

## World History Digital Education

### Lesson Plan

#### AUTHOR INFORMATION

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#### GENERAL INFORMATION

**Lesson Grade Span:** 9-12 grade

**Targeted Grade Level:** 9th grade

**Targeted Course:** World History

**Estimated Time to Complete Lesson:** 90 minutes

**Brief explanation of content connection and/or inspiration of lesson from Discover Korea**

**Research Fellowship:** During this program we heard multiple first hand accounts from Koreans impacted by the Korean War and what the DMZ means for them personally. Hearing from Kimchi I, Moon, and watching "An Ode to My Father" was moving and informative.

#### FOCUS QUESTION

Does the DMZ serve as a symbol of division or a potential for future reunification?

#### NATIONAL STANDARDS, STATE STANDARDS, AND/OR AP CED EKS

I.1.3 Gathering and Evaluating Sources

I.1.5 Communicating Ideas

WH.C&G.2.2 Critique the effectiveness of cooperative efforts among nations, groups, and international organizations in resolving conflicts and maintaining international stability, now and in the past.

#### LEARNING TARGETS/OBJECTIVES

- By the end of this lesson, students will understand the impact of the DMZ on North and South Koreans and analyze its nuanced perceptions in South Korea. Students will demonstrate their learning by answering the inquiry question, "Does the existence of the DMZ serve as a symbol of division or a potential for future reunification?"

#### LESSON SUMMARY (brief paragraph)

In this lesson, students will explore the impact of the DMZ on North and South Korea and analyze its complex perceptions within South Korea. By engaging with a variety of primary

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and secondary sources, students will gain insights into the historical and contemporary significance of the DMZ. They will develop their own opinions on the inquiry question, "Does the existence of the DMZ serve as a symbol of division or a potential for future reunification?" Students will be tasked with using evidence from the sources to support and defend their responses, fostering critical thinking and deeper understanding of this pivotal topic.

#### LESSON PROCEDURES (step by step teacher instructions)

Warm-up: Have you ever felt homesick? What did you do to fix the situation?

Help students define reunification - the idea that North Korea and South Korea may rejoin and become one country of Korea. Review how the Korean war ended and the creation of the Demilitarized Zone.

Have students go through each document one at a time, individually, using close reading strategies. Provide time to answer the questions attached and formulate an opinion after each document. When they have had adequate time to work independently, allow students to discuss their conclusions with a partner.

Document 1: Korean War Armistice Agreement

Document 2: Excerpt from South Korea wants to build a \$35 billion high-speed railway to connect North Korea with the world

Document 3: Excerpt from Korean reunions: Families divided by war meet in North


Document 4: Excerpts from North Korea blows up inter-Korean road, rail lines near border

Assessment: Have students answer the inquiry question. Students may construct their own answers from scratch or they may use the sentence structures provided. The length requirements may be adjusted to fit the needs of the class.

#### \*Enrichment Ideas

- Explain the degree to which North Korean perspectives are included in the documents? Support your conclusion.
- Additional resources on North Korean defectors
  - [Leaving North Korea: My Story pdf \(website\)](#)
  - [A North Korean Defector's Nine Year Journey to Freedom](#) (video included)
  - [A family's escape from North Korea through a minefield and stormy seas](#)

#### SUPPORTING MATERIALS (links, resources, handouts, etc.)

 Korea Lesson Plan Handouts.pdf