

Venn diagram card sort: Hungarian and Czech uprisings

Task 1: How different were events in Hungary in 1956 and Czechoslovakia in 1968?

Using your knowledge of the Hungarian Uprising and the Prague Spring decide which of the cards below fit into each event. Some cards are common to both events. Put the evidence from the cards into the correct area of the Venn diagram with the evidence from the cards which apply to both going into the centre of the Venn diagram.

Leaders are removed from office.	Wanted to leave the Warsaw Pact.	Opposition was led by intellectuals.	The process of de-Stalinisation led to this uprising.	Two weeks of armed combat in the streets.	Widespread student protests.
Planned to set up a Social Democrat party in the country.	The USSR used force to deal with the situation.	Wanted the USSR to have less control over the country.	Around 20,000 people were injured or killed.	Long term resentment of the impact of the rule of the USSR.	Reassured the leaders of the USSR they had no intention of leaving the Warsaw Pact.
In 1956 thousands of Soviet troops and tanks moved into the capital of the country.	Wanted more rights and freedoms from Communist control.	Brezhnev was concerned ideas would spread to other Communist countries.	Leader proposed policy of 'socialism with a human face'.	People organised themselves into armed resistance groups and fought the secret police with weapons including machine guns.	Censorship was eased so intellectuals were able to criticise the Communist leadership pointing out their flaws and corruption.
The leader of East Germany (GDR) and the leader of Poland put pressure onto Brezhnev to restrain the reforms happening in case they spread to their countries.	Planned to hold free elections, create impartial courts and restore farmland to private ownership.	Following the unrest around 200,000 people left the country in order to escape Communist rule.	A direct result of this event was the Brezhnev Doctrine which stated the essentials of communism as a one-party system and remaining a member of the Warsaw Pact.	The Western powers did not get involved; they made some protests or statements but sent no help.	The USSR were extremely suspicious of change and worried any discontent might spread.

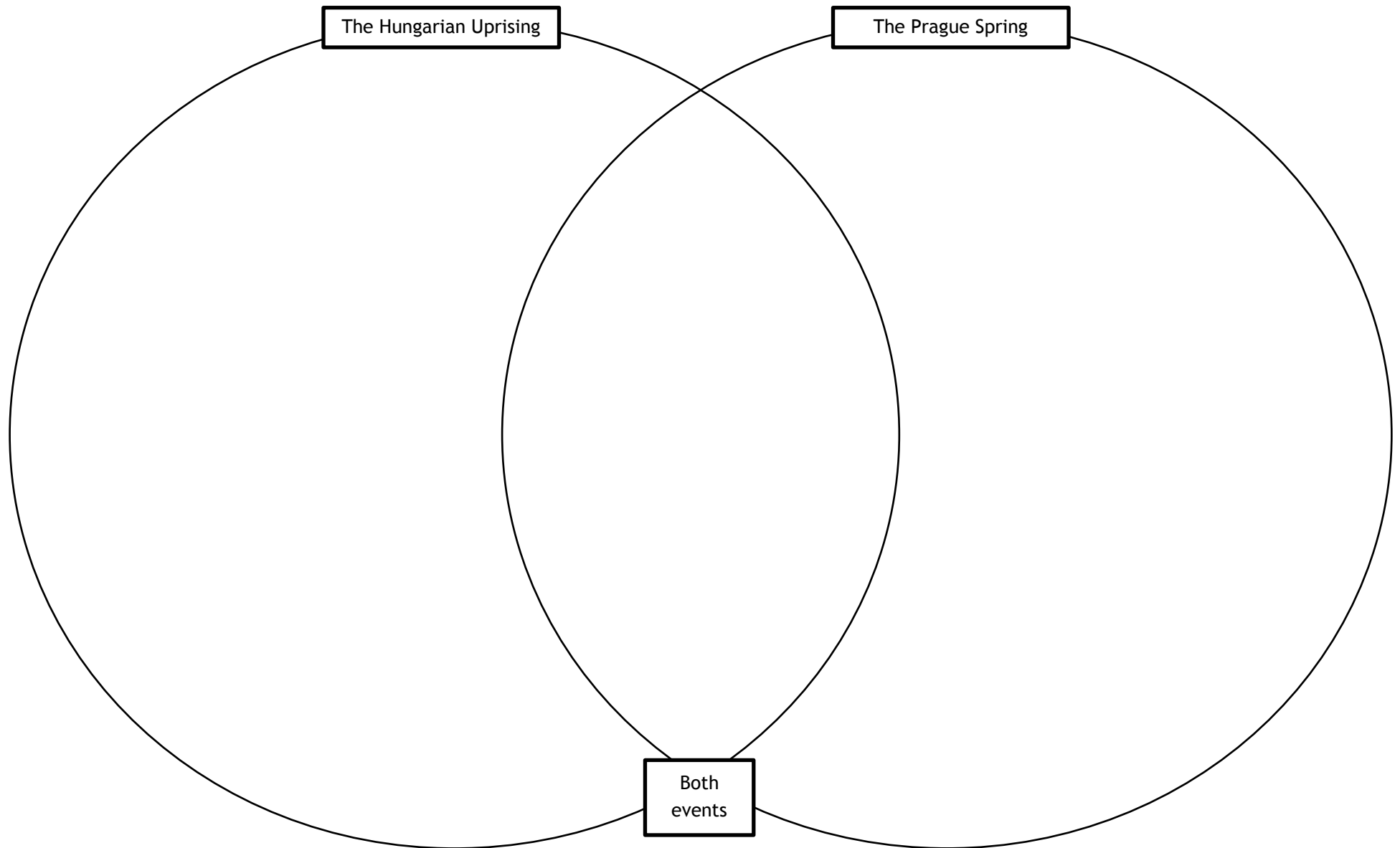
Task 2:

Use the information you have categorised on your Venn diagram to write an extended examination response to the question:

‘How different was the Soviet reaction to events in Hungary (1956) and Czechoslovakia (1968)? Explain your answer.’

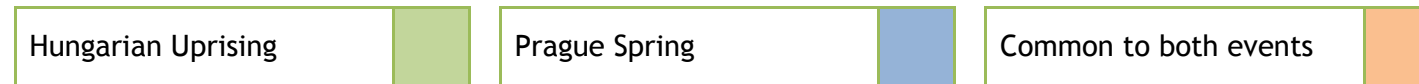
Extension activity: Which of the two events posed the most serious threat to Soviet control and power in Eastern Europe? Use the evidence from the cards to support your judgement. You could create a continuum line to show your thinking in this activity.

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Teacher Answers



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