

*The Cold War Era and the Emergence of the New Europe*

**Directions.** In thoughtfully answering the following questions, think expansively. What “terms” or “names” are important to the response? Always consider PERSIA.

- How did the United States and the Soviet Union come to dominate Europe after 1945?
  - Why were 1956 and 1962 crucial years in the Cold War?
- How would you define the policy of *containment*?
  - Give some specific examples of how the United States instituted that policy throughout the world from 1945 to 1982?
- How did Khrushchev’s policies and reforms change the Soviet state after the repression of Stalin?
  - Why did many people consider Khrushchev reckless?
- How did Western Europe move toward political unity after World War II?
- How did the nations of Europe give up their empires?
  - How did French decolonization policies differ from Britain’s?
  - How did the United States become involved in Vietnam?
- What internal political pressures did the Soviet Union experience in the 1970s and early 1980s?
  - What steps did the Soviet government take to repress those protests?
  - What role did Gorbachev’s attempted reforms play in the collapse of the Soviet Union?
- What were the major events in Eastern Europe-particularly Poland-that contributed to the collapse of communism?
- What were the major economic and political challenges facing Europe as it entered the 21<sup>st</sup> century?