

Preparing for Winter Objectives and Standards

Objectives

1. Understanding the Geopolitical Landscape Leading to Yalta

1. **Students will be able to** construct a timeline of key events from **1939-1945** that influenced the Yalta Conference, using details from the *Geopolitical Landscape Leading Up to Yalta* document.
 2. **Students will be able to** identify the **main negotiation priorities** of the U.S., U.K., and Soviet Union by categorizing them into political, military, and economic concerns from the *Initial Yalta Priorities 4x6 Cards*.
 3. **Students will be able to** summarize the impact of Soviet military advances in Eastern Europe by mapping Soviet territorial gains from **1944-1945** and explaining their influence on **Yalta negotiations**.
 4. **Students will be able to** evaluate **how wartime leadership transitions (e.g., Roosevelt, Churchill, Stalin)** shaped the conference by comparing pre-Yalta diplomatic communications with the final agreements.
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2. The Yalta Conference: Decisions and Outcomes

5. **Students will be able to** outline the **five major agreements** made at Yalta by completing a structured note-taking activity based on *Behind the Times – Yalta*.
 6. **Students will be able to** compare U.S. and British responses to **Soviet demands in Eastern Europe** by annotating and analyzing the *Initial Yalta Priorities 4x6 Cards*.
 7. **Students will be able to** assess **which agreements from Yalta were later upheld or violated** by categorizing historical actions between **February – July 1945** and citing evidence from *Behind the Times – Potsdam*.
 8. **Students will be able to** explain the role of the **United Nations agreement** at Yalta by writing a summary of each leader's stance on its formation.
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3. The Shift from Yalta to Potsdam

9. **Students will be able to** list three major shifts in **U.S. and British negotiating power** between **Yalta and Potsdam**, citing specific political and military events from *Behind the Times – Potsdam*.
10. **Students will be able to** evaluate how the **death of Roosevelt and Churchill's election loss** altered U.S. and British diplomatic strategies by comparing direct statements from Yalta and Potsdam using the *Potsdam Conference Update 4x6 Cards*.

11. **Students will be able to** analyze how the development of the **atomic bomb** influenced U.S. leverage by creating a cause-effect chart based on information in *Yalta vs Potsdam Instructions*.
 12. **Students will be able to** identify **two key disagreements between Truman and Stalin** at Potsdam by completing a guided document analysis of *Potsdam Conference Update 4x6 Cards*.
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4. Soviet Military Capabilities and Strategic Planning in 1948

13. **Students will be able to** assess the likelihood of **Soviet military action in 1948** by summarizing key intelligence assessments from *Possibility of Direct Soviet Military Action During 1948*.
 14. **Students will be able to** explain how U.S. analysts evaluated **Soviet invasion threats** by completing a written reflection on *CIA Russian Invasion Analysis 1948*.
 15. **Students will be able to** compare **Soviet and Western military doctrines in 1948** by categorizing their differences using details from *Military Forces and Technologies in 1948*.
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5. Military Technologies and Force Distribution in 1948

16. **Students will be able to** identify the **primary strengths and weaknesses of U.S., British, and Soviet military forces** in 1948 by completing a comparison chart based on *Military Forces and Technologies in 1948*.
 17. **Students will be able to** analyze the impact of **post-war industrial recovery** on military readiness by summarizing key points from *Military Forces and Technologies in 1948*.
 18. **Students will be able to** evaluate the role of **nuclear weapons** in shaping U.S. military policy by identifying key shifts in diplomatic strategies at Potsdam from *Yalta vs Potsdam Instructions*.
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6. Application Through Diplomacy and Military Simulations

19. **Students will be able to** negotiate as world leaders in a **Yalta & Potsdam Simulation** by applying historical priorities outlined in *Initial Yalta Priorities 4x6 Cards* and *Potsdam Conference Update 4x6 Cards*.
20. **Students will be able to** simulate post-war military planning by assessing force distribution from *Military Forces and Technologies in 1948* and responding to hypothetical Soviet or NATO strategies.
21. **Students will be able to** debate whether the **West could have limited Soviet expansion** by presenting arguments based on evidence from *CIA Russian Invasion Analysis 1948* and *Possibility of Direct Soviet Military Action During 1948*.
22. **Students will be able to** explain why **Potsdam marked the beginning of Cold War tensions** by citing diplomatic breakdowns using *Behind the Times – Potsdam* and *Yalta vs Potsdam Instructions*.

7. Final Analysis: The Road to the Cold War

23. **Students will be able to** construct a **historical argument** on whether **Yalta or Potsdam had a greater impact on Cold War tensions**, using evidence from at least **three different source documents**.
24. **Students will be able to** assess the **effectiveness of the agreements made at Yalta** by ranking them in terms of their long-term success or failure.
25. **Students will be able to** predict alternate outcomes by developing a counterfactual scenario where **Truman and Stalin negotiated differently** at Potsdam.

Standards:

1. Understanding the Geopolitical Landscape Leading to Yalta

- **Learning Objective:** Construct a timeline of key events from 1939-1945 that influenced the Yalta Conference.

Relevant Standards:

History:

- **8.4.12.A:** Evaluate the role groups and individuals played in the social, political, cultural, and economic development throughout world history.
- **8.4.12.C:** Evaluate how continuity and change have impacted the world today.

2. The Yalta Conference: Decisions and Outcomes

- **Learning Objective:** Outline the five major agreements made at Yalta.

Relevant Standards:

Civics and Government:

- **5.4.12.A:** Analyze the impact of international organizations on world events and the United States' response.
- **5.4.12.B:** Evaluate the effectiveness of international agreements.

3. The Shift from Yalta to Potsdam

- **Learning Objective:** List three major shifts in U.S. and British negotiating power between Yalta and Potsdam.

Relevant Standards:

History:

- **8.3.12.C:** Evaluate how continuity and change in U.S. history are interrelated with the world.
 - **8.3.12.D:** Evaluate how conflict and cooperation among groups and organizations in the U.S. have influenced the growth and development of the world.
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4. Soviet Military Capabilities and Strategic Planning in 1948

- **Learning Objective:** Assess the likelihood of Soviet military action in 1948.

Relevant Standards:

History:

- **8.1.12.B:** Synthesize and evaluate historical sources.
 - **8.4.12.D:** Evaluate how conflict and cooperation among groups and organizations have impacted the development of the world today.
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5. Military Technologies and Force Distribution in 1948

- **Learning Objective:** Identify the primary strengths and weaknesses of U.S., British, and Soviet military forces in 1948.

Relevant Standards:

History:

- **8.4.12.C:** Evaluate how continuity and change have impacted the world today.
 - **8.4.12.D:** Evaluate how conflict and cooperation among groups and organizations have impacted the development of the world today.
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6. Application Through Diplomacy and Military Simulations

- **Learning Objective:** Negotiate as world leaders in a Yalta & Potsdam Simulation.

Relevant Standards:

Civics and Government:

- **5.2.12.A:** Evaluate an individual's civic rights, responsibilities, and duties in various governments.
 - **5.3.12.D:** Evaluate the roles of political parties and interest groups in government and politics.
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7. Final Analysis: The Road to the Cold War

- **Learning Objective:** Construct a historical argument on whether Yalta or Potsdam had a greater impact on Cold War tensions.

Relevant Standards:

History:

- **8.1.12.C:** Evaluate historical interpretation of events.
- **8.3.12.D:** Evaluate how conflict and cooperation among groups and organizations in the U.S. have influenced the growth and development of the world.