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Year 13 A Level Geography Paper 2 Unit 3 – Superpowers

EQ1 – What are Superpowers?

Workbook



Subject: Geography		Year: Y13	Topic: EQ1 What are Superpowers and how have they changed over time?		
This is the compulsory year 13 Human unit. It continues the study of economic and political Geography from year 12.					
Key terms Superpower Emerging power Regional power Hard power 'Soft' power Hegemony Colonialism		Neo-colonialism Direct control Indirect control Uni-polar Bi-polar Multi-polar Geopolitical	Blue water Navy Diplomacy Ideology Cold War Acculturation	Sphere of influence Dependency Modernisation theory Neo-liberalism World systems theory	
Specification point	Pre-reading	In-class activity	Follow up (incl H/W)	Extension	
7.1 Geopolitical power stems from a range of human and physical characteristics of superpowers 7.2 Patterns of power change over time and can be uni-, bi-, or multi-polar 7.3 Emerging powers vary in their influence on people and the physical environment, which can change rapidly over time	Read The Almighty Dollar Prisoners of Geography BBC Foreign news The Economist Videos Ted talks BBC – The Chinese are coming Websites: On separate list sheet	Essay practice Discussion of key topics Analysis of graphs/ maps/ data Knowledge checks Case studies	Each week – completion of workbook tasks/ reading articles/ practice question	Read more of the Economic and Political geography Books in the study centre RGS Articles Available in the library - The Almighty Dollar Factfulness Population 10 Billion Prisoners of Geography	

Superpowers

EQ1: What are superpowers and how have they changed over time?

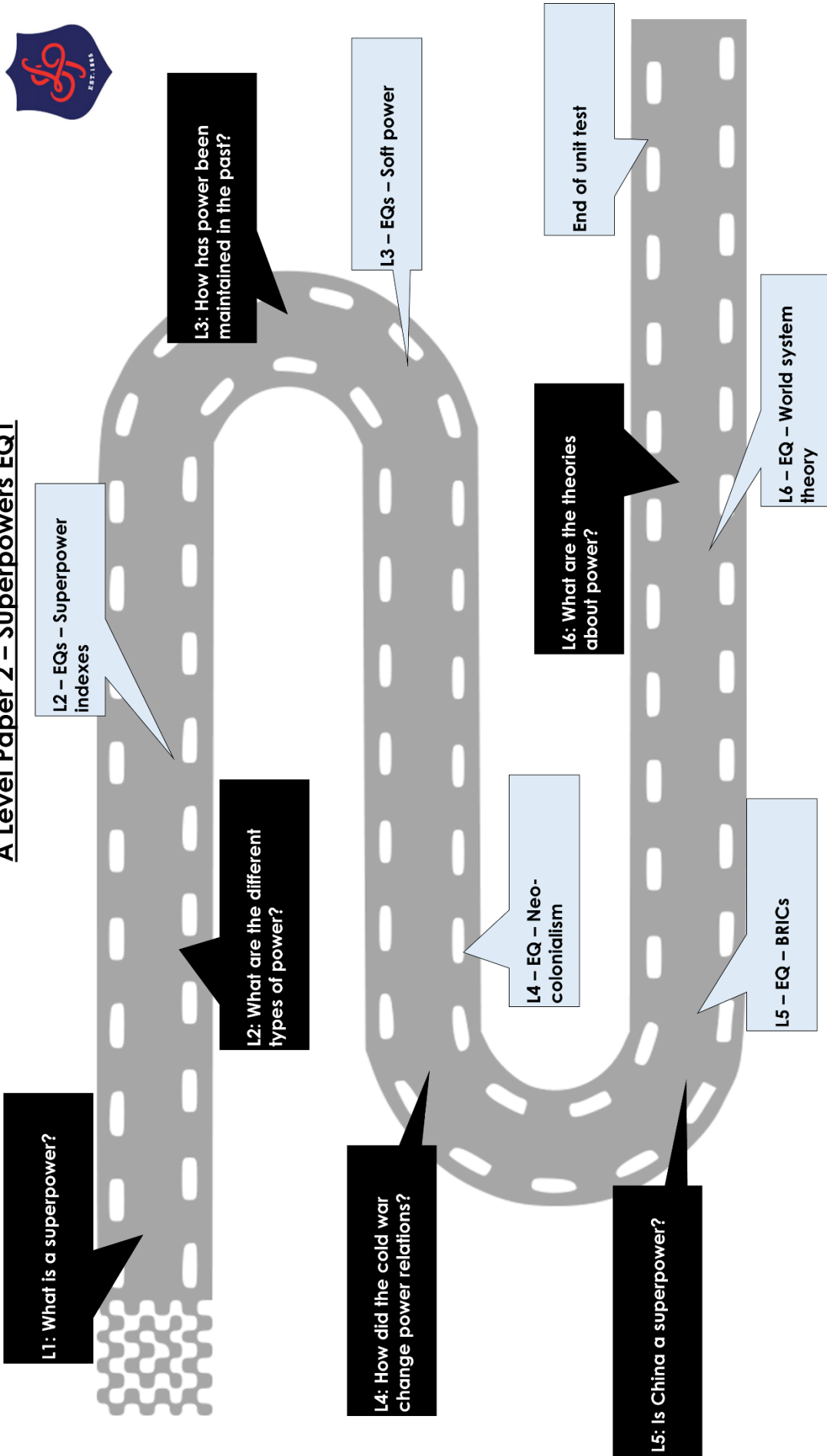
1. Geopolitical power – hard and soft power
2. Changes in patterns of global power
3. The British Empire and neo-colonialism
4. Newly emerging powers
5. Theories of global power
6. Bipolar and units-polar worlds

Superpower	A state or organisation that is able to extend a dominant influence globally.
Emerging power	A state or organisation that is growing significantly in power and beginning to extend a more global influence.
Regional power	A state or organisation with a sphere of influence that tends to be continental rather than global.
Hard power	Power through force or coercion.
'Soft' power	Power through favour or persuasion
Hegemony	Leadership or dominance, especially by one state or organisation.
Colonialism	The acquisition of political control over a territory by another country, and the subsequent settlement of that territory
Neo-colonialism	The use of economic, political, and cultural power to influence other countries
Direct control	Maintaining control through 'hard' power, e.g. colonialism
Indirect control	Maintaining control through 'soft' power, e.g. neo-colonialism
Uni-polar	A world with a single, dominant superpower.
Bi-polar	A world with two dominant superpowers.
Multi-polar	A world with a multitude of superpowers.
Geopolitical	Referring to the influence of geographical factors on international relations
Blue water Navy	A navy that can be deployed into Open Ocean i.e. with large ocean-going ships.
Diplomacy	The negotiation and decision-making that takes place between nations as part of international relations, leading to international agreements and treaties.
Ideology	A set of beliefs, values and opinions held by the majority of people in a society e.g. 'Western Values' of free speech, individual liberty, free-market economics and consumerism.
Cold War	A period of tension between the two superpowers of capitalist ASA and communist USSR lasting from 1945 to 1990
Acculturation	A process of cultural change that takes place when two different cultures meet; it includes the transfer of a dominant culture's ideas on to a subordinate culture
Sphere of influence	The geographical area over which a powerful country can assert its authority
Dependency	The progress of a developing country is influenced by economic, cultural, and political forces that are controlled by developed countries
Modernisation theory	A neo-liberal model used to explain the growth and dominance of the British Empire and the USA that suggests sufficient investment in developing economies would stimulate industrial change
Neo-liberalism	An approach that transfers control of economic factors to the private sector away from government control, with the idea that there is an open market for trade and the economy is free of restrictive barriers and regulations
World systems theory	A model that divides the world into 3 sections; a developed core, a developing periphery, and the semi-periphery.

Further reading and useful links:

- <https://softpower30.com/>
- https://www.instituteforgovernment.org.uk/sites/default/files/publications/The%20new%20persuaders_0.pdf
- <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2019/08/countries-are-the-worlds-oldest-democracies>
- <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2019/05/the-biggest-military-budgets-as-a-percentage-of-gdp>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-43581449>
- <https://www.theguardian.com/news/2018/may/25/how-britain-let-russia-hide-its-dirty-money>
- https://www.realcleardefense.com/articles/2018/08/09/is_russias_military_better_than_americas_113704.html
- <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2018/07/is-this-the-end-of-multilateralism>
- http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/country_profiles/default.stm
- <https://www.young-diplomats.com/chile-superpower-south-america/>
- https://www.ted.com/talks/joseph_nye_global_power_shifts?language=en
- https://www.ted.com/talks/martin_jacques_understanding_the_rise_of_china
- <https://www.young-diplomats.com/chile-superpower-south-america/>

A Level Paper 2 – Superpowers EQ1



Lesson 1: What is a superpower?

		I think I can..	My teacher thinks I can ...
Learning	I can define a superpower		
Mastering	I can construct a superpower index		
Extending	I can assess Mackinder's theory		

Do now:

Describe one way that globalisation can be measured (4)

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Starter:

If you governed a country - which superpower strength would you want to have?

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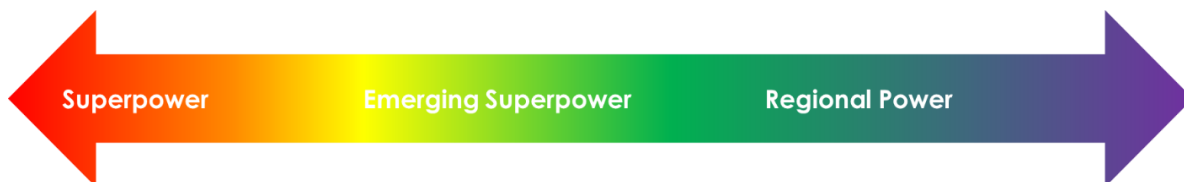
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A superpower is

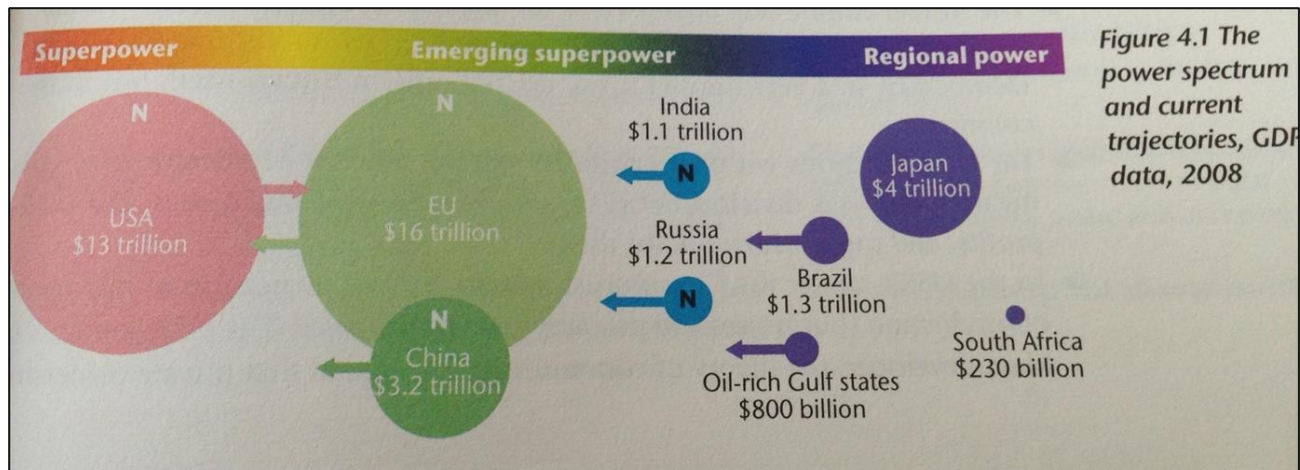
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A regional power is

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An emerging superpower is

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A hyperpower is

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What is soft power? Give examples

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What is hard power? Give examples of military and economic power.

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Read Articles 1 and 2 – make notes

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Complete the table to give examples of hard & soft power

Military force or threat	Economic sanctions & diplomatic actions	Coercive policy	Political influence, moral authority, economic influence	Cultural attractiveness

Hard power

Strengths	weaknesses

Soft Power

Strengths	weaknesses



Military	Economic	Cultural

Read Articles 3 and 4 – make notes

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What criteria defines a Superpower?

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Mechanism of power	Hard or Soft	How it helps superpowers to maintain power	Limitations	Superpower example
1. Physical size & geographical position				
2. Economic power & influence				
3. Demographic factors				
4. Political factors				
5. Military strength				
6. Cultural influence				
7. Access to natural resources				

Data Table – Superpower Index

	Military Spending (\$) (billion)	GDP (\$) (billion)	Barrels of oil (trillion)	Movies produced each year
China	215.7	10.4	3.9	584
India	55.9	2.1	0.8	1,255
Japan	46.1	4.6	0.03	441
Russia	69.2	1.9	10.6	140
UK	48.3	3.0	0.9	299
USA	611.2	17.4	8.9	819

	Fortune 500 TNC's	Total Population (million)	Development Aid given (\$) (billion)	Nuclear warheads
China	98	1,360	9	260
India	7	1,250	6	120
Japan	54	126	10.4	0
Russia	5	146	1.1	4,700
UK	29	64	19.9	215
USA	127	320	30.8	4,500

	Military Satellites	Size of territory (million km ²)		
China	1	9.6		
India	7	3.3		
Japan	4	0.4		
Russia	74	17.09		
UK	7	0.2		
USA	123	9.5		

Data Table – Superpower Index

Country	¹	Rank, scaled X	²	Rank, scaled X	³	Rank, scaled X	⁴	Rank, scaled X	Sum of ranks
China									
India									
Japan									
Russia									
UK									
USA									

Read Articles 5 and 6 and make notes

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Why is USA soft power weakening at present?

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What elements of France's foreign policy are giving it soft power strength?

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Read Article 6 and make notes -

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. Why do mechanisms of power change over time? Make notes on MACKINDERS theory

- In 1904, Mackinder, a British geographer, developed theories about global power and the continents.
- He believed that whoever controlled Europe and Asia – the biggest landmass – would control the world.
- He believed in a heartland extending from Eastern Europe into Russia, at the centre of which was a pivot.

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How has global influence changed over time? Put these events in order...

USA, EU & CHINA multi polar world with many superpowers including India & Russia	USA & USSR COLD WAR	USA only true superpower following the collapse of the USSR (1991) & the fall of Europe – Unipolar world	Increasing power in the USA & RUSSIA & the rise of Nazi Germany – Multipolar world.	BRITISH EMPIRE UK dominant global power controlling 25% of the land area
1800	1918	1945	1989-91	2009

What evidence is there to suggest Mackinder's Theory is correct?

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What evidence is there to suggest Mackinder's Theory is incorrect?

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Is Mackinder's Theory still relevant today?

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Exam questions:

Explain why defence spending is seen as a crucial development of superpower status (4 marks)

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Explain how 'soft power' can be used to maintain superpower status. (4)

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Using Figure 3, comment on the value of the three different ways of measuring superpower status. (10)

Country	Top four countries by military spending in 2012 (US \$, billions)
USA	711
China	143
Russia	72
UK	63

(Source: SIPRI Yearbook, 2012)

Country	Top four countries in the 2012 Summer Olympic Games medal table		
	Gold 	Silver 	Bronze 
USA	46	29	29
China	38	27	23
UK	29	17	19
Russia	24	26	32

Note: medal table position is determined by the number of gold medals, not the total number of medals.

(Source: IOC, 2012)

Country	Top four countries by number of patent applications for new inventions, materials and processes in 2011
USA	48,600
Japan	38,900
Germany	18,600
China	16,400

(Source: WIPO, 2012)

Figure 3
Three measures of superpower status

[illegible]

Explain the changes to the Economic dominance of countries past and present.
Use figures and examples.

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Explain why a superpower index takes into consideration soft and hard power factors (3)

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Suggest why some countries may take a soft power approach to global politics (6)

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Lesson 2: How has power been maintained in the past?

		I think I can..	My teacher thinks I can ...
Learning	I can compare the different poles of power		
Mastering	I can explain why the British Empire failed		
Extending	I can explain how the USA became a superpower		

Do now:

Name as many countries that were part of the British Empire as you can

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Starter:

Look at the sources and suggest what British attitudes were like at the time of Empire.

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Define the following terms:

UNIPOLAR	BIPOLAR	MULTIPOLAR

What do you think these scenarios may mean?

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The British Empire is an example of which type of polarity?

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Why may it be difficult to remain as a hyperpower?

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Suggest evidence from the map which shows that Britain was a superpower.

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Which characters are shown of symbols of power? Is there racism present? Why may this be?

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Which mechanisms of power did Britain use to exert on its empire? Does this map have evidence to support this?

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Read Article 7 – make notes

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Create a timeline of the British Empire.

Which mechanisms of power were most important during each date?

Why was there a change in superpower status?

Key Date	Event	Mechanisms of power Soft or hard?	Evaluation

Define the following terms:

IMPERIALISM	COLONIALISM	COLONIZATION

How did the British justify the empire?

[illegible]

Read Article 8

Use the key to highlight the key ways in which power was maintained.

Suggest whether hard or soft power was more important to the British Empire. (6 marks)

[illegible]

Read Article 9

How were the colonies controlled?

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Read Articles 9 and 10 and watch the video

Why did the British Empire fall?

Economic decline	
Loss of military influence	
Loss of the colonies	

What is the meaning of the cartoon?

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What is neo-colonialism?

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How is Neo-colonialism managed?

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Look through the timeline in the reading booklet

What was the cold war all about?

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The emergence of a bipolar world – how did this come about?

Military influence	USA	USSR
Political influence		
Economic influence		
Cultural influence		
Rise of China		

What criteria would have supported these countries rise to superpower?

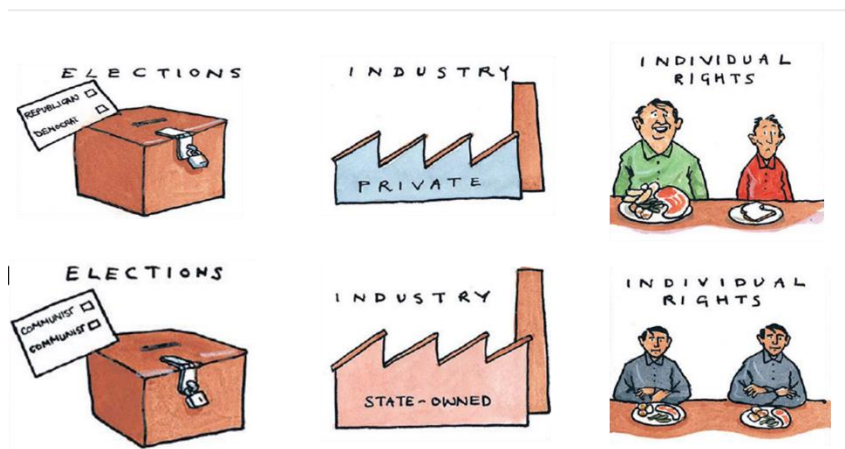
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Why might these differences lead to conflict?

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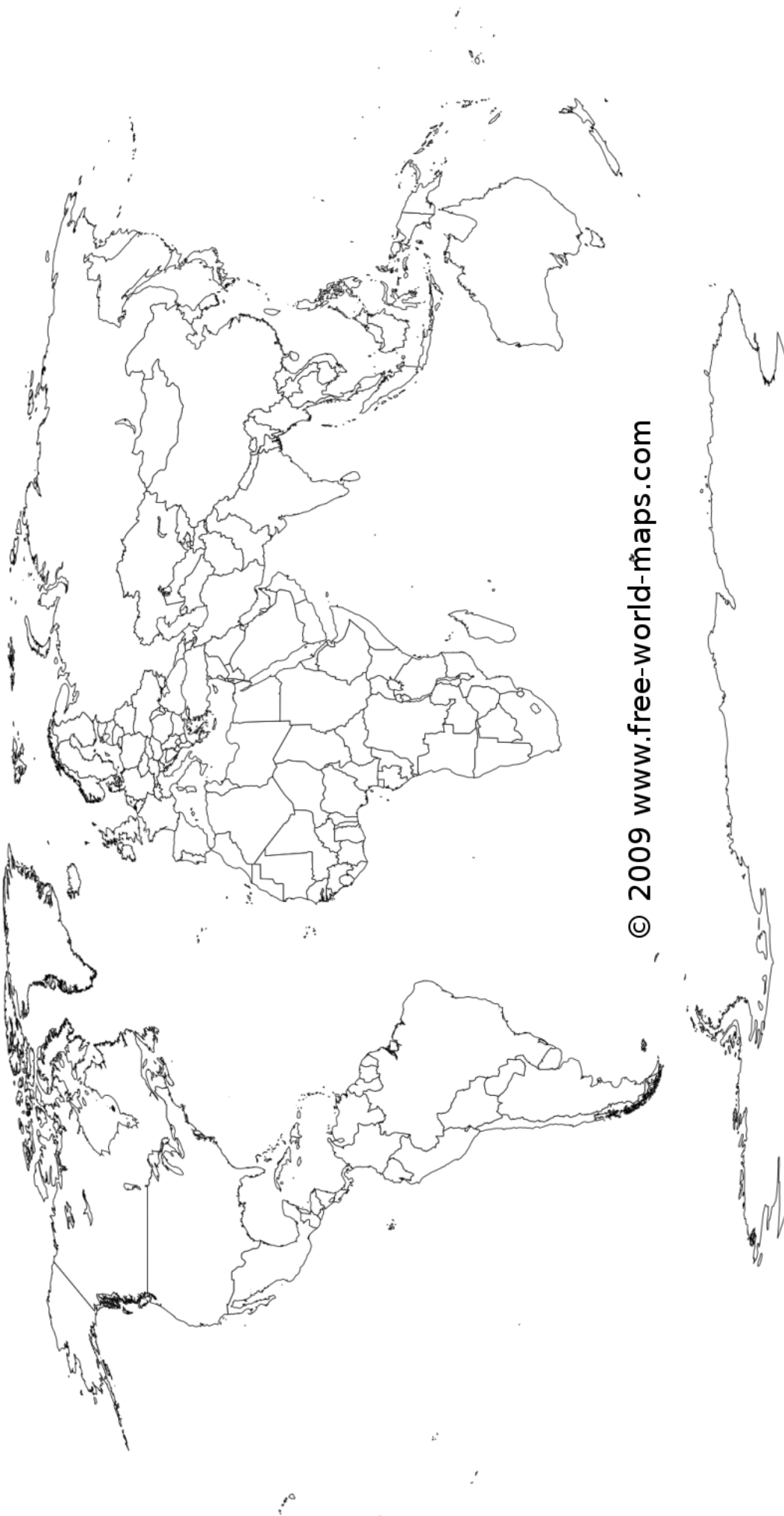
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What was the significance of the Berlin wall?

The end of the Cold war

	USA	USSR
Over view of how they became a superpower		
Geography and Resources	1989	1991
Economic System		
Political System		
Allies		
Military Power		
Cultural Influence		
Other Influence		



© 2009 www.free-world-maps.com

What do we mean by indirect control?

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Read Article 11

How is power exerted in the neo-colonial era?

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Why did the Soviet Union lose the Cold War?

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How has the USA become the sole superpower?

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What is cultural hegemony?

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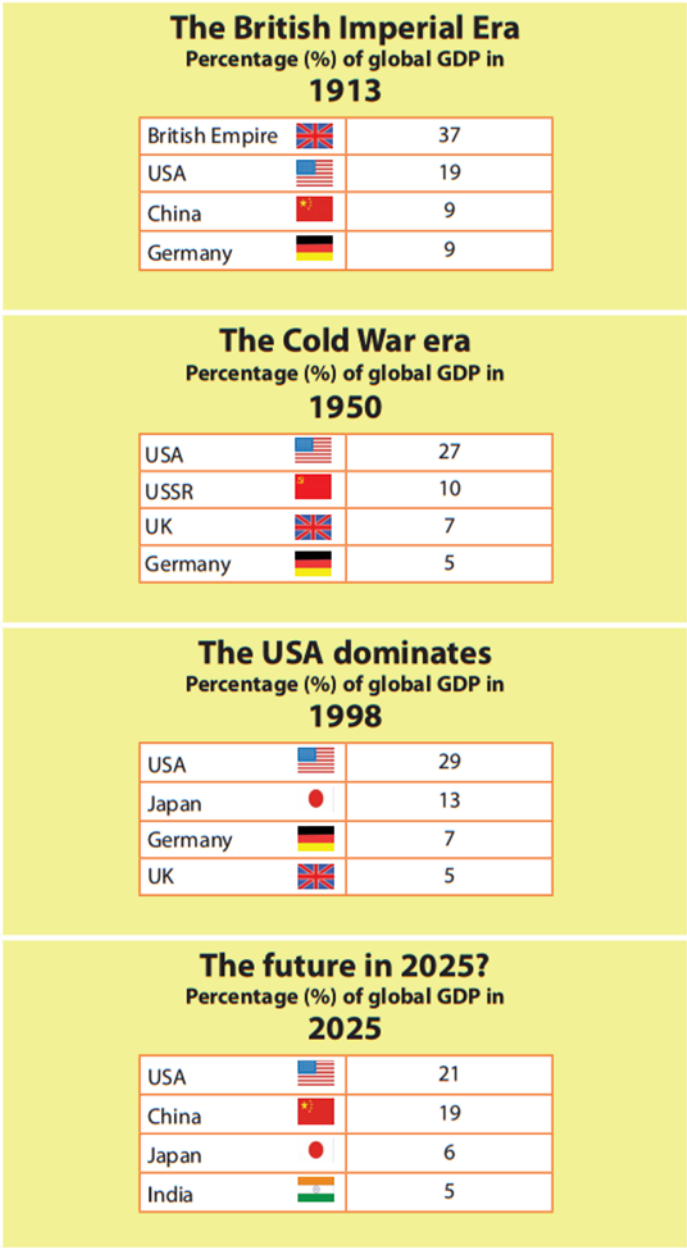
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Using Figure 3 and your own knowledge, explain why the pattern of economic power has changed over time. (10)

3 The changing pattern of the world economy



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Lesson 3: Who are the emerging powers?

		I think I can..	My teacher thinks I can ...
Learning	I can explain how China is emerging as a superpower		
Mastering	I can compare emerging nations		
Extending	I can assess different theories about changes in power		

Do now:

In which way does your map suggest China will be the next Superpower?

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Starter:

Define the term 'emerging power'.

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Identify other terms which can be used to describe an 'emerging power'.

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Suggest 4 key countries which might be classed as emerging powers.

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How does the USA currently exert super power status?

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Assess what could be the USA's weak spot?

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Read Article 16 – make notes

How does the video show us China contends for power?

Watch the TED talk and the BBC video and make notes

You each need to look at different sections from 'Prisoners of Geography' in your reading booklet

Read and then identify

- The key message
- The finer details
- Areas for criticism

Prepare a one minute speech to argue China will be the next superpower.

[illegible]

Key Area	Evidence to support China will be next Superpower	Counter arguments (Rebuttal)
Navy		
Africa Investment		
Energy trade		
New Silk Road		
Trade with Brazil		
Nicaragua Canal		

Outline the strengths and weaknesses (economic, political, military, cultural, demographic and environmental) of each country.

Strengths	Weaknesses
Opportunities	Threats

Brazil

Strengths		Weaknesses
Russia		
Opportunities		Threats

Strengths		Weaknesses
India		
Opportunities		Threats

Strengths		Weaknesses
China		
Opportunities		Threats

Ted talk notes

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Assess the extent to which China is a threat to the USA's status as the only current superpower (15 Marks)

What are the **instruction** words?
What do they mean?

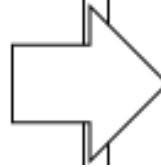
What is the **Command** Word?
What does it mean?

What are the **key terms** in the question? What do they mean?

Introduction: (define key terms)

What are the main points that you are going to discuss in your essay. (PEEL Paragraphs x 3)

Case studies you could use to support your main points.

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Describe what you think the map is showing:

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Why is there a change in direction?

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How does it link to development?

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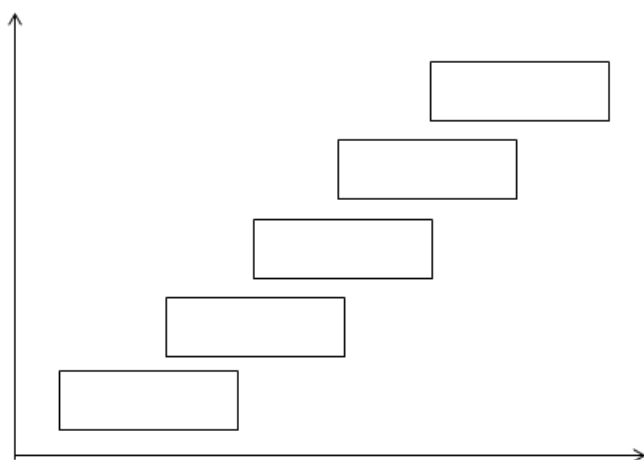
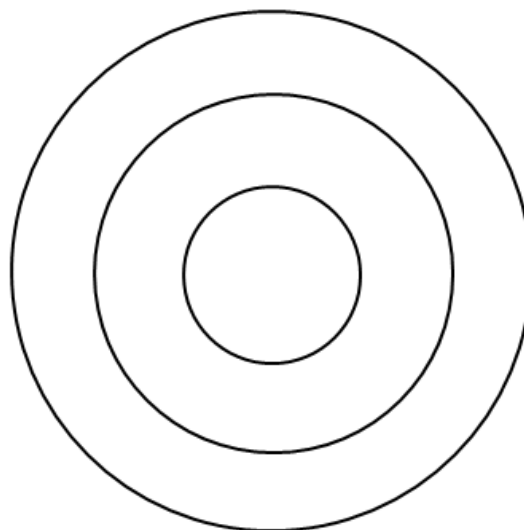
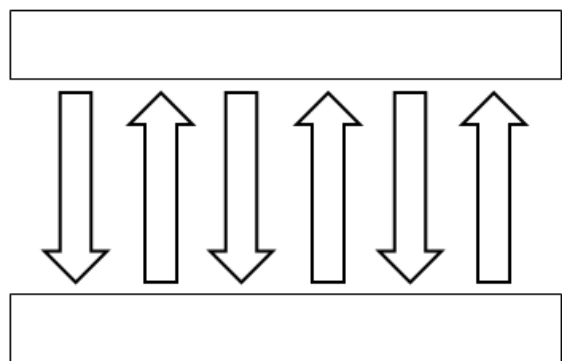
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Which theories can explain changing patterns of power?

Model	Description	Diagram	Critiques

Complete labelled diagrams to show the three theories



Do Now Task

Complete the empty diagrams to show the 3 key theories surrounding superpower development

Be as specific and detailed as you can and use the space outside to carry on any annotations that don't fit

Which theory presents the most positive viewpoint and most negative viewpoint of the world?

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Which presents the most economic explanation and which the most social?

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Which one best explains why the world was until recently a bipolar or unipolar world?

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Which best explains why the world might become multipolar?

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Identify the theory that promotes a more positive outlook.

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Identify the theory that promotes a more negative outlook

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Can you identify which theories fit best with

USA

China

Britain?

How does each theory relate to hard and soft power?

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Explain how world systems theory can be used to help explain changing patterns of power [6]

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