

Please check the examination details below before entering your candidate information

Candidate surname					Other names				
Centre Number					Candidate Number				

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level

Thursday 12 June 2025

Afternoon (Time: 2 hours)

Paper reference **WHI04/1C**

History

International Advanced

PAPER 4: International Study with Historical Interpretations

Option 1C: The World Divided: Superpower Relations, 1943–90

You must have:
Extracts Booklet (enclosed)

Total Marks

Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer Question 1 in Section A and **ONE** question in Section B.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
– *there may be more space than you need.*

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
– *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

Turn over ►

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SECTION A

Answer Question 1. Write your answer in the space provided.

Study Extracts 1 and 2 in the Extracts Booklet before you answer this question.

- 1** How far do you agree with the view that Stalin's decision to reject Marshall Aid was the most significant development in the Cold War division of Europe in the years 1947–49?

Explain your answer using Extracts 1 and 2 and your knowledge of the issues related to this controversy.

(25)

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(Total for Question 1 = 25 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 25 MARKS



SECTION B**Answer ONE question in Section B.****You must start your answer to your chosen question on the next page.****EITHER**

- 2** To what extent was Khrushchev successful in achieving his foreign policy objective of peaceful coexistence with the USA in the years 1953–64?

(Total for Question 2 = 25 marks)**OR**

- 3** How accurate is it to say that relations between the superpowers significantly improved in the years 1964–79?

(Total for Question 3 = 25 marks)

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Chosen question number: **Question 2** ☒ **Question 3** ☐

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TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 25 MARKS
TOTAL FOR PAPER = 50 MARKS



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Paper
reference**WHI04/1C****History****International Advanced****PAPER 4: International Study with Historical Interpretations****Option 1C: The World Divided: Superpower Relations, 1943–90****Extracts Booklet****Do not return this Booklet with the question paper.***Turn over* ►**P76472A**©2025 Pearson Education Ltd.
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Extracts for use with Section A.

Extract 1: From I Kershaw, *To Hell and Back: Europe 1914–1949*, published in 2015.

The decisive moment in the division of Europe came in June 1947 when the US Secretary of State, George Marshall, announced a wide-ranging European Recovery Plan. The 'Marshall Plan', as it is usually called, was a step of great symbolic significance. The Plan was profoundly political in aim, economic in method and of huge psychological importance in giving west Europeans new hope. 5

All European countries, including the Soviet Union, were offered Marshall Aid. However, as Marshall himself had anticipated (and hoped), the Soviet Union rejected it. This forced the countries in the Soviet sphere of influence to do the same. Stalin's refusal of Marshall Aid was a decisive move. Stalin was worried that the security of the Soviet Union and its satellites was vulnerable to the superior economic power of the United States. His fear, most likely justified, was that economic aid from the USA was a means by which America would have undermined Soviet political dominance in its satellite states. From Stalin's perspective, refusing Marshall Aid meant that the West could never interfere in the consolidation of Soviet power in eastern Europe. Stalin's decision meant the definitive split of Europe into two halves. 10 15

Extract 2: From J W Young, *Cold War Europe 1945–1991: A Political History*, published in 1996.

In late June 1948, Stalin began to blockade land routes into the western sectors of Berlin. The former German capital city was situated far within the Soviet occupation zone. At first, it seemed that the Western sectors of Berlin would be starved into submission. But a massive airlift of supplies turned the Berlin blockade from a major Soviet challenge to the Western powers into a great triumph for the Western powers. In May 1949, after almost a year of crisis, Stalin conceded defeat and reopened land access to the city. 20

The fears generated by the blockade actually strengthened Western suspicion of Russia and deepened Europe's division. In April 1949, ten European nations joined America and Canada in signing the North Atlantic Treaty in Washington, an alliance that ended any lingering fears that America might slip again into isolationism. In September, the Americans approved a military assistance programme to build up European armed forces. Around the same time, Soviet testing of an atomic bomb highlighted European vulnerability in a world increasingly dominated by only two superpowers. Furthermore, in September, West Germany elected its first government, which led Stalin to form his own German state in the East. Europe was now rigidly divided on all ideological, political, economic and military levels. 25 30 35

Acknowledgements:

Extract 1 from: *To Hell and Back: Europe 1914–1949* by Ian Kershaw © Allen Lane, 2015

Extract 2 from: *Cold War Europe 1945–1991: A Political History* by J W Young © Arnold, 1996