Name:

Spheres of Influence and the Cold War

World War II tore apart the continent of Europe. It was won by two groups of countries known as the Western Allies and the Eastern Allies. These groups had worked together to stop Nazi Germany from taking control of Europe. After the war, Europe needed to rebuild. The Western Allies and the Eastern Allies could have worked together for this to happen. As it turns out, there would be very little working together!

As the countries that had been under Nazi control gained back their power, the Allies had the opportunity to influence the way these countries would be run. The Western Allies and Eastern Allies had very different ideas. The Western Allies, headed by the United States, supported **capitalism**. Capitalism means that people own property and can make decisions about what to do with their property. The Eastern Allies, headed by the Soviet Union, supported **communism**. In communism, the government owns property and decides how people can use it.

Western Allies		Eastern Allies		
The United States	LEADER	The Soviet Union		
Democracy	GOVERNMENT	Dictatorship	125.	
Capitalism	ECONOMICS	Communism		
the individual owns proper		the state owns property		

The Allies began using their influence to convince countries to follow capitalism or communism. A race developed between the United States and the Soviet Union to see who could build the bigger sphere of influence. This race was called the **Cold War**. During this Cold War, the Soviet Union tried to expand its sphere of influence across Europe and Asia. At the same time, the United States used its power to expand its own sphere of influence.





Cold vs. Hot

The wars you hear about on the news today are "hot" wars because they involve fighting. "Cold" wars have little or no fighting. Instead, countries show off their military and political force to intimidate other countries and keep a constant threat.

The United States believed that increasing capitalism could stop the growth of communism. This strategy was called **containment** because it would "contain" communism and keep it from spreading. Countries could only pick one team to join, and the more countries chose capitalism, the less would choose communism.

Name:

Both the United States and the Soviet Union used the three main forms of influence...

Economic Influence

During the Cold War, the Soviet Union tried to get the countries of Greece and Turkey to join the communist team. In response, the U.S. President Truman sent money to Greece and Turkey to help them improve their countries. This helped keep Greece and Turkey out of the Soviet sphere of influence and made them part of the U.S.'s sphere. After this action, they called using aid as influence the

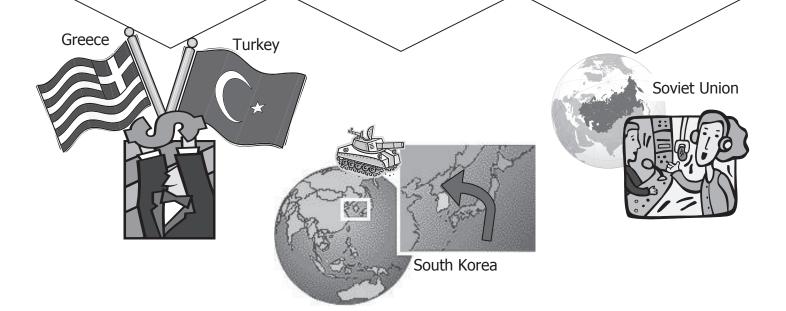
"Truman Doctrine."

Military Influence

The Cold War sometimes had flashes of hot war. One example is the Korean War. Communist countries helped northern Korea attack southern Korea. International groups joined together to help southern Korea defend itself. The fighting lasted for more than three years until a ceasefire was reached, and the country was divided into North and South Korea. This war was an attempt to use military influence to expand the communist sphere of influence.

Cultural Influence

Propaganda played a big role during the Cold War. Propaganda is a message designed to persuade the listener to think a certain way. The Western Allies started Radio Free Europe to spread anti-communist propaganda. The Soviet Union tried to block Radio Free Europe from being heard in communist countries. Even so, aspects of culture like rock music broke through the barrier to reach people living in communist nations.



The Cold War continued under different U.S. Presidents and different Soviet leaders. The race to grow spheres of influence kept going – even creating a race to put the first man in space! Eventually, the Soviet Union found itself in an economic crisis. The Soviet Union fell apart in 1991. The country changed its name back to Russia, rejected communism, and lost control over much of its sphere of influence.

Name:

Vocabulary. Fill in the missing letters for each word, then match it to the correct definition.

____1. S_HE_E __F
I_F_U__CE

_____ 2. C __ _ M __ N __ _ M

_____3. C __ N T __ _ N M __ N __

_____ 4. ___ R O __ A __ A N __ A

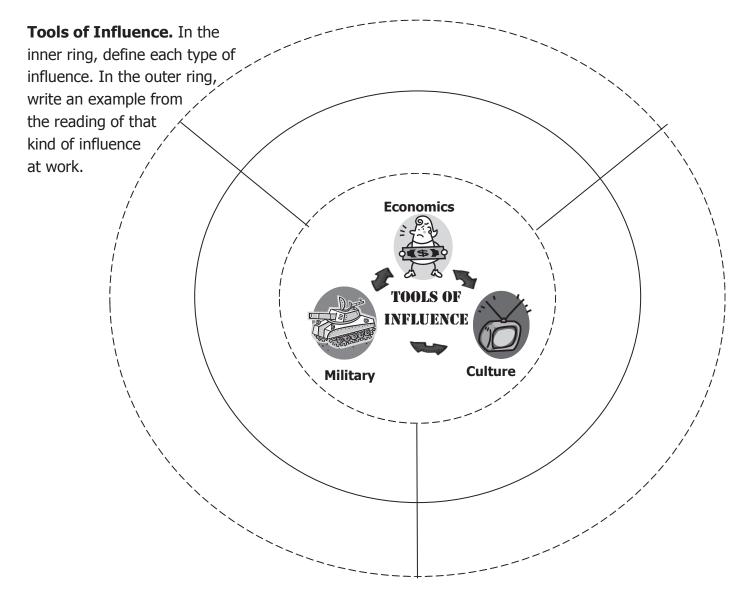
_____ 5. __ A P __ _ A L __ _ _

_____6. C __ L __ __ A __

_____7. __O__ __A__

_____ 8. S __ V __ _ T __ N __ _ N

- A. An economic system in which the state or government owns most property
- B. A message spread by media that is designed to sway the listener
- C. A war that involves mostly fighting
- D. The leader of the Eastern Allies
- E. the nations that a country has persuaded to follow its policy
- F. A war that has little to no fighting, but involves countries threatening each other
- G. the foreign policy that tries to keep another type of policy in check
- H. An economic strategy in which the individual owns most property



Name:

Identify. Label each example by circling the E (economics), C (culture), or M (military).

- E C M 1. A wealthy nation sends food and supplies to a poor nation.
- E C M 2. A country takes sides with people fighting in a civil war in another country
- E C M 3. One country decides to build schools in a poor neighboring country.
- E C M 4. A nation lines up its troops on its border with a neighboring country.
- E C M 5. A radio station is established to spread a political message.
- E C M 6. A nation cuts off food supplies to a nation that relies on them.
- E C M 7. A super power and several weaker nations promise to defend each other militarily.
- E C M 8. A play is written with propaganda, and a theater group tours neighboring countries.
- E C M 9. A larger nation decides to lend money to a small country to influence their policies.
- E C M 10. After a natural disaster in a poor country, a wealthier country provides aid workers.

Influential or Not? Read each scenario in the left hand column and decide if it is a useful or useless international influence tool. In the right hand column, explain *why* it is useful or useless.

1. Sending economic aid to a country that	☐ Useful	Because
is struggling	☐ Useless	
2. Creating propaganda against a	☐ Useful	Because
particular country and distributing it in its neighboring countries	☐ Useless	
3. Declaring a holiday on the President's	☐ Useful	Because
birthday	☐ Useless	
4. Sending medical supplies and staff to a	☐ Useful	Because
country recovering from a natural disaster	☐ Useless	
5. Offering the opportunity for a college education to the citizens of a poorer	☐ Useful	Because
nation	☐ Useless	
6. Developing a really cool television station and website for youth in your	☐ Useful	Because
country	☐ Useless	
7. Providing military defense for a weak country against attack from a stronger	☐ Useful	Because
country	☐ Useless	
8. Sending aid and money to a wealthier	☐ Useful	Because
country that doesn't need it	☐ Useless	