**Post-War Divisions Reading Questions**

Read the web page below and answer the following questions:

[What caused the Cold War? - History Skills](https://www.historyskills.com/classroom/modern-history/mod-divided-world-reading/)

1. What were the two superpowers that the world was divided between after World War II?
2. How long did the Cold War last?
3. What was the difference in casualties between the US and the USSR during World War II?
4. What was the Nazi-Soviet Pact of 1939?
5. Why did Hitler and Stalin sign the Nazi-Soviet Pact?
6. What was Operation Barbarossa?
7. What was the turning point in the war against Germany for the Soviet Union?
8. Who were the leaders at the Yalta Conference in early 1945?
9. What was one of the main outcomes of the Yalta Conference regarding Europe?
10. How did Stalin break his promise regarding Poland after the war?
11. What was the main topic of discussion at the Potsdam Conference?
12. Who were the leaders at the Potsdam Conference?
13. What was the amount of reparations the Soviet Union could take from its zone of occupation in Germany?
14. Why is the period of tension between the Soviet Union and the United States called the "Cold War"?
15. What were the ideologies that the United States and the Soviet Union represented during the Cold War?
16. How did the Cold War affect the development of weapons?
17. What was Winston Churchill's view of the wartime alliance with Stalin?
18. How did the Soviet Union's experience of World War II differ from that of the United States in terms of damage at home?

**Paragraph Writing**

Based upon what you learnt in your reading, answer the following question in paragraph format (Topic Sentence, Explanation, Evidence, Concluding Sentence):

*What differences did Stalin and the Western leaders have about the future of Europe after WWII?*