

In developing your answer to Part II, be sure to keep these general definitions in mind:

- (a) **explain** means “to make plain or understandable; to give reasons for or causes of; to show the logical development or relationships of”
- (b) **describe** means “to illustrate something in words or tell about it”
- (c) **evaluate** means “to examine and judge the significance, worth, or condition of; to determine the value of”

Part II

THEMATIC ESSAY QUESTION

Directions: Write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, several paragraphs addressing the task below, and a conclusion.

Theme: Cold War

Following World War II, the United States and the Soviet Union were engaged in a conflict that became known as the Cold War. The Cold War created problems that the United States addressed with specific actions. These actions had varying degrees of success.

Task:

Identify **two** problems faced by the United States during the Cold War and for **each**

- Explain how the problem led to conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union
- Describe **one** action taken by the United States in response to the problem
- Evaluate the extent to which the action taken was successful in solving the problem

You may use any Cold War problems from your study of United States history. Some suggestions you might wish to consider include the postwar economic upheaval in Western Europe (1945–1947), Soviet takeover of Eastern Europe (1945–1948), threat of Communist takeover in Greece (1947), Soviet blockade of Berlin (1948), nuclear arms race (1950s–1970s), and placement of Soviet missiles in Cuba (1962).

You are *not* limited to these suggestions.

Guidelines:

In your essay, be sure to:

- Develop all aspects of the task
- Support the theme with relevant facts, examples, and details
- Use a logical and clear plan of organization, including an introduction and a conclusion that are beyond a restatement of the theme