

Prove it!

Theories about the Korean War

This revision activity works best if you do it with a friend, and talk about it as you do it.

Print off and cut out the cards below and place them face down. Turning over each in turn, think of facts/events which prove the claim. If you are finding it too difficult, use the factsheet to help you.

When you have finished, take each idea in turn and think of facts/events which disprove the claim. Do you agree with the theory?

The Korean War was more a Korean Civil War than an episode in the Cold War.	Before 1950, North Korea was a repressive hard-line Stalinist state.
Stalin pulled the strings in Korea.	In Korea, North Korea was the aggressor.
Before 1950, South Korea was a democracy.	ROK incompetence caused the military collapse in June 1950.
In Korea, the USA was real aggressor.	In 1950-51, US policy changed from 'containment' to 'roll-back'.
The USA won the Korean War.	Truman was right to sack MacArthur.
The Korean War made China a world superpower.	In Korea, both side committed atrocities.
By the end of 1951, the War had ground into a stalemate.	It was the Communists who delayed the peace process at Panmunjom.