**End of the Cold War Reading Questions**

Read the web page below and answer the following questions:

[The Collapse of the USSR - History Skills](https://www.historyskills.com/classroom/modern-history/mod-cold-war-end-reading/)

1. When was the Soviet Union established, and what event preceded its formation?
2. What was the concept of "developed socialism" introduced by Leonid Brezhnev?
3. Why was the Soviet economy considered inefficient?
4. What were the two main reforms instituted by Mikhail Gorbachev?
5. What was the effect of the Chernobyl disaster on the Soviet Union's image?
6. Which Baltic states declared their independence from the Soviet Union in 1991?
7. What led to the fall of the Berlin Wall?
8. What was the August Coup, and what was its significance?
9. When was the Soviet Union officially dissolved?
10. What was one of the main reasons for the collapse of the Soviet military?
11. How did the policy of perestroika affect the Soviet economy?
12. What was the Iron Curtain, and how was it related to the fall of the Berlin Wall?

**Paragraph Writing**

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

*Why did the Soviet Union collapse?*