At the signing of the Treaty of Rome (1957)
1. What were the major developments in the Cold War?

2. How did Europe rebuild itself in the aftermath of World War II?

3. What was existentialism and how did its “philosophy” relate to the 20th-century world?

4. What was the nature of European movements toward cooperation and integration in post-World War II Europe?

5. What are the major political developments in post-war France and Britain?

6. How has nationalism affected post-World War II Europe?

7. What pronouncements were made by the Catholic Church at the Second Vatican Council?

8. What were the causes, nature, and results of the Paris Riots of 1968?
9. What were the demands, nature, and impact of the Women’s Liberation Movement?

10. What were the high points and low points of Détente?

11. How did Margaret Thatcher transform Britain in the 1980s?

12. What were the causes, nature, and results of the reforms initiated by Mikhail S. Gorbachev in the Soviet Union?

13. What were the causes, nature, and results of the revolutions of 1989 in Eastern Europe?

14. Why did the Soviet Union collapse? What issues were faced by Russia in the decade following the collapse of the Soviet Union?

15. How did nationalism affect the disintegration of Yugoslavia?

16. In what ways did Europe further integrate and cooperate in the years after 1989?
17. What changes were made in Spain following the death of Francisco Franco?

18. How did Tony Blair transform Britain in the years he served as prime minister?

19. How did the influx of millions of immigrants and refugees since 1960 alter the nature of European societies?
# Themes in Europe Since 1945

**Political**
- Cold War, 1945-1991
- Growth of nationalism & democracy

**Economic**
- Diversity: communism, socialism, capitalism & mixed economies
- Cooperation & integration
- Challenges of the welfare state

**Social**
- Growth of feminism and youth activism
- Religious change
  - Reforms in the Catholic Church
  - Growth of secularism in traditionally Christian areas
  - Migration of non-Christians into Europe
- Demography at century’s end
  - Aging population
  - Declining birthrates
A diplomatic and ideological crash of interests emerged between the two superpowers that came to be known as the Cold War.
Background to the Cold War

- post-World War II military realities
  - ✔ Soviet liberation of/control over Eastern Europe (satellite states)
  - ✔ British, American & Canadian liberation of W. Europe
- Wartime conferences: tension & differences
  - ✔ Yalta (Feb. 1945)
  - ✔ Potsdam (Summer 1945)
Cold War: Background to the Cold War

• Ideological differences

✓ Soviet Union & Eastern Europe: communism/socialism & totalitarianism

✓ Western Europe, U.S. & Canada: capitalism/mixed economies & democracy

• Nuclear weapons

✓ 1945-49: U.S. the world’s sole nuclear power

✓ 1949: Soviet Union detonated atomic bomb, starting nuclear arms race

The American atomic bomb that was dropped on Hiroshima, Japan (1945)
Cold War: Churchill’s “Iron Curtain” Speech 1946

• Background

✓ Churchill’s Conservative Party lost the 1945 general election

✓ Churchill subsequently went on a speaking tour of the U.S.

✓ delivered famous speech at Westminster College, MO

• “Iron Curtain” Speech

✓ recognized the rift between East and West in Europe

✓ warned of Stalin’s power and control over Eastern Europe

✓ encouraged U.S., Europe and Soviet Union to work together on problems

Churchill as captured by Yousuf Karsh
“From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic an iron curtain has descended across the Continent. Behind that line lie all the capitals of the ancient states of Central and Eastern Europe. Warsaw, Berlin, Prague, Vienna, Budapest, Belgrade, Bucharest and Sofia; all these famous cities and the populations around them lie in what I must call the Soviet sphere, and all are subject, in one form or another, not only to Soviet influence but to a very high and in some cases increasing measure of control from Moscow.”

—Winston Churchill (1946)
Cold War: Truman Doctrine 1947

*Journal 108/B: The Truman Doctrine committed the United States to unprecedented global responsibilities.*
Cold War: Truman Doctrine 1947

• Background
✓ communists made gains in Greek Civil War (1946-49) and communists also grew stronger in Turkey
✓ American fear of Soviet Union expanding its sphere of influence

• Truman Doctrine: Containment
✓ U.S. president Harry S. Truman pledged to support “free peoples” who resist “totalitarian regimes”
  ➡ U.S. pledged economic and military aid to countries resisting communism
  ➡ Containment: contain the spread of communism to its 1947 borders
✓ Truman Doctrine: many argue policy marks the beginning of the Cold War
Cold War: Truman Doctrine 1947
Cold War: Marshall Plan 1948

- **Background**
  - economic destruction of Europe during World War II
  - harsh winter & famine in Europe
  - U.S. fear of the spread of communism

- **European Recovery Program** (the so-called Marshall Plan)
  - U.S. pledged to provide economic assistance to Europe in order to rebuild after World War II
  - vast majority of assistance came in the form of “credits” for American products/services
  - aid offered to all of Europe but Stalin rejected offers to help Eastern Europe: regarded Marshall Plan as American imperialism
  - Marshall Plan began process of Europeans working together economically

General George C. Marshall
Revealed plan at Harvard University

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Cold War: Marshall Plan 1948
Journal 109/A: The prosperity of Western Europe derived from a competitive free market and private enterprise but was accompanied by an extensive role for government.
Journal 109/B: The postwar governments gave a high priority to social objectives.
Journal 110/A: In 1945 Britain became the world’s chief exemplar of parliamentary socialism and the modern welfare state.
Cold War: Berlin Blockade & Airlift 1948-49

- **Background:** Allied occupation zones in Berlin
  - **West Berlin**
    - occupied by Britain, France & the U.S.
    - relied on roadways, railways and powerlines from western Germany
  - **East Berlin**
    - occupied by Soviet Union
    - Stalin sought to take control of the rest of Berlin
Cold War: Berlin Blockade & Airlift 1948-49

- **Berlin Blockade**
  - Stalin closed railways and roadways connecting West Berlin to western Germany
  - Electricity to West Berlin shut off
  - Stalin hoped blockade would force Britain, France & the US to abandon West Berlin

- **Berlin Airlift**
  - Truman ordered supplies to be airlifted into West Berlin
  - American, British and French pilots flew in supplies: coal, milk, flour, salt, medicine, etc.
  - Soviet Union eventually backed down and removed blockade, influenced in part by the signing of the NATO Treaty in April 1949
Cold War: Berlin Blockade & Airlift 1948-49

FIRST FILMS!

BERLIN UNDER RED “SIEGE”!

Commentary by JAY SIMS

NEWS of the DAY
Cold War: NATO 1949

- **Background**
  - Western fear of Soviet power and the spread of communism
  - Tension in Berlin: Berlin Blockade & Airlift (1948-49)

- **North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)**
  - Collective security: an attack on one country was an attack on all
  - Initial members: U.S., Canada, Britain, France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Italy, Portugal, Norway, Denmark, and Iceland
Journal 108/C: The rivalry over Europe ended in a stalemate.
Cold War: Tito’s Defiant Yugoslavia

• Josip Broz Tito
  ✓ helped defeat fascists in World War II
  ✓ communist leader of Yugoslavia (1945-80)
  ✓ successfully built multi-ethnic federal state for Yugoslavia’s overall peace & prosperity (ie, did not let Serbia dominate country)

• Tito’s defiance of Stalin
  ✓ Tito refused to be obedient to Stalin
  ✓ Yugoslavia expelled from Stalin-led Cominform (coordinated activities of communist parties)
  ✓ Stalin allegedly tried to have Tito assassinated (Tito responded by threatening to have Stalin killed)
  ✓ one of the key leaders of the Non-Aligned Movement after Stalin’s death (see later notes)

Marshall Tito: Tough Croat
A Cold War Proxy War: Korea 1950-53

• Background

✓ Korea divided into two occupation zones (along 38th parallel) after World War II

➡ Soviet Union: North Korea (communist)
➡ U.S.: South Korea (capitalist)

✓ war began when North Korea invaded South Korea (1950)

• The War

✓ U.S. sent American troops into Korea as part of UN action defending South Korea

✓ Soviet Union sent military and economic aid to North Korea

✓ Communist China (PRC) sent in Chinese troops to defend North Korea

✓ war ended in 1953
Cold War: Warsaw Pact 1955

• Background: Conflict with West over NATO
  ✓ Soviets viewed NATO as a threat to its security and interests
  ✓ Soviet Union requested membership in NATO, but was refused
  ✓ West Germany granted membership in NATO (1955)

• Warsaw Pact
  ✓ collective security: an attack on one country was an attack on all
  ✓ Initial members: Soviet Union and its satellite states: East Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Romania, Hungary and Albania
Journal 112/A: The Soviets in the 1950s and 1960s made clear the limits to which they would tolerate freedom and independence in central and eastern Europe.
Eastern Europe & the Soviet Union: Hungary 1956

• Background
  ✓ Stalin’s death (1953)
  ✓ revolts in Berlin (1953) & Poland (1956) inspired Hungarians

• Event
  ✓ revolt led by Imre Nagy, Hungarian Communist Party leader
    ➡ called for a “New Course” for Hungary: less Soviet control of the Hungarian Communist Party and liberalization of society (political & economic)
    ➡ threatened to withdraw Hungary from Warsaw Pact
    ➡ called for the US & Britain to recognize Hungary as a neutral state
  ✓ street demonstrations in Budapest supporting Nagy
  ✓ Soviet response: forcefully crushed revolt; Nagy eventually executed
Eastern Europe & the Soviet Union: Hungary 1956
Cold War: Nuclear & Space Races

- **Nuclear Arms Race**
  - both U.S. & Soviet Union had atomic bombs by 1949
  - race intensified as both countries eventually developed hydrogen bombs
  - fear of mutual thermonuclear destruction contributed to weapons ultimately not being used (balance of terror)
  - contributed to competition and tension between U.S and Soviet Union

- **Space Race**
  - Soviets led race initially by launching satellite Sputnik (1957)
  - contributed to competition and tension between U.S and Soviet Union
Cold War: Nuclear & Space Races
Philosophy: Existentialism

Journal 131/A: The existentialists grappled with the human predicament and reflected a troubled civilization.

Palmer Chapter 131 • pp. 1079-99

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Philosophy: Existentialism

• Background

✓ origins of the philosophic movement based on the ideas of 19th century thinkers
  ➡ Soren Kierkegaard (Danish)
  ➡ Friedrich Nietzsche (German)

✓ affected by 20th century horrors: world wars, Great Depression, Holocaust, nuclear proliferation

✓ leading existentialists
  ➡ Jean-Paul Sartre (French)
  ➡ Albert Camus (French Algerian)
Philosophy: Existentialism

- Ideas
  - ✓ rejected ideas fundamental to the Scientific Revolution & Enlightenment: rationalism and empiricism
  - ✓ meaning not provided by the natural order, but instead, humans define their own reality
  - ✓ action, freedom and decision-making fundamental to human experience
  - ✓ the “absurd”: meaning provided by the actions and interpretations of humans, regardless of how absurd that meaning might be
  - ✓ values are subjective
  - ✓ belief in God is an individual choice

Albert Camus: didn’t like “existentialist” label