**Lesson 10: Overview 5**

**Where can we find the shadows of the Second World War?**

**Activity 1a: Immediate shadow 1: collapse of empires.**

**Missing words:** **Russia, occupied, conflicts, power, Middle East.**

The shadows of the Second World War can be observed in the collapse of the German and Japanese Empires, the emergence of a Cold War between America and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the division of Germany, the demise of European Empires, and regions like the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_being further reorganised. The post-war conferences at Yalta and Potsdam resulted in some general agreements about what would happen to areas of the world that had been previously \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by or allied to Germany and Japan. However, there was still a great deal of division between the superpowers, and it is clear that the main \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the emerging Cold War in the period came in areas where America and Russia competed for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Activity 1b: Immediate shadow 2: changing powers**

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| German Empire | By the end of 1942 the German Empire was at its height, controlling all European territories except for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Switzerland, Spain and the British Isles. However, from 1943 onwards it began to fall apart due to defeats by the USSR on the Eastern Front and the Allies in Italy. In June \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the D-Day landings pushed the German armed forces into retreat. In 1945 Germany was invaded, in April Hitler committed suicide, and in \_\_\_\_\_ Germany surrendered. The Allies decided that Germany should be divided into \_\_ sectors to be controlled by Britain, France, the USA, and the USSR. |
| \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Empire | By December 1941 the Japanese Empire was at its height in South-East Asia and the Pacific, but its actions of attacking the American naval base at Pearl Harbour in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ triggered America’s entry into the Second World War and the gradual demise of Japan’s power in the region. From 1942-1945 it lost control of its Empire in the Philippines, Indo-China and China. After the German surrender in May \_\_\_\_\_\_, America dropped two \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ bombs in August on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, leading to their surrender. |
| \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as a superpower | Power vacuums were created in the countries that had been under German or Japanese control, but now had no clear \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. America was keen to increase its power and influence and emerged as a new world \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. They made military and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ alliances around the world, keen to secure their own interests against those of the Soviet Union. |
| \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as a superpower | These power vacuums also offered the Soviet Union an opportunity to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ their influence and power. The USSR emerged as a new world superpower, and focused on securing friendly neighbours in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Europe, the Middle East and Africa. They were keen to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with the power of the USA. |

**Match the headings to the empty boxes:** USSR,Japanese, America.

**Fill in the gaps in the explanation:** May, Hawaii, Sweden, economic, Eastern, superpower, 1944, 4, atomic, compete, 1945, leader, expand.

***Challenge questions – answer in your book:***

1. *Why were countries in Eastern Europe and Asia that had been occupied particularly vulnerable?*
2. *Why would communism do well in war-torn Europe?*

**Activity 1c: Longer term shadows: what impact did these immediate consequences have? Match the headings and the information.**

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| **Long-term impact:** **Cold War** | **Long-term impact:** **Decolonisation** | **Long-term impacts:** **Middle East** | **Longer-term impacts:****UN and Council of Europe** |
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| 1. As well as the Japanese and German empires collapsing, the large French and British Empires also declined. This process of decolonisation, as countries won their independence from their European rulers, meant that even more countries were left with newfound freedom, but also an element of vulnerability to another takeover.

***Challenge:*** *How does decolonisation link to power vacuums? How would the situation in 1945 in Vietnam be similar to that in Poland, for example?* | 1. During WWII, the Nazis murdered more than 6 million Jews. The British had controlled Israel, Palestine, Jordan and Iraq following WWI, but this ended. In 1948, the state of Israel was created by the UN and encouraged by US and Britain. This made a new home for the Jewish refugees of Europe. However, this went against the wishes of the Palestinian people, who lost land. This became the cause of conflict that has continued ever since.

***Challenge:*** *How could this situation have been better managed?* | 1. In 1945, the United Nations was formed. It was a worldwide organisation of countries who sought to develop peaceful, friendly international relations. 1949 the Council of Europe was established, which aimed to uphold human rights and democracy. This is separate from the more modern EU, which has more political and economic goals, but they work closely together.

***Challenge:*** *What do the UN and Council of Europe symbolise?* | 1. As superpower and ideological tensions grew between the capitalist USA and the communist USSR, they began to compete in arms race to create the most powerful weapons. They also created opposing military alliances: NATO and the Warsaw Pact. They used spies against each other and eventually ended up in conflict in Korea, Vietnam, Berlin, Cuba and Afghanistan.

***Challenge:*** *Eventually the arms race led to something known as Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD). What do you think this means?* |

**Activity 2: In your exercise book, explain two consequences of the Second World War. Use the writing frame to help you.**

One consequence of the Second World War was the immediate impacts on different nations. For example, some empires… Additionally new…

A second consequence was the longer-term impacts on different nations. For example… Additionally… Furthermore… Finally…

***Challenge: In your exercise book, explain the importance of the effects of WWII for the development of instability in the years 1945-1991.***

**Homework: Complete Activity 4 in your homework booklet.**