearl Harbor and the outbreak of WWII in Asia-Pacific.	
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4	“American economic strength was the main reason for the end of the Cold War.” How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer.		[10]								
Level	Level Descriptors	Marks									
L1	Identifies / Describes given or other reasons <i>Award 1m for identifying one reason, and 2m for identifying 2 or more reasons.</i> <i>Award 2m for describing one reason, and 3m for describing 2 or more reasons.</i>	1 – 3									
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E.g. The vast economic strength of the Americans forced the USSR to compete at an unsustainable level which depleted their already limited resources and brought about the end of the Cold War. The booming American economy gave Reagan the confidence and financial resources to champion US values of capitalism and democracy. He took a tough line with the USSR wherever possible and increased US defence spending. In his first two weeks in office, he increased the defence budget by \$32.6 billion and new weapons systems such as the B1 nuclear bomber were introduced. In 1982, he gave the go-ahead for the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI). This was a multi-billion-dollar project to create a system that could use satellites and lasers to destroy missiles before they hit their targets. As it turned out, SDI did not develop into a viable weapon. Nevertheless, with Reagan’s willingness and access to the enormous financial might of US, it placed immense pressure on the Soviet Union to divert more resources to compete with the Americans in the arms race. With the USSR already suffering financial difficulties due to their stretched resources which was as a result of involvement in foreign conflicts like the Soviet-Afghan war, the Soviet Union was financially unable to compete and match US military spending. Thus, considering the dire state of the Soviet economy which was worsened by American economic might,											

	Gorbachev implemented radical changes in an attempt to revitalise and transform the Soviet economy. Although unintentionally, it would eventually bring about the collapse of the USSR and the end of the Cold War. E.g. Gorbachev's policies led to the end of the Cold War because they provided the Soviets with the opportunity to voice their discontent towards communist rule. When Gorbachev implemented Perestroika, it gave the Soviets more freedom to manage and produce goods and services, leading to a change in USSR's command economy to a market economy to ensure a more efficient usage of USSR's resources. Despite the change, there was no overall increase in output. Instead, there were chronic problems of unemployment, growth of black markets, as well as shortages in basic necessities. This was a result of the conflicting methods of cooperative ownership. This meant that private ownership of small businesses was permitted, but the state still retained control over the means of production. As a result, small business owners still had to both pay high taxes and deal with dishonest officials. This led to unprofitable businesses and many of these private enterprises closed down. Some businesses also charged high prices on goods produced in order to make more profit and led to greater dissatisfaction among consumers and the Soviet society. Such conditions made the people realise that Gorbachev's policy of Perestroika had failed to revive the Soviet economy and they became increasingly resentful of the government. Glasnost allowed the problem to be magnified before the eyes of the Soviets. Next, the policy of Glasnost which called for the relaxation of censorship led to increased criticism against the Communist rule. The Soviets were made aware of the atrocities committed by the Communist government, especially during Stalin's rule. This was made worse by the accessibility of foreign radio stations such as Radio Free Europe and Voice of America where the Soviets were exposed to other aspects of the outside world, especially the better quality of life in the USA and Western European countries. With this relaxation, it only served to encourage more dissatisfaction and criticism against Gorbachev's policies. The positive picture of Soviet life that the government previously presented to the public quickly fell apart. Many felt that they had been deceived and lost faith in the Soviet government. With these negative sentiments, opposition started to build up within the Soviet Union. Radicals and liberal groups within the government who felt that Gorbachev's policies were not good enough to improve the situation started forming groups to oppose the government in Soviet Union. Glasnost had created a platform for the expression of uncontrolled criticism of communist rule which led to the Soviet republics' call for independence as opposition groups mounted criticism against Gorbachev and his government. These opposition groups gained support and when there was a coup against Gorbachev by his own party hardliners, Boris Yeltsin, the President of Russia led the opposition, supported by the Russian military officers and pro-democracy protesters against the hardliners. Their actions would	
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	eventually bring down the Communist Party and lead to the collapse of the USSR, in turn ending the Cold War. E.g. The increase in opposition in Eastern Europe ushered in the collapse of the Soviet Union and led to the end of the Cold War. In Czechoslovakia, the Prague Spring took place in 1968, which laid the ground of discontentment towards the Soviet government. Liberal reforms were introduced by the communist leader, Alexander Dubcek. He believed that the communist regime policies were not working and began to introduce more democratic reforms. The Prague Spring was dealt with by the Soviets, who sent in tanks and troops to crush Dubcek's government. In Poland, due to the rising food prices, it led to a growing wave of strikes in the 1980s. Headed by Lech Walesa, these trade unions merged to form the independent trade union, Solidarity and gained increasing popularity. Solidarity led a series of controlled strikes to push for economic reforms and free elections. However, in February 1981, the civilian Prime Minister Stanislaw Kania was forced to resign for criticising the USSR and the leader of the army, General Jaruzelski took over. The Red Army carried out "training manoeuvres" on the Polish border. Jaruzelski introduced martial law, Walesa and almost 10,000 other Solidarity members were put in prison and Solidarity was banned. This gradually led to the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe and the loss of Soviet Union influence. Although these uprisings were crushed by the USSR, it reflected the failure of communism to provide good living standards and the ensuing discontentment from the those in Eastern Europe. These protests also proved that communist governments were unpopular and were simply in place due to Soviet support; they could be threatened by the local uprisings and be resisted by organisations. Therefore, when the Soviet government became increasingly weak and unable to use force to impose its control over nations in Eastern Europe, demonstrations took place and the communist leaders resigned, giving in to pressure for democratic change. This contributed to the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe, resulting in the collapse of the USSR and the end of the Cold War. <i>Award an additional 2m (to a maximum of 10m for a balanced conclusion based on explicit consideration of the relative importance of different reasons.</i> <i>The total marks to be award for the response will be based on marks obtain at L3 + 2 bonus marks: i.e. L3/6 + 2; L3/7 + 2; L3/8 + 2)</i> E.g. I disagree that the end of the Cold War came about due to the American might as it was Gorbachev's policies that was the catalyst for the end of the Cold War. While U.S. economic pressure placed long term strain on the Soviet economy and Eastern European revolts would reveal the popularity of the communist ideology, it was Gorbachev who deliberately reframed the Soviet approach to various issues. With his policies, he attempted to transform the	
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	Soviet role in the arms race through peaceful means and give more autonomy to communist bloc. Thus, Gorbachev's policies indirectly worsened the impact of American economic might and laid the seeds for the breakaway of Eastern Europe, making it the most significant factor that contributed to the end of the Cold War.	
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