

Lesson Plan- Korea

Korea **Time Period- 1940s-50s**

The Causes of the Korean War

The Rationale of Lesson:

To provide an explanation as to why the Korean War occurred, who was involved, and why it is considered “The Forgotten War”.

Objective:

To summarize the events leading to and occurring during the Korean War.

Explain how Korea became divided into two countries.

To analyze why the United States decided to aid South Korea.

Essential Questions for this Lesson:

What was accomplished as a result of the Korean War?

What impacts are still felt today?

Is modern Korea united?

Resources:

Center for the Study of the Korean War. Graceland University Independence Campus, 2004. <<http://www.koreanwarcenter.org/>>.

Korea: The Forgotten War. A&E Home Video, 2005. DVD.

Millett, Allan Reed. *The War for Korea, 1945-1950: A House Burning.* Lawrence, Kan.: University of Kansas, 2005.

Standards: (Ohio)

Grade Ten.

History.

Benchmark E: Analyze connections between World War II, the Cold War and contemporary conflicts.

-20th Century Conflict.

8. Explain how the Cold War and related conflicts influenced U.S. foreign policy after 1945 with emphasis on:

c. The Korean War and the Vietnam War.

Instruction: (4-5 class periods of 45 min.)

Strategy:

Day 1: Presentation (PowerPoint) and discussion of Korean War details: Visuals provided.

-After WWII, two Korea's created (38th Parallel).

-N. Korea (Communist).

-June 25, 1950, N. Korea attacks.

-United Nations steps in.

-Gen. MacArthur leads U.N. troops.

-MacArthur goes too far, China enters war.

-MacArthur's conflict with Truman.

-War ends July 1953.

-54,000 U.S. lives, \$67 billion.

Days 2-3: Students will view the A & E documentary "Korea: The Forgotten War".

Day 4: After the presentation of the video, a Korean War veteran will speak to the class about what they experienced. (Veteran will be scheduled through Roland Lane).

Students will be given opportunity to ask questions. For teachers outside of Central Ohio interested in having a Veteran speak to their classroom, they should contact their local AFW or AMVETS.

Assessment:

Possible questions to answer based on the video and discussion:

(Why did war break out in Korea in 1950? Who decided to divide Korea at the 38th parallel? In your opinion, what is the importance of the Korean peninsula's geographic location? Consider MacArthur's leadership style and his actions in Korea. Debate whether or not he was a good leader. Compare and contrast the Chinese and U.S. military forces in terms of their leaders, numbers of troops, equipment, winter supplies, tactics, training, and casualties. Discuss the relationship between Truman and MacArthur. How did their views on the war in Korea differ? Debate whether or not Truman's decision to fire MacArthur was a good one. Explain how the Korean War ended. What is the

relationship between North and South Korea today? Describe the current relationship between the United States and these two countries.)

As part of the assessment, students will be required to interact appropriately with the guest speaker. (Have questions prepared, display knowledge of topic discussed, etc.)