



TEMASEK JUNIOR COLLEGE  
JC2 Preliminary Examinations  
HIGHER 1



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## HISTORY

The Cold War and the Modern World (1945-2000)

**8821/01**

**2 September 2020**

**3 Hours**

No additional Materials are required.

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### READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

An answer booklet will be provided with this question paper. You should follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

#### Section A

Answer **Question 1**.

#### Section B

Answer **two** questions.

The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.

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This question paper consists of **5** printed pages and **3** blank pages.

**Section A**

You **must** answer Question 1.

**THE CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS**

1 Read the sources and then answer the questions which follow.

**Source A**

Our national community has understood what the revolution is, and has understood clearly what the meaning of a revolution is in which a nation gets rid of parasites from the outside and those inside. Just before the U.S. factories were nationalized, some asked: Was not this factory a Cuban factory? Why should a Cuban factory be nationalized? Well, such a factory did not belong to the people, it belonged to some man. Now they belong to the nation.

The U.S. Government says that a socialist regime here threatens U.S. security. But what threatens the security of the North American people is the aggressive policy of the warmongers of the United States. The one who is threatening the security of the United States is Kennedy, with that aggressive policy. That aggressive policy can give rise to a world war; and that world war can cost the lives of tens of millions of North Americans. Therefore, the one who threatens the security of the United States is not the Cuban Revolutionary Government but the aggressor and aggressive government of the United States.

*Excerpted from Castro's May Day speech given on 1<sup>st</sup> May 1961.*

**Source B**

While the crisis is historically the 'Cuban' crisis, Cuba was perhaps a subsidiary consideration for Khrushchev, as Castro later noted – ruefully – in conversation with Soviet emissary Anatas Mikoyan: 'Besides serving the interests of Cuba, they served the interests of the socialist camp as a whole, and we evidently agreed with that.'

Of course, the defence of Cuba by deterrence remained a part of the equation. Nevertheless, Khrushchev had no intention of using his missiles, and looked anxious rather than dangerous. The outline of a settlement between Khrushchev and Kennedy was hammered out within days. Castro, ignored during these Soviet-American exchanges and furious, commented that while Khrushchev had extracted a no-invasion pledge from Kennedy and an agreement on Turkish missiles, he had, in effect, offered up Cuban sovereignty to the US – since Kennedy was now empowered to rule on what weaponry Cuba could acquire.

*Excerpted from an article from The Guardian, published on 22 October 2012.*

## Source C



*A British cartoon published on 24 October 1962.*

## Source D

Given the analysis of the situation and the reports which have reached us, I consider an attack to be almost imminent--within the next 24 to 72 hours... If the imperialists manage to carry out an invasion of Cuba--a brutal act in violation of universal and moral law--then that would be the moment for the Soviet Union to eliminate this danger forever, in an act of the most legitimate self-defense. However harsh and terrible the solution, there would be no other.

You have been, and are, a tireless defender of peace, and I understand that these moments, when the results of your superhuman efforts are so seriously threatened, must be bitter for you. I convey to you the infinite gratitude and recognition of the Cuban people to the Soviet people, who have been so generous and fraternal, along with our profound gratitude and admiration to you personally. We wish you success with the enormous task and great responsibilities which are in your hands.

*Excerpted from a letter from Castro to Khrushchev on 26<sup>th</sup> October 1962.*

**Source E**

On November 30, 1962, on his way back to Moscow from important negotiations with Castro in Havana, Mikoyan spoke to the Warsaw Pact ambassadors in Washington. Mindful that the Soviet Union had not consulted with its Pact allies either on the decision to place the missiles in Cuba or on the decision to remove them, he explained that the missiles had been intended both to defend Socialist Cuba, the official explanation, *and* to achieve a shift in the balance of power between the socialist and capitalist worlds. Mikoyan also told the ambassadors frankly that (in the collection of one present) “after evaluating the strong American reaction during the crisis, however, the Presidium had decided against risking the security of the Soviet Union and its allies for the sake of Cuba.”

*From an academic book on the Cuban Missile Crisis, 2011.*

Now answer the following questions:

- a) Compare and contrast the evidence provided in Sources D and E on the Soviet - Cuban relationship. [10]
- b) How far do Sources A – E support the view that the Cuban interests drove the development of the Cuban Missile Crisis? [30]

**Section B**

You must answer **two** questions from this section.

**EITHER**

- 2** “American involvement in Asia was the main reason for the thaw in Sino-American relations.” How far do you agree with this assessment? [30]

**OR**

- 3** How far do you agree that changes in US foreign policy in the Second Indochina War were shaped by Soviet and Chinese support for North Vietnam? [30]

**AND EITHER**

- 4** To what extent did the Cold War rivalries restrict the United Nations Secretary-General from performing his duties from 1945 to 1991? [30]

**OR**

- 5** How effective was the United Nations in resolving the Kosovo crisis in the 1990s? [30]

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*Acknowledgements for Question 1:*

Source A – <https://punch.photoshelter.com/image/I0000KJx5ZVh3U5I>

Source B – <https://microsites.jfklibrary.org/cmc/oct26/doc2.html>

Source C – <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2012/oct/22/cuban-missile-crisis-nikita-khrushchev>

Source D – <https://microsites.jfklibrary.org/cmc/oct27/doc4.html>

Source E – Garthoff, R. L. (2011). Reflections on the Cuban Missile Crisis: Washington, DC: Brookings Inst.