

<b>Edexcel – AS GCE Unit 1: Historical Themes in Breadth Option D</b>	<b>D6 Ideology, Conflict and Retreat: the USA in Asia, 1950– 73</b>	<b>Essay Question</b>
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### Examiner's Specific Advice

Unit 1 assessment consists of two essays, written in one hour and twenty minutes. Examiners, when assessing the quality of answers, are looking for the following key areas:

- Is the answer focused on the question being set?
- Has the candidate included explicit analysis? Candidates should try to avoid being implicit in their answers.
- Has the candidate understood the different demands of the question?
- Has the candidate avoided producing an answer which is simply a narrative of factual information?

Candidates should develop their arguments with detailed and precise knowledge. They should focus on the relevant dates if included within a question.

Always plan your answers. Spend approximately five minutes planning and 35 minutes producing a written answer for each question.

Remember that you must not answer two questions from the same topic.

The format of the questions can be as follows: 'How far do you agree that?' or 'To what extent was X successful in?' or 'How significant was?' or 'How accurate is it to say that?' or 'Why was?' The most common type of question is 'How far?' This type of question invites you to consider different views and/or issues. You should therefore expect to present different or conflicting arguments and then to produce an overall judgement, which may favour one argument or attempt to reconcile the two. You should discuss the stated factor or opinion and then compare it to other factors to explore the importance or impact of the given factor.

Round off the essay with a clear conclusion. If the response requires some assessment of relative importance, remember that this needs to be argued through and demonstrated by comparing the role and effects of different elements. Although you may flag this up in the body of the essay, the place to draw the argument together and develop it fully is in the conclusion.

### Exemplar Question

How far were the Viet Cong responsible for the final withdrawal of the USA from Vietnam in 1973?

**(30 marks)**

<p><b>Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Viet Cong policies – guerrilla warfare effective; helped by North Vietnam</u></li> <li>• <u>US military tactics: inadequate failure to understand Vietnamese nationalism</u></li> <li>• <u>Role of Nixon and Vietnamisation</u></li> <li>• <u>US policies – support for friendly S. Vietnamese rulers; containment; reliance upon overwhelming conventional firepower</u> (1)</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Examiner’s Exemplar Answer 1</b></p> <p><u>Many factors contributed to the withdrawal of American forces from Vietnam in 1973. The Viet Cong posed a constant threat to the US forces in the 1960s. Other issues also made it difficult for America to achieve a clear victory in Vietnam against the supporters of the communists</u> (2).</p> <p><u>The American media played a key role in the withdrawal of US forces from Vietnam. Television images of the brutalities of the war caused many Americans to stop supporting the war. The Tet Offensive of 1968 gave the impression that America was losing the war. In military terms the Tet Offensive was a defeat for the communists. However, the Americans lost the propaganda war. Attacks on the American Embassy and severe fighting in the city of Hue gave the impression the Americans were losing the war</u> (3).</p> <p><u>President Johnson before 1968 claimed America was winning the war. However, more people were protesting against the war within America during the late 1960s. After the Tet Offensive Johnson decided not to campaign in the Presidential election of 1968</u> (4).</p> <p><u>Nixon and his adviser Kissinger played a key role in the withdrawal of US troops from South Vietnam in 1973. Nixon supported Vietnamisation and Peace with Honour. He started reducing the number of American troops in Vietnam. He encouraged the South Vietnamese to take more responsibility for fighting the communists. He improved relations with the USSR and China to encourage them to place pressure on North Vietnam to make peace with America. In 1972 the Paris Peace agreement was signed and American troops withdrew from Vietnam in 1973</u> (5).</p> <p><u>American and South Vietnamese forces failed to stop supplies reaching the Viet Cong from North Vietnam. These supplies came down the Ho Chi Minh Trail, which</u></p>	<p>(1) The plan fails to consider ‘How far’ and is simply a list of relevant points. It fails to provide a clear structure for the answer.</p> <p>(2) This introduction does successfully identify the key role of the Viet Cong and other relevant issues. However, more specific examples could be included when stating ‘Other issues’.</p> <p>(3) The candidate identifies relevant issues such as the Tet Offensive and the role of the media but fails to explore ‘How far’.</p> <p>(4) The answer is slipping towards a narrative account. The supporting material is generalised and would benefit from more detail with links to the actions of the Viet Cong.</p> <p>(5) This paragraph has a causal analytical focus. However, it fails to link the actions of Nixon to the impact of the Viet Cong Guerrilla warfare.</p> <p>(6) This begins to explore the failed tactics of the US</p>

passed through Laos and Cambodia. Therefore the Viet Cong had a constant supply of manpower and weapons, which contributed to the final withdrawal of US forces (6).

The Americans tried to use their superior firepower to crush the Viet Cong but they were no more successful in this than the French had been. Just like the French, they didn't try to win the hearts and minds of the Vietnamese people but failed to achieve this. The American soldiers experienced low morale after 1968 when Nixon supported the gradual withdrawal of US forces (7).

In conclusion there were many reasons why the US withdrew their troops from Vietnam in 1973. The Viet Cong guerrilla tactics did contribute to their withdrawal. The Americans did not lose any major military battles against the Viet Cong or North Vietnam. However, the American public stopped supporting the war (8).

### Examiner's Assessment

This answer deserves mid Level 3 (16 marks). The candidate has explored the different causes of American withdrawal from Vietnam in 1973, and has also considered a range of relevant issues. However, more emphasis is needed on 'How far'. The candidate considers the given factor but fails to link it to other issues to explore the extent of the Viet Cong's role in contributing to the withdrawal of US forces. In places points could be developed more fully with the selection of precise factual examples to support the arguments, especially concerning the role of Viet Cong guerrilla tactics. The essay reaches a conclusion but again fails to emphasise 'How far'.

### Examiner's Exemplar Plan and Answer 2

#### Plan

Given Factor: Viet Cong

- Widely supported amongst the Vietnamese peasantry
- Effective guerrilla tactics, tunnels, ambushes, Tet Offensive etc
- Experienced fighters & supported by North Vietnam

and South Vietnamese military. However, it is quite implicit and needs to be further developed. An explicit focus on 'How far' is needed.

(7) This briefly links the impact of Nixon's policies on the US military. However, his policies between 1969 and 1973 could be explored further. There is some causal analysis but it fails to deal with 'How far'.

(8) The conclusion emphasises relevant causes of American withdrawal. However, more emphasis is needed on 'How far' and the given factor being the role of the Viet Cong.

(9) This plan emphasises the 'given factor' and 'other factors' The candidate has provided a basic structure for the essay. The structure

Other Factors

- South Vietnamese Governments/Army viewed as corrupt & weak
- Role of the Media/Domestic Pressure/Kent State
- Impact of Nixon & 'Peace with Honour'/Vietnamisation
- Failed US military tactics/General Westmoreland (9)

**Examiner's Exemplar Answer 2**

The Viet Cong performed a crucial role in the withdrawal of US forces from Vietnam in 1973. Their guerrilla tactics were very effective and they had support from North Vietnam and the peasantry within South Vietnam. However, many factors contributed to America's withdrawal such as the loss of support within America for the war caused in part by the media (10).

In 1960 the National Liberation Front (NLF) was established with help from North Vietnam. The guerrilla fighters known as the Viet Cong were effective in their campaign against the Americans and to a large extent contributed to the withdrawal of US forces. They launched surprise attacks against American forces. This was clearly seen in the Tet Offensive of 1968. Viet Cong forces attacked the American Embassy in Saigon and fierce fighting took place across South Vietnam especially in the city of Hue. These attacks did achieve a propaganda victory for the Viet Cong within the USA. President Johnson and General Westmoreland before the Tet Offensive claimed the USA were winning the war. However, the American public believed this was not the case – a view supported by the American media. Even Walter Cronkite, a famous American news broadcaster, criticised America's involvement in Vietnam. Without the actions of the Viet Cong during the Tet Offensive this may not have happened (11).

Significantly, the Tet Offensive was a military defeat for the communists. Therefore other factors were also important in causing the withdrawal of US forces. American military tactics had failed to undermine the Viet Cong within South Vietnam or win the 'Hearts and Minds' of the Vietnamese peasantry. The use of Napalm and Agent Orange lost the USA the support of the South Vietnamese peasantry. Forcibly placing peasants within Strategic Hamlets was also unpopular. This made it more difficult for the USA to win the 'Hearts and Minds' of South Vietnam's population, which strengthened support for the Viet Cong. Ineffective and corrupt South Vietnamese leaders such as Diem, who was

appears to be analytical rather than narrative. However, it doesn't explicitly address 'How Far', which is important in the question.

(10) The introduction sets the question in the correct context. It emphasises the 'given factor' and provides brief examples of 'other factors'.

(11) This paragraph focuses on the role of the Viet Cong and links this to the impact of the Tet Offensive. The candidate acknowledges the importance of the American media and links this to the impact of Viet Cong tactics within South Vietnam on the American public. Analysis is supported with relevant and precise examples.

(12) This paragraph links the Tet Offensive to the wider failures of US military strategy and the failure to win the 'hearts and minds' of the South Vietnamese. The weakness of the South Vietnamese political and military leadership could be explored further.

assassinated in 1963, also made this task more difficult. Therefore the Viet Cong were not the only factor in causing the withdrawal of US forces (12).

To an extent the Viet Cong did perform an important role in causing the withdrawal of US troops. However, support from North Vietnam also helped the Viet Cong to become a more effective fighting force. The North Vietnamese Army (NVA) was led by General Giap. He was an excellent military leader and many of his men had experience of fighting the French and Japanese. This knowledge was passed to the Viet Cong. In the late 1960s Giap ordered NVA units to enter South Vietnam and support the Viet Cong. North Vietnam also received aid from the USSR and China in the form of money and weapons. North Vietnam was supplied with Surface to Air Missiles (SAMs) and MiG fighter jets to counter American air superiority. The aid they received was sent to the Viet Cong in South Vietnam via the Ho Chi Minh trail running through Laos and Cambodia, which the Americans failed to stop (13).

Arguably more important than Viet Cong guerrilla tactics in causing US withdrawal was the loss of support amongst the American public for the war. In 1968 the war had become so unpopular that President Johnson withdrew from the Presidential election. Nixon was elected President and his campaign message was 'Vietnamisation' and 'Peace with Honour'. In 1969, instead of increasing the number of troops in Vietnam, he slowly began to reduce troop numbers. His close adviser Kissinger improved relations with the USSR and China in the hope they would pressurise North Vietnam to accept a peace agreement, which would not humiliate the American government. Nixon also increased the bombing of North Vietnam and the Ho Chi Minh Trail to place more pressure on North Vietnam. Eventually North Vietnam and the USA signed the Paris peace agreement, which resulted in the withdrawal of US forces from Vietnam in 1973 (14).

Nixon was also under constant domestic pressure to withdraw from Vietnam. In 1970 four American students who were protesting against the Vietnam War were shot dead by the National Guard at Kent State University. These killings horrified the American public and protests against the war became widespread. The Mai Lai massacre committed by US troops in South Vietnam also undermined American support for the war and caused further international criticisms of America's involvement in the war. If Nixon was to be re-elected President he would have to end American military involvement in South Vietnam. These factors and not

(13) The essay is well crafted here, with references to extent. It also links the role of North Vietnam and the importance of its support for the Viet Cong.

(14) The impact of Nixon's policies is explored in this section. The candidate links this effectively to the global context and recognises the importance of the USSR and China. The impact of these policies on the US military could be further developed.

(15) Again the candidate links issues effectively. Here it is revealed that, like President Johnson, Nixon remained under constant domestic pressure to fully withdraw from Vietnam.

**Access to History Online Edexcel Unit 1 – D6 Ideology, Conflict and Retreat: the USA in Asia, 1950–73**

just the actions of the Viet Cong were very important in causing the withdrawal of US troops (15).

The Viet Cong performed an important role in causing the withdrawal of US troops. However, there were other important factors. If the Viet Cong were not continually supported by the NVA they would not have recovered fully from the military defeat of the Tet Offensive. When America did finally withdraw it was also due to the constant American domestic pressure from both public and media. Many issues such as the draft caused opposition to the war, which was very unpopular. The Viet Cong by themselves would not have forced the USA to withdraw in 1973 (16).

**Examiner’s Assessment**

This is a low Level 5 answer (26 marks). It addresses a range of relevant factors. The candidate has supported the arguments with relevant and precise examples, and has explored the given factor and drawn appropriate links to other causal factors. The answer has a sustained and explicit analytical focus, which consistently explores ‘How far’. The essay is structured effectively, points have been clearly communicated and the candidate reaches a clear conclusion. To gain high Level 5, some points such as the Mai Lai massacre could be developed further.

(16) The candidate reaches a clear and concise conclusion. It recognises the importance of the Viet Cong but also acknowledges the significance of other factors. The impact of the draft could be explained further.

<p><b>Edexcel – AS GCE Unit 1: Historical Themes in Breadth Option D</b></p>	<p><b>D6 Ideology, Conflict and Retreat: the USA in Asia, 1950– 73</b></p>	<p><b>Mark Scheme</b></p>
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How far were the Viet Cong responsible for the final withdrawal of the USA from Vietnam in 1973?

**(30 marks)**

**Access to History Online Edexcel Unit 1 – D6 Ideology, Conflict and Retreat: the USA in Asia, 1950–73**

<p><b>Level 1</b></p>	<p>Candidates will produce mostly simple statements. These will be supported by limited factual material which has some accuracy and relevance, although not directed at the focus of the question. The material will be mostly generalised. There will be few, if any, links between the simple statements.</p> <p><i>The qualities of Level 1 are securely displayed; material is convincing in range and depth consistent with Level 1. The writing may have limited coherence and will be generally comprehensible, but passages will lack both clarity and organisation. The skills needed to produce effective writing will not normally be present. Frequent syntactical and/or spelling errors are likely to be present.</i></p> <p><b>Low Level 1: 1–2 marks</b> The qualities of Level 1 are displayed, but material is less convincing in its range/depth <b>and</b> the quality of written communication does not conform.</p> <p><b>Mid Level 1: 3–4 marks</b> The qualities of Level 1 are displayed, but material is less convincing in its range/depth <b>or</b> the quality of written communication does not conform.</p> <p><b>High Level 1: 5–6 marks</b> The qualities of Level 1 are securely displayed.</p> <p><b>Specific to exemplar question</b> The response is predominantly inaccurate and/or irrelevant and/or demonstrates very poor skills of written communication. A partial account of events in the role of the Viet Cong in causing the withdrawal of US forces.</p>	<p><b>(1–6)</b></p>
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**Access to History Online Edexcel Unit 1 – D6 Ideology, Conflict and Retreat: the USA in Asia, 1950–73**

<p><b>Level 2</b></p>	<p>Candidates will produce a series of simple statements supported by some mostly accurate and relevant factual material. The analytical focus will be mostly implicit and there are likely to be only limited links between the simple statements. Material is unlikely to be developed very far.</p> <p><i>The writing will have some coherence and will be generally comprehensible, but passages will lack both clarity and organisation. Some of the skills needed to produce effective writing will be present. Frequent syntactical and/or spelling errors are likely to be present.</i></p> <p><b>Low Level 2: 7–8 marks</b> The qualities of Level 2 are displayed, but material is less convincing in its range/depth <b>and</b> the quality of written communication does not conform.</p> <p><b>Mid Level 2: 9–10 marks</b> The qualities of Level 2 are displayed, but material is less convincing in its range/depth <b>or</b> the quality of written communication does not conform.</p> <p><b>High Level 2: 11–12 marks</b> The qualities of Level 2 are securely displayed.</p> <p><b>Specific to exemplar question</b> The response is likely to consist largely of simple statements with some accurate references to the Viet Cong and other relevant issues. However, material will be poorly developed. Links between issues will probably not be explored.</p>	<p><b>(7–12)</b></p>
<p><b>Level 3</b></p>	<p>Candidates' answers will attempt analysis and will show some understanding of the focus of the question. They will, however, include material which is either descriptive, and thus only implicitly relevant to the question's focus, or which strays from that focus. Factual material will be accurate but it may lack depth and/or relevance in places.</p> <p><i>The writing will be coherent in places but there are likely to be passages which lack clarity and/or proper organisation. Only some of the skills needed to produce convincing extended writing are likely to be present. Syntactical and/or spelling errors are likely to be present.</i></p> <p><b>Low Level 3: 13–14 marks</b> The qualities of Level 3 are displayed, but material is less convincing in its range/depth <b>and</b> the quality of written communication does not conform.</p> <p><b>Mid Level 3: 15–16 marks</b> The qualities of Level 3 are displayed, but material is less convincing in its range/depth <b>or</b> the quality of written communication does not conform.</p> <p><b>High Level 3: 17–18 marks</b> The qualities of Level 3 are securely displayed.</p>	<p><b>(13–18)</b></p>



**Access to History Online Edexcel Unit 1 – D6 Ideology, Conflict and Retreat: the USA in Asia, 1950–73**

	<p><b>Specific to exemplar question</b>          Here there will be some attempts at analysis. The candidate will understand the key issues relevant to the question. However, parts of the answer will be implicit or narrative. There will probably be accurate information contained within the answer. The top of Level 3 will be accessed by analytical causal answer.</p>	
<p><b>Level 4</b></p>	<p>Candidates offer an analytical response which relates well to the focus of the question and which shows some understanding of the key issues contained in it. The analysis will be supported by accurate factual material which will be mostly relevant to the question asked. The selection of material may lack balance in places.</p> <p><i>The answer will show some degree of direction and control but these attributes may not be sustained throughout the answer. The candidate will demonstrate the skills needed to produce convincing extended writing but there may be passages which lack clarity or coherence. The answer is likely to include some syntactical and/or spelling errors.</i></p> <p><b>Low Level 4: 19–20 marks</b>          The qualities of Level 4 are displayed, but material is less convincing in its range/depth <b>and</b> the quality of written communication does not conform.</p> <p><b>Mid Level 4: 21–22 marks</b>          The qualities of Level 4 are displayed, but material is less convincing in its range/depth <b>or</b> the quality of written communication does not conform.</p> <p><b>High Level 4: 23–24 marks</b>          The qualities of Level 4 are securely displayed.</p> <p><b>Specific to exemplar question</b>          Here the response will be overwhelmingly analytical, with references to ‘How far’ and clear analysis of the ‘given factor’ and ‘other factors’. Explicit analysis will be applied to the different factors such as the role of the media; American public opinion; the support of the North Vietnamese Army; failed US military strategy and the role of Presidents Johnson and Nixon. The candidate will draw relevant links between these issues.</p>	<p><b>(19–24)</b></p>

**Access to History Online Edexcel Unit 1 – D6 Ideology, Conflict and Retreat: the USA in Asia, 1950–73**

<b>Level 5</b>	<p>Candidates offer an analytical response which directly addresses the focus of the question and which demonstrates explicit understanding of the key issues contained in it. It will be broadly balanced in its treatment of these key issues. The analysis will be supported by accurate, relevant and appropriately selected factual material which demonstrates some range and depth.</p> <p><i>The exposition will be controlled and the deployment logical. Some syntactical and/or spelling errors may be found but the writing will be coherent overall. The skills required to produce convincing extended writing will be in place.</i></p> <p><b>Low Level 5: 25–26 marks</b> The qualities of Level 5 are displayed, but material is less convincing in its range/depth <b>and</b> the quality of written communication does not conform.</p> <p><b>Mid Level 5: 27-28 marks</b> The qualities of Level 5 are displayed, but material is less convincing in its range/depth <b>or</b> the quality of written communication does not conform.</p> <p><b>High Level 5: 29–30 marks</b> The qualities of Level 5 are securely displayed.</p> <p><b>Specific to exemplar question</b> Here the response will be as in Level 4, but there will be full coverage of the years exploring the role of the Viet Cong and other relevant factors. Some candidates will also reveal a clear understanding of the changing direction of US policy after 1969 and the impact of Kissinger and detente on causing the withdrawal of US troops. Answers will be sustained, structured and well communicated.</p>	<b>(25–30)</b>
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Edexcel – AS GCE Unit 1: Historical Themes in Breadth Option D	<b>D6 Ideology, Conflict and Retreat: the USA in Asia, 1950– 73</b>	<b>Chronology</b>
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**Chronology: Key Events in *the USA in Asia, 1950–73***

**1. American foreign policy in Vietnam during the period 1950–73**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Event</b>
1945	September	French troops return to Indochina following the end of the Second World War
1946	December	Start of Indochina War – Viet Minh attack French forces
1949	September	Communist state declared in China

**Access to History Online Edexcel Unit 1 – D6 Ideology, Conflict and Retreat: the USA in Asia, 1950–73**

1950	January	People's Republic of China and the USSR recognise the Democratic Republic of Vietnam led by Ho Chi Minh
	May	US military and economic aid to French Indochina announced
1954	May	French surrender at Dien Bien Phu
	July	Geneva Agreements signed – Vietnam 'temporarily' divided along the 17th parallel
	September	SEATO established
1955	May	South Vietnam formally requests US instructors for its armed forces
	July	South Vietnam refuses to participate in whole country elections
	October	Bao Dai deposed in South Vietnam Diem declares Republic of Vietnam
1958	January	Communist guerrilla activity begins in South Vietnam
1960	November	Failure of military coup against Diem
	December	The National Liberation Front (NLF) of South Vietnam is formed The guerrilla force is referred to as the Viet Cong by the Americans
1961	May	Vice-President Johnson visits South Vietnam
	September	Viet Cong activities escalate: seizure of provincial capital only 90 km from Saigon
	November	Kennedy increases US military aid to South Vietnam, without committing combat troops
1962	February	'Strategic Hamlet' programme begun in South Vietnam US forces in Vietnam number 4000
	August	First Australian troops arrive in Vietnam
1963	May	Riots in Hue Buddhist demonstrations across South Vietnam
	June	First of seven monks to commit suicide by fire
	November	Military coup overthrows Diem: he and his brother, Nhu, are murdered General Duong Van Minh assumes leadership of South Vietnam US forces in South Vietnam number 15,000
	November	Kennedy assassinated Johnson becomes US President
1964	August	Gulf of Tonkin incidents
	November	Johnson re-elected
	December	US forces in South Vietnam number 23,000
1965	January	2000 South Korean troops arrive in South Vietnam
	February	Viet Cong attacks US airbase at Pleiku US Air Force retaliates by attacking targets in North Vietnam
	March	'Operation Rolling Thunder', sustained aerial bombardment of North Vietnam, begins First US Marine infantry battalion arrives at Da Nang
	June	US B-52s attack targets in South Vietnam US forces total 50,000
	November	Anti-war protests widespread in USA
	December	Total US strength in South Vietnam is 181,000
1966	December	Total US strength in South Vietnam is 385,000

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1967	September	Thai combat troops arrive in South Vietnam
	December	Total US strength in South Vietnam is 486,000
1968	January	US base at Khe Sanh besieged Tet Offensive begins across South Vietnam
	February	Tet Offensive ends with most Communist gains back in ARVN/US hands
	March	Johnson announces that he will not seek re-election My Lai massacre occurs
	April	Seige of Khe Sanh lifted
	May	US accepts North Vietnamese offer of peace talks in Paris Preliminary talks held
	June	Khe Sanh abandoned
	October	Johnson announces the end of bombing of North Vietnam
	November	Richard Nixon wins the US Presidential election: promises a gradual withdrawal of troops from Vietnam
	December	Total US strength in South Vietnam is 536,100
1969	January	Formal truce negotiations begin in Paris
	June	US aircraft resume bombing of targets in North Vietnam, on a 'retaliatory' basis Withdrawal of first 25,000 US combat troops announced
	July	First 25,000 US troops withdrawn
	September	Death of Ho Chi Minh announced
	December	Total US strength in South Vietnam is 474,000
1970	April	US support ARVN troops in offensive across border in Cambodia
	May	Anti-war demonstrations in the USA Four students shot dead at Kent State University
	December	Congress repeals Gulf of Tonkin Resolution Total US strength in South Vietnam is 335,800
1971	December	Total US strength in South Vietnam is 220,000
1972	March	North Vietnamese 'Spring Offensive' invasion of South Vietnam
	August	Last US ground combat troops withdrawn from South Vietnam
	November	Nixon wins second term of office
	December	Paris peace talks suspended US bombing of North Vietnam resumes Total US strength in South Vietnam is 27,000
1973	January	US operations against North Vietnam suspended Formal peace agreement between North Vietnam and the USA signed
	March	Last US troops leave South Vietnam
	April	Last US prisoners of war held by the North Vietnamese return to America

**2. American foreign policy towards Korea, 1945–53. Key period: 1950–53**

Year	Month	Event
1945	July	Roosevelt dies, succeeded by Truman, who represents the US at Potsdam

**Access to History Online Edexcel Unit 1 – D6 Ideology, Conflict and Retreat: the USA in Asia, 1950–73**

		Truman 'gets tough' on communism
1945	August	Russian troops enter Korea. After reaching the 38th parallel of Korea, Russian troops stop
1947	September	Congress and JCS (Joint Chiefs of Staff) want to get out of Korea
1947	November	UN passes American resolution calling for free elections in Korea
1948	September	In North Korea, Democratic People's Republic of Korea (PRK) proclaimed
1949	January	Dean Acheson in a speech to the National Press Club declares South Korea not to be a vital part of US defense perimeter in Asia
1949	April	NATO Pact signed
1949	September	Soviets test their first A-bomb: the arms race begins
1949	October	Mao Zedong proclaims PRC (People's Republic of China)
1950	January	Ho Chi Minh proclaims DRV (Democratic Republic of Vietnam)
1950	April	Truman approves NSC-68 (National Security Council report)
1950	June	North Korea crosses the 38th parallel, invading South Korea
1950	June	Truman commits US naval and air support to South Korea
1950	June	American delegates ask UN to furnish assistance to RoK (Republic of Korea) to restore international peace
1950	August	US announces in UN its goal of a unified, anti-Communist Korea
1950	September	Truman approves NSC-81/1
1950	September	With US/UN/RoK forces pushed back nearly to the end of the Korean peninsula; MacArthur launches the Inchon Invasion
1950	27 September	Walker's Eighth Army makes contact with X Corps MacArthur gives permission for US forces to cross the 38th Parallel
1950	29 September	Syngman Rhee's government ceremonially restored in reconquered Seoul
1950	October	US army crosses 38th parallel near Kaesong
1950	29 October	MacArthur orders his troops into Korea's northernmost provinces
1950	November	First US v. Communist Chinese fighting at Unsan
1950	27 November	US Marines/Infantry surrounded by Chinese Communist forces at Chosin Reservoir
1950	30 November	In press conference, Truman admits US may be considering using A-bomb
1951	January	Ridgway evacuates Seoul; withdraws from Inchon

**Access to History Online Edexcel Unit 1 – D6 Ideology, Conflict and Retreat: the USA in Asia, 1950–73**

1951	February	UN censures People's Republic of China for 'aggression'
1951	March	Ridgway launches Operation Ripper
1951	April	Truman dismisses MacArthur from command
1951	22 April	All-out communist offensive fails to retake Seoul
1951	May	Ridgway launches counter-offensive
1951	July	Peace talks begin at Kaesong
1951	August	Communists accuse UN forces of violating the Kaesong area, suspend the talks
1951	October	Peace talks resume at Panmunjom
1952	29 March	Truman announces he will not run for re-election
1952	June	Washington authorises bombing of Korean power plants on the Yalu river
1952	November	Eisenhower wins Presidential election in landslide
1952	29 November	Eisenhower secretly goes to Korea on fact-finding mission
1953	April	Peace talks resume at Panmunjom
1953	19 July	Delegates reach agreement at Panmunjom
1953	27 July	Peace treaty signed at Panmunjom 38th parallel reset as boundary between communist North and anti-communist South

### Teaching Activities

1. Exemplar Answer 1 provides you with an answer which fails to reach Level 4 or Level 5. Using Exemplar Answer 2 as an example, now try to produce a Level 5 answer which includes new points. Use the Mark Scheme for further guidance.

**Step 1:** Identify the key phrases in the question – in this case 'How far'.

**Step 2:** Identify the 'given factor' and 'other factors'.

**Step 3:** Plan your answer. Following steps 4 and 5 will help you structure your answer effectively.

**Step 4:** Analyse the answers provided:

1. Re-read answers 1 and 2, and try to summarise the areas that are covered – you can try to set out a series of key statements, one for each paragraph.
2. For each statement, summarise its links to the question. You can now begin to define the skeleton of the answer.
3. You could also try linking the statements into a coherent conclusion, written in your own words.

**Step 5:** Now consider how the response could be improved:

1. Use the commentary pop-ups to decide what other aspects should be considered.
2. Do any of the explanatory links need to be strengthened?
3. Could the response be more fully evaluated, for example by looking at whether similarities outweighed differences, or comparing aims and outcomes, intentions and practice?

**Access to History Online Edexcel Unit 1 – D6 Ideology, Conflict and Retreat: the USA in Asia, 1950–73**

2. Use the method of constructing statements, links and evaluation, outlined in Activity 1, to plan and write a response to the question below:

To what extent were US policies in Korea and Vietnam in the years 1950–68 motivated by belief in the Domino Theory?