

2025-2026 Reading List

Social Studies

TOPIC: The Global Cold War and Its Fallout: From Yalta to Malta

PRIMARY READING SELECTION

SOCIAL STUDIES CONTEST

The Social Studies Contest consists of 45 objective questions and an essay. Students are expected to master primary reading selections, as well as specific documents, and to be familiar with general-knowledge social studies concepts and terms. Each year, the contest focuses on a different topic area and a reading list that is provided by UIL.

Nuclear Folly: A History of the Cuban Missile Crisis by Serhii Plokhy
ISBN: 9781324035985

Available from Texas Educational Paperbacks, Inc. ♦ 800-443-2078 www.tepbooks.com
List price: \$22.00, TEP UIL price: \$16.50 plus shipping
Also available from most online book sellers

SUPPLEMENTAL READING MATERIAL

Primary Sources and other Documents

- Churchill-Stalin Secret "Percentages" Agreement (1944)
https://www.jstor.org/stable/1862322?read-now=1&seq=6#page_scan_tab_contents
- Yalta Conference (1945)
<https://avalon.law.yale.edu/wwii/valta.asp>
- Message from President Roosevelt to Chairman Stalin (1945)
<https://history.state.gov/historicaldocuments/frus1945v05/d161>
- Declaration of Independence of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (1945)
<https://www.americanypawp.com/reader/24-world-war-ii/declaration-of-independence-of-the-democratic-republic-of-vietnam-1945/>
- Election Speech by Josef Stalin to the Supreme Soviet (1946)
<https://teachingamericanhistory.org/document/speech-before-meeting-of-voters-in-the-stalin-electoral-district/>
- "Long Telegram" by George Kennan (1946)
<https://nsarchive2.gwu.edu/coldwar/documents/episode-1/kennan.htm>
- "Iron Curtain Speech" by Winston Churchill (1946)
<https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/mod/churchill-iron.asp>
- "Novikov Telegram" (1946)
<https://www-personal.umd.umich.edu/~ppennock/doc-Novikov.htm>
- "Truman Doctrine" (1947)
<https://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th-century/trudoc.asp>
- "Marshall Plan Speech" by George Marshall (1947)
https://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/disp_textbook.cfm?smtID=3&psid=3643
- Effect of Soviet Restrictions on the U.S. Position in Berlin, Intelligence Report (1948)
<https://nsarchive2.gwu.edu/coldwar/documents/episode-4/02.pdf>
- CIA Weekly Summaries on the Berlin Blockade (1948)
https://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/disp_textbook.cfm?smtID=3&psid=3628
- NATO Treaty (1949)
<https://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th-century/nato.asp>
- "Ich Bin Ein Berliner Speech" by John Kennedy (1963)
<https://www.jfklibrary.org/archives/other-resources/john-f-kennedy-speeches/berlin-w-germany-rudolph-wilde-platz-19630626>
- Gulf of Tonkin Incident (1964)
<https://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th-century/tonkin-g.asp>
- U.S. State Department Paper on Support for South Vietnam (1965)
https://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/disp_textbook.cfm?smtID=3&psid=3640
- Telegram from Ambassador Bohlen to the State Department (1965)
<https://history.state.gov/historicaldocuments/frus1964-68v12/d48>
- Letter from Ho Chi Minh to President Johnson (1967)
https://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/disp_textbook.cfm?smtID=3&psid=3641
- "Letter of Invitation" from Czechoslovakian Communists (1968)
https://nsarchive.gwu.edu/sites/default/files/pages/doc_72.pdf
- Brezhnev Doctrine (1968)
<https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/Mod/1968brezhnev.asp>
- Memorandum on U.S. Actions in Chile (1970)
<https://history.state.gov/historicaldocuments/frus1969-76v16/d19>
- War Powers Act (1973)
https://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/disp_textbook.cfm?smtID=3&psid=4064
- Report on Seizure of U.S. Embassy in Tehran (1979)
https://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/disp_textbook.cfm?smtID=3&psid=1173
- Soviet Message on the Invasion of Afghanistan (1979)
<https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/mess-age-soviet-ambassadors-invasion-afghanistan-attachme nt-cpsu-politburo-decree-177>

- National Security Council Paper-68 (1950)
https://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/disp_textbook.cfm?smrID=3&psid=3630
- CIA Summaries on the Korean Conflict (1950)
https://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/disp_textbook.cfm?smrID=3&psid=3631
- “Declaration of Conscience” by Margaret Chase Smith (1950)
<https://www.americanyawp.com/reader/25-the-cold-war/senator-margaret-chase-smiths-declaration-of-conscience-1950/>
- Warsaw Security Pact (1955)
https://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/warsaw.asp
- Khrushchev’s Address to the 20th Party Congress (1956)
https://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/disp_textbook.cfm?smrID=3&psid=3634
- Zhou Enlai Discussion with Nehru Concerning Hungary (1956)
<https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/cable-zhou-enlai-mao-zedong-and-central-committee-discussion-nehru-hungary-issue>
- Soviet Foreign Ministry Analysis of Third World Reaction to Hungary and Suez (1956)
<https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/third-world-reaction-hungary-and-suez-1956-soviet-foreign-ministry-analysis>
- Speech at the Moscow Conference of Communist and Workers’ Parties by Mao Zedong (1957)
<https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/excerpt-unedited-translation-mao-zedongs-speech-moscow-conference-communist-and-workers>
- The U-2 Incident (1960)
https://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/u2.asp
- Farewell Address by Dwight Eisenhower (1961)
https://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/eisenhoweroor.asp
- Arguments against the Bay of Pigs Invasion by Chester Bowles (1961)
https://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/disp_textbook.cfm?smrID=3&psid=1169
- Letter From Chairman Khrushchev to President Kennedy (1962)
<https://microsites.ifklibrary.org/cmc/oct27/doc4.html>
- KGB Report on Indicators for a Surprise Nuclear Attack: Civil Defense (1984)
<https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/committee-state-security-kgb-indicators-recognize-adversarial-preparations-surprise>
- Mikhail Gorbachev speech to the UN (1988)
<https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/address-mikhail-gorbachev-un-general-assembly-session-excerpts>
- The CIA and Guatemala (1994)
https://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/disp_textbook.cfm?smrID=3&psid=1119

Cold War Confrontations

- Angolan Civil War
- Berlin
- Cuba
- Hungarian Revolution
- Korean Conflict
- Prague Spring
- Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan
- Suez Crisis
- Vietnam Conflict

USEFUL LINKS:

<https://www.britannica.com/encyclopedia.com>
<https://avalon.law.yale.edu/default.asp>
<https://millercenter.org/the-presidency/presidential-speeches>
<https://www.americanyawp.com/index.html>
<https://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/>
<https://www.history.com/>
<https://www.infoplease.com/>
<https://www.loc.gov/>
<https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/>
<https://www.ushistory.org/us/index.asp>
<https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/mod/modsbook.asp>
https://avalon.law.yale.edu/subject_menus/major.asp
<https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/>

USEFUL ADDITIONAL READINGS:

1983: The World at the Brink by Taylor Downing
 Berlin 1961 by Frederick Kempe
 Bitter Fruit by Stephen Schlesinger/Stephen Kinzer
 Blood and Sand by Alex von Tunzelmann
 A Bright Shining Lie by Neil Sheehan
 Checkpoint Charlie by Iain MacGregor
 Cold War 1945-1991 by Jeremy Isaacs/Taylor Downing
 The Cold War a History by Martin Walker
 The Cold War: A Very Short Introduction by Robert J. McMahon
 The Cold War: A World History and also The Global Cold War by Odd Arne Westad
 The Cold War: A New History and also We Now Know: Rethinking Cold War History by John Lewis Gaddis
 Cold War Europe 1945-1991 by John W. Young
 The Devil We Knew by H.W. Brands
 The Final Act: Michael Cotey Morgan
 Iron Curtain by Anne Applebaum
 One Hell of a Gamble by Aleksandr Fursenko/Tim Naftali
 One Minute to Midnight by Michael Dobbs
 Thirteen Days by Robert F. Kennedy
 Twelve Days by Victor Sebestyen

KEY TERMS - GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

Individuals

Adenauer, Konrad
Allende, Salvador
Ames, Aldrich
Andropov, Yuri
Árbenz, Jacabo
Baruch, Bernard
Beria, Lavrenti
Bevin, Ernest
Blake, George
Brandt, Willy
Brezhnev, Leonid
Castillo Armas, Carlos
Castro, Fidel
Ceașescu, Nicolae
Chang Kai-Shek
Chernenko, Konstantin
Churchill, Winston
Clay, Lucius D.
De Gaulle, Charles
Deng Xiaoping
Dobrynin, Anatoly
Dubček, Alexander
Dulles, Allen
Dulles, John Foster
Fuchs, Klaus
Georgiou, Costas
Gomułka, Władysław
Gorbachev, Mikhail
Gordievsky, Oleg
Gottwald, Klement
Gromyko, Andrei
Guevara, Ernesto
Ho Chi Minh
Honecker, Erich
Hoxa, Enver
Jaruzelski, Wojciech
Kennan, George
Khol, Helmut
Khrushchev, Nikita
Kim Il Sung
Kissenger, Henry
Kosygin, Aleksei

Le Duc Tho
LeMay, Curtis
Lumumba, Patrice
Madame Nhu
Malenkov, Georgi
Mao Zedong
Margaret Thatcher
Marshall, George
Masaryk, Jan
Massie, Suzanne
McNamara, Robert
Mielke, Erich
Mier, Golda
Molotov, Vyacheslav
Mosaddegh, Mohammad
Nagy, Imre
Nasser, Gamal Abdel
Neto, Agostinho
Ngo Dinh Diem
Nkrumah, Kwame
Pahlavi, Mohammad Reza
Penkovsky, Oleg
Petrov, Stanislav
Philby, Harold 'Kim'
Pinochet, Augusto
Reuter, Ernst
Rhee, Syngman
Rosenberg, Julius and Ethel
Rusk, Dean
Sadat, Anwar al-
Sakharov, Andrei
Shevardnadze, Eduard
Solzhenitsyn, Aleksandr
Somoza Debayle, Anastasio
Stalin, Josef
Tereshkova, Valentina
Tito, Josip Broz
Ulbricht, Walter
Walesa, Lech
Yeltsin, Boris
Zhou Enlai

Related Terms

Attack on Vilnius
Austrian neutrality (1955)
Balkan Pact (1953)
Baltic Way
Ban the Bomb Movement
Bandung Conference
Basic Treaty (1972)
Bay of Pigs Invasion
Berlin Blockade
Berlin Wall
Bert the turtle
Bikini Atoll
bomber gap
Brezhnev Doctrine
Brussels Defense Pact
Cambodian-Vietnamese War
Cambodian Coup (1970)
Cambridge spy ring
Castle Bravo
CENTO
Charter 77
Checkpoint Charlie/standoff 1961
Chilean coup (1973)
Church Committee
Comecon
Cominform
communism/democratic socialism/social democracy
containment policy
Cuban Missile Crisis
Cuban Revolution
Cultural Revolution
Czech coup (1948)
détente
Dien Bien Phu (1954)
domino theory
Downwinders
Dr. Strangelove
Dumbarton Oaks Conference
East Berlin Revolt 1953
Eastern bloc
East German/Prague Refugee Crisis
Eisenhower Doctrine
Eurocommunism
Euromissile Crisis
French Strikes of 1947
GATT
Geneva Accords (1954)
Geneva Summit (1985)
Gerboise Bleue (nuclear test)
German reunification/Treaty on the Final Settlement with Respect to Germany
glasnost
Great Leap Forward
Great Purge
Greek Civil War
Gulf of Tonkin Incident/Resolution
Hallstein Doctrine
Harmel Report
Helsinki Accords
Helsinki Watch Committees
Ho Chi Minh Trail
Hungarian Uprising (1956)
hydrogen bomb
ICBMs
INF Treaty
Iran-Contra Scandal
Iranian Crisis (1946)
Iranian coup (1953)
Iron Curtain
Islamic Revolution in Iran
Italian Election of 1948
KAL Flight 007
KGB
Khmer Rouge
Kitchen Debate
Korean War
“launch on warning”
League for the Independence of Vietnam/Viet Minh
Laotian Civil War
Lebanon Crisis (1958)
London Poles
Lublin Committee
M.A.D.
Malta Summit (1989)
Marshall Plan
Mathias Rust flight (1987)
May 1968 Uprising (France)
military industrial complex
MIRVs
Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact
Morgenthau Plan
Moscow Summit (1988)
Moscow Treaty (1970)
Mujahedeen
My Lai Massacre
National Front for the Liberation of South Vietnam/
Viet Cong
NATO

Nedelin Catastrophe
 Nicaraguan Civil War
 Non-Proliferation Treaty
 Non-Aligned Movement
 Novocherkassk Massacre
 Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (1963)
 Ogaden War
 Open Skies proposal
 Operation Able Archer
 Operation Blue Bat
 Operation Chrome Dome
 Operation Condor
 Operation MongOOSE
 Operation PBSUCCESS
 Operation Rolling Thunder
 Operation RYAN
 Operation Unthinkable
 Operation Urgent Fury
 Ostpolitik
 Palomares incident (1966)
 Paris Charter (1990)
 Paris Peace Accords (1973)
 Pentagon Papers
 perestroika
 ping pong diplomacy
 Pope John Paul II visit to Poland (1979)
 Potsdam Conference
 Poznań Riots (1956)
 Prague Spring
 PRC/ROC
 Project Nutmeg
 Radio Free Europe
 realpolitik
 Reykjavik summit
 SALT I and II
 Salvadoran Civil War
 Second Cold War
 Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Alliance, and Mutual Assistance (1950)
 School of the Americas
 Sino-Soviet Border skirmishes (1969)
 Six-Day War
 Socialism with a Human Face
 Solidarity Movement
 Soviet Coup attempt (1957)
 Soviet Coup attempt (1991)
 Soviet invasion of Afghanistan (1979)
 Space Race
 "Speech of Hope"
 Stalinism

Stasi
 Strategic Defense Initiative
 Suez Crisis
 Taiwan Straits Crisis (First and Second)
 Tbilisi Riots (1956)
 Tet Offensive
 The (Khrushchev) Thaw
The Day After (1983)
 Third World
 Tiananmen Square Massacre (1989)
 Truman Doctrine
 Tsar Bomba
 U-2 Incident
 U.S. Invasion of Cambodia (1970)
 USSR
 Venona project
 Vietnam War
 Vietnamization
 War Powers Act
 Warsaw Pact
 Warsaw Uprising
 Yalta Conference
 Yom Kippur War