

Eastern Europe Study Guide

Carpathian – a low mountain range stretching from the Alps to the Black Sea area

Balkan Peninsula – one of the largest peninsulas in Europe, extends into the Mediterranean

Chernobyl – a nuclear power plant in Ukraine

Infrastructure – the set of resources, like roads, airports, and factories that a country needs in order to support economic activities

Warsaw – capital of Poland

Prague – capital of the Czech Republic

Kiev – present-day city where the Rus built a settlement that eventually became the center of a huge empire

Commonwealth of Independent States – CIS, an international alliance that meets to discuss issues such as trade and immigration that affect former Soviet republics

Budapest – capital of Hungary

Ethnic Cleansing – effort to remove all members of a group from a country or region

Fellowship – money to support a student or scholar

Kosovo War – a war that was fought in 1998-1999 to end ethnic cleansing in the former Yugoslavia

U.S.S.R. – the former country which is now Russia, which was heavily involved in the Cold War

Chernobyl Disaster – April 26, 1986 at 1:23 a.m

- Reactor number four at the Chernobyl plant had a meltdown
- 336,000 people were forced to be resettled - 56 direct deaths including 9 children
- 4,000 cancer deaths over the lifetime of those exposed
- Approximately 600,000 most highly exposed people
- Fallout over Russia, Eastern Europe, Western Europe and Northern Europe but mostly in Belarus
- Only after radiation levels set off alarms in Sweden did the Soviet Union admit that an accident had occurred, but authorities attempted to conceal the scale of the disaster
- To reduce baggage, the residents were told the evacuation would be temporary, lasting approximately three days. As a result, Pripyat still contains personal belonging

Essay – Describe the effects of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster. Must give 3 examples

Example of a good essay: The nuclear disaster at Chernobyl had a large negative effect on Europe. First the nuclear disaster released huge amounts of radiation into the air that poisoned forest and ruined soil across the region. The city of Pripyat was evacuated and another 336,000 people were relocated. Also the fallout has caused over 4,000 cancer deaths and another 600,000 highly exposed people.

- Three examples
 - o 1. Radiation effected soil
 - o 2. Evacuation/relocation of 336,000 people
 - o 3. Caused numerous deaths and exposure to radiation

Essay: What happened after World War II to many Eastern European countries? Name the countries affected?

After World War II ended, the Soviet Union took over much of Eastern Europe, making Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania part of the Soviet Union. The Soviets also forced Poland to accept a Communist government. In 1991, the Baltic Republics broke away from the Soviet Union and became independent again.