# **Early Years of the Cold War Web Quest**

Directions: Read each of the documents found in the “Cold War Web Quest Sites” download (on class website) and use them to answer the questions below. Then respond to the prompt by creating a *complex-split thesis*.

\*\*Make sure you develop your responses. You are not limited to the space between questions.

**Due Date**: Your completed web quest must be submitted by Friday at the start of class (either in soft or hard copy)

Reading Questions:

1. What agreements were reached at the Yalta Conference for each of the subjects below:
   1. The Future of Liberated States:
   2. The Future of Germany:
   3. German Reparations:
   4. Poland’s Government:
   5. Poland’s Eastern Border:
2. How were each of the agreements above modified at the Potsdam Conference?
   1. The Future of Liberated States:
   2. The Future of Germany:
   3. German Reparations:
   4. Poland’s Government:
   5. Poland’s Eastern Border:
3. For the First, Interim, and Second Meetings of the Council of Foreign Ministers what difficulties came up in following the agreements reached at the Potsdam Conference? Specifically point out 4 agreements that were challenged and briefly explain the arising difficulty.
   1. Agreement 1:
   2. Agreement 2:
   3. Agreement 3:
   4. Agreement 4:
4. Based on the “Long Telegram” by George Kennan and the document “Achieving an Atmosphere of Mutual Trust and Confidence” by Henry Wallace why did relations between the United States and the Soviet Union deteriorate?
   1. Kennan:
   2. Wallace:
5. Based on the two documents above, why did Americans and Soviets distrust each other?
   1. Reasons for American Distrust of Soviets:
   2. Reasons for Soviet Distrust of Americans:
6. What recommendations did each author have for how Americans should approach relations with the Soviet Union?
   1. Kennan:
   2. Wallace:
7. Based on the document “Memorandum from Clifford Clark to President Truman” why was there little hope for Americans to reach an understanding with the Soviets?
8. How did Clark predict the Soviets would behave in international affairs?
9. How did Clark think Americans should respond to Soviet actions?
10. What advantage did Clark think the Soviet system had over the way Americans conducted diplomacy? What were the consequences of this advantage?
11. What did George Kennan mean in the “Sources of Soviet Conduct” when he used the term “Containment” and why did he think it would work?
12. Why did Kennan think threats by America against the Soviet Union would not stop their aggression?
13. What were the major reasons behind the Truman Doctrine and methods used to support “free nations”
    1. Reasons for Supporting “Free Nations”
    2. Methods Used to Support “Free Nations”
14. According to the Marshall Plan what role should various nations play in the rebuilding of post-war Europe?
    1. Role Played by the United States
    2. Role Played by European Nations
15. Based on the political cartoons why would the Marshall Plan be an effective step in addressing threats posed by the Soviet Union in Europe and why would delaying this plan harm American affairs in Europe?
    1. Effective Step:
    2. Harm in Delaying Marshall Plan:
16. Based on the readings on the Berlin Blockade identify the major reasons for maintaining American presence in Berlin as well as the reasons for withdrawing:
    1. Reasons for Maintaining Troop Presence:
    2. Reasons for Withdrawing Troops:
17. According to the North Atlantic Treaty what reason did all signing nations have for coming together?
18. What did this treaty obligate signing nations to do?
19. Why did President Truman believe that the United States should sign the treaty?
20. What reasons did Senator Taft give for opposing American involvement in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization?

Complex-Split Thesis Practice

Based on all of the readings as well as your answers to the questions develop a complex-split thesis in response to the prompt below:

*Should Truman’s approach to foreign policy in the early years of the Cold War be considered a success or a failure?*

Make sure you use the formula for a complex-split thesis:

**Even though + counter area of analysis, overall + argument (including extent) + as seen in + supporting areas of analysis**

**Your Thesis**: