

Research 6.1

The Cold War lasted for nearly fifty years and affected all parts of the world. Divide the class into groups of two or three. Each group is to research one of the following episodes of the Cold War.

The Berlin Blockade 1948–49	Communism in China 1949	The Korean War 1950–53
The space race c. 1957–75	Hungarian Uprising 1956	The U2 Crisis 1960
Building of the Berlin Wall 1961	The Cuban Missile Crisis 1962	Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia 1968
Détente 1971–79	Soviet war in Afghanistan 1979–89	Ronald Reagan's presidency 1981–89
Mikhail Gorbachev's leadership 1985–91	Fall of the Berlin Wall 1989	Collapse of the Soviet Union 1991

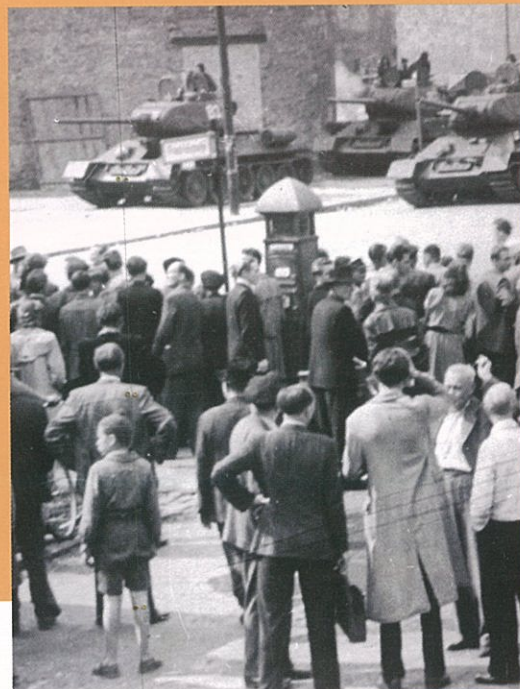
Each group's research needs to address several questions:

- What was the background of the episode?
- What happened during the episode?
- What was the result?
- How did the episode impact on world peace?

Locate an available wall in the classroom on which each group can display a summary of their findings. Be prepared to address the class in a three- to four-minute presentation about your Cold War episode. You might ask your teacher to research an episode not listed here.



Source 6.9 A woman waves over the Berlin Wall, 1961



Source 6.10 Berlin in 1961 at the start of the building of the Berlin Wall