

## Cold War Trivia: Questions, Answers, and Facts Printable Trivia Pack

Cold War trivia explores the long geopolitical standoff between the United States and the Soviet Union that emerged after World War II and ended with the Soviet Union's dissolution in 1991. From nuclear brinkmanship and proxy wars to the space race and everyday life under competing ideologies, it offers a revealing look at how this era influenced the modern world.

### HARD COLD WAR TRIVIA

1. Which document was the U.S. policy paper completed in 1950 that called for a major military buildup?

Answer: NSC-68

2. Sent from Moscow in February 1946, what famous message by George Kennan became a landmark of early Cold War thinking?

Answer: The Long Telegram

3. What Soviet-created organization was established in 1947?

Answer: The Cominform

4. Founded in 1949, what was the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance better known as?

Answer: Comecon

5. Name the first U.S. hydrogen bomb test, carried out in 1952.?

Answer: Ivy Mike

6. Which 1955 agreement restored Austria's sovereignty?

Answer: The Austrian State Treaty

7. In Moscow in 1959, Richard Nixon and Nikita Khrushchev famously squared off in what event?

Answer: The Kitchen Debate

8. Which rupture in the communist world had become public by 1960, fracturing the bloc?

Answer: The Sino-Soviet split

9. What treaty limiting certain nuclear tests was signed in 1963?

Answer: The Partial Nuclear Test Ban Treaty

10. In what year did France withdraw from NATO's integrated military command?

Answer: 1966

11. What anti-nuclear movement gained major momentum in the United States in the early 1980s?

Answer: The Nuclear Freeze movement

12. Which arms-control agreement was signed in Vienna in 1979 by Jimmy Carter and Leonid

Brezhnev?

Answer: SALT II

13. What NATO exercise took place in November 1983 and is often remembered as an especially tense Cold War moment?

Answer: Able Archer 83

14. In what year did the Chernobyl nuclear disaster occur in Soviet Ukraine?

Answer: 1986

#### FUNNY COLD WAR TRIVIA

1. During a 1984 microphone test, which U.S. president made the deeply reassuring joke, "We begin bombing in five minutes"?

Answer: Ronald Reagan

2. What phrase did Reagan popularize in 1983 for the Soviet Union, as if the Cold War needed a movie-trailer title?

Answer: evil empire

3. Which line did Nikita Khrushchev deliver in 1956 that definitely did not calm the room?

Answer: We will bury you

4. In the West, what nickname was given to the Berlin Wall's concrete barriers, as if the branding team had given up on subtlety?

Answer: Wall of Shame

5. Which East German car became famous for waiting lists so long they could have had their own postal code?

Answer: Trabant

6. Yuri Gagarin became the first man in space in 1961 aboard what spacecraft?

Answer: Vostok 1

7. Who pulled off the first spacewalk in 1965, proving that leaving the spacecraft was suddenly an option?

Answer: Alexei Leonov

8. What is the name of the East German traffic-light figure that somehow became more beloved than many politicians?

Answer: Ampelmännchen

9. Which Berlin crossing point became the best-known checkpoint of the Cold War, despite sounding like the world's least relaxed travel desk?

Answer: Checkpoint Charlie

10. When the Warsaw Pact was founded in 1955, how many member states did it include?

Answer: eight member states

11. What was the name of the Soviet space station launched in 1986, a word that also sounds suspiciously peaceful for orbiting hardware?

Answer: Mir

12. Which Soviet spacecraft became the first human-made object to reach the Moon in 1959?

Answer: Luna 2

13. Finish Reagan's 1987 Berlin challenge to Gorbachev: " \_\_\_\_\_ "?

Answer: Tear down this wall!

#### FUN COLD WAR TRIVIA

1. Which writer helped popularize the phrase "cold war" in a 1945 essay?

Answer: George Orwell

2. What ominous symbol, created in 1947 by the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, turned global anxiety into a literal countdown?

Answer: The Doomsday Clock

3. Whose footwear became part of Cold War legend after a famous 1960 United Nations incident?

Answer: Nikita Khrushchev

4. The 1960 U-2 spy plane incident centered on which pilot being shot down over the Soviet Union?

Answer: Francis Gary Powers

5. Finish JFK's famous 1963 West Berlin line: " \_\_\_\_\_ "?

Answer: Ich bin ein Berliner

6. In what year was the Washington-Moscow hotline established after the Cuban Missile Crisis?

Answer: 1963

7. Which Soviet cosmonaut made history in 1963 as the first woman in space?

Answer: Valentina Tereshkova

8. Who won the ultimate cosmic bragging rights by becoming the first human in space in 1961?

Answer: Yuri Gagarin

9. Which American astronaut became the first U.S. astronaut to orbit Earth in 1962?

Answer: John Glenn

10. What nickname was given to the U.S. hockey team's 1980 Winter Olympics upset over the Soviet Union?

Answer: Miracle on Ice

11. Which puzzle game with endlessly falling blocks was created in the Soviet Union in 1984 by Alexey Pajitnov?

Answer: Tetris

12. Which James Bond movie from 1963 practically wore its Cold War setting on its tuxedo sleeve?

Answer: From Russia with Love

13. Which Stanley Kubrick film turned nuclear panic into satire when it premiered in 1964?

Answer: Dr. Strangelove

#### COLD WAR FAMILY TRIVIA

1. In what year was the Yalta Conference held?

Answer: 1945

2. Which year matches Winston Churchill's famous 'Iron Curtain' speech?

Answer: 1946

3. Churchill gave the 'Iron Curtain' speech in which Missouri town?

Answer: Fulton, Missouri

4. When roads and rail lines to West Berlin were blocked, what was the Western response called?

Answer: The Berlin Airlift

5. True or false: The Korean War ended with a peace treaty in 1953.?

Answer: False

6. What kind of agreement ended the Korean War fighting in 1953?

Answer: An armistice

7. The Hungarian Uprising was crushed by Soviet forces in what year?

Answer: 1956

8. In 1968, which country was the setting for the Prague Spring reform movement?

Answer: Czechoslovakia

9. What year did the Prague Spring take place?

Answer: 1968

10. Which country did the Soviet Union invade in 1979?

Answer: Afghanistan

11. Cold War alphabet soup time: which anti-communist military alliance was formed in 1954?

Answer: SEATO

12. What policy name is most associated with easing Cold War tensions during the 1970s?

Answer: d'tente

#### EASY COLD WAR TRIVIA

1. The Cold War was mainly a rivalry between the United States and what other superpower?

Answer: The Soviet Union

2. Many histories mark the beginning of the Cold War in what year?

Answer: 1947

3. In what year did the Cold War end with the dissolution of the Soviet Union?

Answer: 1991

4. During the Cold War, the United States led which bloc?

Answer: The Western Bloc

5. The Soviet Union was the leading power of which bloc?

Answer: The Eastern Bloc

6. The Cold War came after the end of which global conflict?

Answer: The Second World War

7. NATO was founded in what year as a Western military alliance?

Answer: 1949

8. The Warsaw Pact was created in what year?

Answer: 1955

9. In what year did the Berlin Wall go up?

Answer: 1961

10. The Cuban Missile Crisis took place in which year?

Answer: 1962

11. What year did the Korean War begin?

Answer: 1950

12. Which war became a major Cold War conflict involving the United States?

Answer: The Vietnam War

13. Which U.S. president announced the Truman Doctrine in 1947?

Answer: Harry S. Truman

Source: <https://quizhoot.com/trivia/cold-war-trivia>