1947 – 1991

Put the Events in Order

Name _____ Date _____

These 10 events from the Cold War timeline are out of order. Write a number from 1 to 10 in each box, from the earliest event (1) to the latest (10).

☐ **The Cold War Begins**
The United States and Soviet Union, wartime allies against Hitler, become rivals in a global struggle between democracy and communism.

☐ **Vietnam War**
The US commits hundreds of thousands of troops to Vietnam to prevent a communist takeover of South Vietnam.

☐ **Moon Landing**
American astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin land on the Moon on July 20.

☐ **Berlin Wall Built**
East Germany builds a concrete wall dividing Berlin overnight, trapping its citizens in the communist east.

☐ **Soviet Union Tests the Atom Bomb**
The Soviet Union successfully tests its first nuclear weapon, ending America's monopoly on the atomic bomb.

☐ **Soviet Union Collapses**
The Soviet Union officially dissolves on December 25, 1991, ending the Cold War.

☐ **Cuban Missile Crisis**
The US discovers Soviet nuclear missiles in Cuba; for thirteen days the world stands on the brink of nuclear war.

☐ **Sputnik Shocks America**
The Soviet Union launches the world's first artificial satellite, Sputnik, shocking Americans who feared the Soviets had pulled ahead in technology.

☐ **Korean War**
The United States and its allies fight to defend South Korea from a communist North Korean invasion backed by China.

☐ **Soviet War in Afghanistan**
The Soviet Union invades Afghanistan and gets stuck in a brutal guerrilla war that drains its military and economy for a decade.

1947 – 1991

Put the Events in Order: Answer Key

1947 — 1. The Cold War Begins

1949 — 2. Soviet Union Tests the Atom Bomb

1950–53 — 3. Korean War

1957 — 4. Sputnik Shocks America

1961 — 5. Berlin Wall Built

1962 — 6. Cuban Missile Crisis

1965–73 — 7. Vietnam War

1969 — 8. Moon Landing

1979–89 — 9. Soviet War in Afghanistan

1991 — 10. Soviet Union Collapses