

Name _____

Cold War Countdown Answer Key

1. Iron Curtain speech (1946)
2. Berlin Airlift (1948-1949)
3. Korean War begins (1950)
4. Sputnik launched (1957)
5. Cuban Missile Crisis (1962)
6. Vietnam War intensifies (1960s-early 1970s)
7. SALT I signed (1972)
8. Fall of the Berlin Wall (1989)

Teacher's Guide

Purpose: This activity reinforces **chronological reasoning** and helps students understand **cause-and-effect relationships** among major Cold War events.

Tips for Differentiation:

- **For struggling learners:** Provide a simplified timeline scaffold with a few key dates already placed.
- **For advanced learners:** Have students explain how each event influenced the next in one or two sentences.
- **For visual learners:** Encourage drawing simple icons beside each event (e.g., wall, rocket, handshake).
- **For discussion:** Ask students which event they believe most clearly marked the beginning or end of the Cold War, and why.

Extension Ideas:

- Create a "Cold War Timeline Wall" in the classroom where students post additional events.
- Assign short research tasks about cultural moments during the same years (e.g., Olympics, propaganda, music).
- Connect the timeline to global perspectives, asking how these events affected countries outside the U.S. and USSR.