

IMPACT CONSOLE

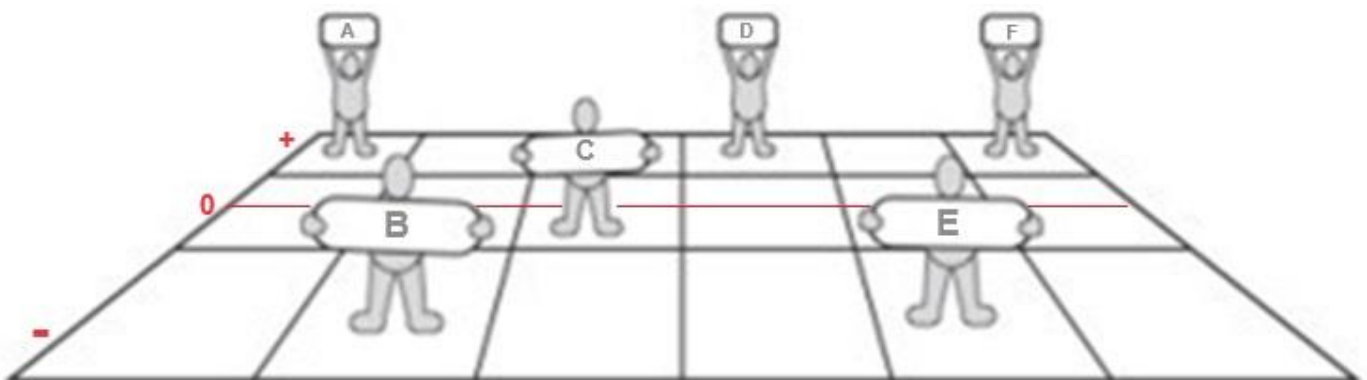
The Cuban Missile Crisis

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

Here is a list of twelve key events in the history of the Cuban Missile crisis:

1959 Fidel Castro's revolution	April 1961 Bay of Pigs	September 1961 Khrushchev starts sending weapons to Cuba
November 1961 Operation Mongoose	14 October 1962 A US spy-plane discovers ICBM launch pads in Cuba	22 October 1962 Kennedy announces a naval blockade
25 October 1962 Russian ships reach the blockade but turn back	26 October 1962 Khrushchev's first offer	27 October 1962 Khrushchev's second letter
28 October 1962 Khrushchev accepts Kennedy's offer	June 1963 Hot-line agreement	August 1963 Test Ban Treaty

- 1 Print off and cut out the twelve events on A4 cards, and line them up in date order.
- 2 Taking each event in turn, push it up if it was a US victory/Soviet setback, pull it down if it was a Soviet victory/US setback; the amount you move it will be determined by the degree of victory/setback. Explain/negotiate your decisions.
- 3 Use the resultant grid to inform a discussion about who 'won' the Cuban Missile crisis.



- 6 Revisit the console. This time, again taking each event in turn, push it up if it made nuclear war more likely, pull it down if it reduced diplomatic tension; the amount you move it will be determined by how much the diplomatic tension grew or reduced. Explain/ negotiate your decision.
- 7 Use the resultant grid to inform a discussion. How close did the world come to nuclear war in 1962?