

**UNIT 11 - STUDY GUIDE**  
**World History & Geography 2** Rev.1/20/2011 ©studentsfriend.com  
1950 to the present - Cold War and Space Age

**Overview:** It was a different world after World War II. Colonialism was no longer acceptable, and before long most of the world's colonies had gained independence from foreign rule. At the end of World War II, Western Europe was no longer the dominant region of the world. It had been replaced by two new "superpowers," the capitalist United States and the communist Soviet Union. Soon the superpowers were locked in a 45-year-long political, economic, and military struggle called the Cold War, which divided much of the world between pro-Soviet and pro-American camps. The superpowers never fought each other directly, but capitalist and communist forces fought "Proxy wars" in places like Korea, Vietnam, and Afghanistan. The Cold War led to a nuclear arms race between the superpowers and a space race that sent men to the moon.

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**Essential Question: What is human nature?**

How did fear on both sides contribute to the Cold War?

**Essential Question: What makes a good society?**

Why did social Darwinism seem like such a bad idea after World War II?

Why did the Western capitalist democracies finally win the Cold War against the totalitarian regimes of the Communist Soviet block?

**Essential Question: When is war justified?**

Why were guerilla fighters in Vietnam and Afghanistan able to defeat superpower armies?

Are we facing a similar situation in Afghanistan today?

Was the U.S. right to overthrow democratically elected governments during the Cold War?

**Historical Force: How does trade make history?**

How did India's and China's models of economic development differ after WWII?

**Historical Force: How does technology make history?**

What does this phrase mean? We went looking for the moon, but we found the earth.

1. Read for understanding pages 42 through 44 of the *Student's Friend*. Demonstrate your understanding by summarizing KEY POINTS for the 4 main topics on page 42 with answers to the questions: What is it? Why is it important? By taking NOTES over page 43 followed by QUIZ, and by answering STUDY QUESTIONS for page 44.
2. Correctly spell the 12 main topics on pages 42 through 44 of the *Student's Friend*.
3. Locate on a map of the earth the following places: Eastern Europe, Berlin, Pakistan, Taiwan, China, Korea, Vietnam, and Afghanistan.
4. Be familiar with the timeline of major events from the Big Bang through the present.
5. Would Gandhi's approach have worked against Hitler?
6. When during the Cold War did we come closest to World War III?