

Following World War II, Americans prospered due to an expanding economy stimulated by America's involvement in the war.

Since World War II, the United States has been directly involved in various conflicts that reflected the divisions created by Cold War tensions and hostilities.

The tension between the free world and the communist world caused divisiveness at home and abroad.

The Cold War was the central organizing principle in foreign affairs for 40 years.

Major conflicts in the post-World War II era:

South Korea and the United States resisted Chinese and North Korean aggression. The conflict ended in a stalemate.

The Cuban Missile Crisis occurred when the Soviet Union placed missiles in Cuba. The Soviets removed the missiles in response to a U. S. blockade.

The United States intervened to stop the spread of communism into South Vietnam (Domino Theory). Americans were divided over whether the United States should be involved militarily in Vietnam. The conflict ended in a cease-fire agreement in which U. S. troops withdrew.

Collapse of Communism in Europe

Breakup of the Soviet Union into independent countries

Destruction of the Berlin Wall

New Challenges

Role of U.S. military intervention

Environmental challenges

Global issues, including trade, jobs, diseases

The student will demonstrate knowledge of the economic, social, and political transformation of the United States and the world between the end of World War II and the present by:

- c) identifying the role of America's military and veterans in defending freedom during the Cold War, including the wars in Korea and Vietnam, the Cuban missile crisis, the collapse of communism in Europe and the rise of new challenges.