

**EXAMPLE**

Your Name  
The Cold War  
Mr. Gallerani

Date  
Block  
Room 37

Homework #

1. What was the major cause of post WWII apprehension and distrust between the United States and the Soviet Union directly following their combined victory over Nazi Germany?

Only days after Hitler committed suicide in the fuhrerbunker deep beneath the apocalyptic ruins of the city of Berlin, the combined victorious forces of the United States, Great Britain, and the Soviet Union had already discussed their hopes and visions for a better world. Despite the hearty handshakes and congenial meetings, however, a simmering distrust between the powers of the East and West rendered their meetings merely elaborate stage performances for the good of their respective nations. “[T]he war had been won by a coalition whose principal members were already at war - ideologically and geopolitically if not militarily - with one another.”<sup>1</sup> Within these ideological and geopolitical differences lay the seeds of the the Cold War. Although the United States and the Soviet Union shared similar beginnings, “[t]he differences, as any terrestrial observer could have quickly pointed out, were much greater.”<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> John Lewis Gaddis, *The Cold War: A New History* (New York: Penguin Books, 2007), 6.

<sup>2</sup> Gaddis, *The Cold War*, 7.