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Cape Cod Collaborative
A More Perfect Union: The Origins and Development of the U.S. Constitution III
2010

The Cold War

Unit Length: Five class periods (60 min)

This unit on the Cold War contains five topics broken down so that they can be applied one per lesson per day. The unit will center around the thesis of:

Western Fear of Communist expansion: Soviet fear of Capitalist influence.

Objectives:

- Students will be able to identify NATO and Warsaw nations.
- Students will analyze Winston Churchill's *Iron Curtain Speech*.
- Students will explore possible solutions to Cold War tensions.
- Students will understand order of events through creating timelines.
- Students will conduct authentic internet research.
- Students will discuss alternate solutions in response to events of the Cold War.

Lesson One:

Truman Doctrine: policy of containment

- a. Formation of NATO; Warsaw Pact
- b. The Iron Curtain
- c. Berlin Airlift

Procedure for Formation of NATO and Warsaw Pact:

-Have students label and shade NATO countries and Warsaw Pact countries on world map.

Procedure for The Iron Curtain:

-Present background information and have students listen/read to Winston Churchill's [The Iron Curtain Speech](#)
-Students will write a response to Churchill's speech

Procedure for Berlin Airlift:

-Have students list all critical supplies a city would need to survive (if it was surrounded). Discuss the massive undertaking it was to supply West Berlin during the blockade.

Lesson Two:

Korean War

- a. Inchon; Chinese entry; removal of MacArthur
- b. Partitioning of Korea; truce line of 38th parallel

Procedure for the Korean War

-Short lecture about the Korean War and how it was part of a larger conflict between Capitalism and Communism.

- Students will make a timeline of significant events of the war
- Students will write a creative writing paper about the standoff at the 38th parallel.

Lesson Three:

The Eisenhower Years

- a. Secret operations; CIA, FBI, counterespionage, J. Edgar Hoover, U-2 Incident

Procedure for Eisenhower years:

- Students will watch video called *CIA vs. Anti-U.S. Government* from Hippocampus.org.
- Students will search and read about the history of the FBI post WWII and during the Cold War.
- Students will select one of the seventeen “Famous Cases” involving counterintelligence or espionage and write a paper about how that case either changed or could have changed the political, social, economic, scientific, or military climate of the time period. (Information can be found on the FBI home page.)

Lesson Four:

The Kennedy Years

- a. Cuban Missile Crisis; Fidel Castro, Bay of Pigs
- b. Nuclear deterrence: “mutual assured destruction,” Nuclear test ban treaty

Procedure for the Cuban Missile Crises, Fidel Castro, and the Bay of Pigs:

- Students will label and shade missile capabilities launching from Cuba.
- Lecture about Cuban Missile Crises – Using excerpts from *Averting ‘The Final Failure’* by Sheldon M. Stern

Lesson Five:

Space exploration:

- a. Sputnik; Yuri Gagarin
- b. US moon landing, Neil Armstrong

Procedure for Space Race lesson:

- The class will watch clips from *Nova - To the Moon* Video on the space race.
- The class will discuss the race for the moon focusing on keys points of the space race.
- Students will write a short response piece exploring the race for the moon with the race to develop Nuclear weapons.

Key Vocabulary

Iron Curtain- Separation of Europe into East and West

Cold War- Events of confrontation between the West (United States) and the East (USSR). It started right after WWII ended and lasted until the break up of the Soviet Union.

Fidel Castro- Communist ruler of Cuba

NATO- North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Members: Belgium, Luxembourg, France, the Netherlands, Great Britain, Italy, Denmark, Norway, Portugal, Iceland, USA

Warsaw Pact- Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance. Members: Albania, Bulgaria, Germany, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, USSR

Sputnik- Soviet satellite, first man-made object to orbit the Earth

Yuri Gagarin- First man to orbit the Earth

Counterintelligence- activities of an intelligence service to counter the activities of an enemy intelligence service.

Berlin wall- wall established to separate East and West Berlin.

Materials

Map of United States and Cuba

Map of World

Map of Europe

Assessment/Evaluation

1. Completion of terms and definitions
2. Quiz on terms
3. Completion of timeline
4. Write a response
5. Essay – causes of the Cold War