

THE COLD WAR

Reading Strategy**Contrast**

To contrast means to show the differences between things. Sometimes people, places, ideas, objects, or events can seem similar at first, but when you look more closely, you notice that they are actually quite different. Noting the differences between things as you read can help you understand the material more readily.

Read the example below and note the differences between the presidents.

Both Truman and Eisenhower were in the army before becoming President. Truman, who never went to college, served in France in World War I as a captain. Although he remained in the army reserves, Truman did not see active duty in World War II. Eisenhower, who graduated from West Point Military Academy, rose to become Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces during World War II.

In contrasting Truman and Eisenhower, note that Truman fought in World War I and that Eisenhower served in World War II. Also, note that Truman never went to college, but that Eisenhower was a graduate of West Point.

Directions: *Read the following paragraph. Then answer the questions below.*

Joseph Stalin and Nikita Khrushchev were communist leaders of the Soviet Union, Stalin from 1929 to 1953 and Khrushchev from 1953 to 1964. Although both men were strong opponents of the United States, Khrushchev eventually embraced the idea of peaceful co-existence. Khrushchev may have used some of Stalin's methods to isolate and overcome his political rivals, but he did so without as much bloodshed. Khrushchev was not as cruel as Stalin, and he tolerated more dissent.

Hint: Look for details given about only one of the people or things under discussion. This will tell you how the contrasting items are different.

1. Was Stalin or Khrushchev less tolerant of political dissent?

2. Who adopted the idea of peaceful co-existence with the West?

3. Which man was more ruthless and cruel in his political methods?
