

CHINA LESSON PLAN

TIANANMEN SQUARE (DEMOCRACY AND DICTATORSHIP)

OBJECTIVES

- To learn the characteristics of democratic and dictatorial forms of government.
- Ohio Content Standards – 5 - 4 Describe the defining characteristics of democracies, monarchies, and dictatorships.
- Ohio Content Standards 3 – 8 a. oppression / freedom

MATERIALS

- Our World Today Glencoe textbook - Our World Today, Glencoe text book, pages 170-171, 176. Page 176 deals with a dictatorial form of government in China and the limited freedoms currently plaguing China.
- INFORMATION DEALING WITH TIANANMEN SQUARE. There is a vast array of information on Tiananmen Square on the internet.
- Mastering World Regions and Civilizations Unit Four, pages 240-248

UNIT OUTLINE

- Read pages 170-171 in Glencoe text concerning the massacre at Tiananmen Square.
- Watch two videos of the Tiananmen Square massacre at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TDKVEprC948>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y7ShyzS3W28>

- Students will review the characteristics of the three forms of government; monarchy, democracy, and dictatorship. It is beneficial if students have background knowledge in the three types of government, as well as, being able to recognize the advantages and disadvantages of each.
- After watching the videos, students should discuss similarities and differences the videographers used for their completion. I have taught this lesson many times and it never ceases to amaze me the insight that students have into with simple images put to music. The videos are polar opposites as far as musically, but the content is of information is similar. Students have given great examples of how a dictatorship would be stifling creatively, and how the images used by the videographer like Chairman Mao looking at a picture of the Statue of Liberty are ironic.
- Discuss similarities and differences in democracy and dictatorial forms of government.

ASSESSMENT

- Students should complete a Venn diagram using similarities and differences in Chinese and American styles of governments.
- Students should also recognize that in both videos “tank man” plays an important role at Tiananmen Square. Students may write a reflection where they voice their opinion on a topic that they would be willing to fight or stand up to persecution in order to keep that right.