

# Modern Examples of Genocide

Created by: Alisha Speer, Cambridge High School

---

## Lesson Plan Background:

- **Demographics**

- **Theme/Topic:** Genocide, Displacement, Post WWII Genocide
- **Subjects/Grade Level:** History, 9-12
- **Suggested duration:** One 45 minute class period
- **Introduction to lesson:** In this lesson the students will be divided into 4-5 groups in which they will evaluate a set of photos with the “See, Think, Feel, Wonder” teaching strategy. The photos will be selected and printed out by the instructor. This lesson plan could be used as a way to introduce the students to more modern examples of genocidal acts in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Darfur, and in China.

- **Connection to Standards/Common Core**

- 15. Oppression and discrimination resulted in the Armenian Genocide during World War I and the Holocaust during World War II. 3. Historians analyze cause, effect, sequence, and correlation in historical events, including multiple causation and long- and short-term causal relations

- **Essential Questions**

- What are some examples of modern genocide?
- When and where did these acts of genocide occur since the formation of the United Nations?

- **Learning Objectives**

- The students will be working together to complete the “See, Think, Feel, Wonder” chart by evaluating photos from one of the modern examples of genocide since the Holocaust. Each group will then share the photos to the rest of the class as they explain their “See, Think, Feel, Wonder”. A large group discussion will be held following each group to answer the question, “Why do you think these acts of aggression and conflict occurred?”

- **Materials Needed**

- Chromebooks or access to the internet for research, google slide or PowerPoint, projector, 5-8 photos from each modern genocidal acts (PowerPoint and links at the end of the lesson plan)

## Lesson Plan Details:

- **Pre-Assessment of Prior Knowledge**

- This lesson would follow unit regarding the Holocaust in World History or as a topic for discussion in a Current Events Class. The students will also have prior knowledge on the teaching strategy See, Think, Wonder.

## LESSON PLAN

---

### • **Teacher-Student Interaction**

*\*Disclaimer\* Prior to the lesson, it is important to tell the students that this lesson is sensitive in nature as they will be viewing pictures of genocidal acts. You may have a student who has had trauma or could be related to survivors or those who have been affected by these modern acts of genocide. Therefore, you may want to provide photos that do not include the aftermath of the genocide in regards to bodily violence/murder. In addition, you may want to provide resources to the students to discuss their feelings in your school.*

1. *Divide students into 4-5 groups. This can be done at random or the instructor may assign students to each group. Keep groups between 4-5 students, if possible.*
2. *Distribute file folders to each group. Each file folder contains 5-8 photos from the modern examples of genocide. In addition, distribute copies of the "See, Think, Wonder, Feel" for each student to complete. Allow groups 15-20 minutes to be able to evaluate all of the pictures, discuss, as well as to complete the chart. Tell the students that they will share each picture in their folder with the rest of the class and share the groups' chart. A PowerPoint has been added to the resources part of the lesson plan with the photos that have been pre-selected to share with the rest of the class.*
3. *After 15-20 minutes, bring the students back together to begin the photo presentations. Have a google slide or PowerPoint pulled up with the photos from each file folder, this should be prepared in advance. A PowerPoint is shared below. Have one or a few students from the group click through the slides for the rest of the class to view and then, in detail, go over the groups' See, Think, Wonder, Feel" chart. Allow time here for the rest of the students to add their thoughts.*

### • **Closing Activity**

- Following the last group, assign a journal entry for each student to complete in class or for homework. This activity will allow for each student to react and share their feelings and thoughts about the photos and activity. You may want to include a few questions: What are your thoughts after viewing the photos? How did your group complete the "See, Think, Feel, Wonder" chart? Why do you think these acts of aggression and conflict occurred?

### • **Post-Assessment**

- The students will have to turn in their journal entry the following day. In addition, the next few days of class the students will get back into their groups to research their photos and modern example of genocide. They will work in their groups to create a google slide/PowerPoint presentation to present to the rest of the class. The google slide/PowerPoint template should be set up in advance by the instructor. Include slides that allow the students to answer the five W's and How this act occurred.

## Lesson Plan Resources/Next Steps:

### • **Resources**

- Below are links for the images for you to select for your class:
  - [Rwandan Genocide](#)
  - [Cambodian Genocide](#)
  - [Darfur Genocide](#)
  - [Bosnian Genocide](#)
  - [Uyghurs in China](#)
  - [UN Office of Human Rights Website](#)
  - [Human Rights Watch Website](#) (a great resource for students when researching the assigned genocidal act)

## LESSON PLAN

---

- [World Without Genocide Website](#)
- [See, Think, Feel, Wonder pdf](#)
- [Modern Acts of Genocide PowerPoint](#)
  
- **Extension Activities/Cross-Curricular Connections**
  - Have the students evaluate the United Nations response to each example of modern genocide. What happened prior to the founding of the United Nations in regards to genocide? Here are some links that can be provided to help with research:
    - <https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/genocide.shtml>
    - [UN Response in Rwanda](#)
    - [UN Response in Cambodia](#)
    - [Response to Darfur Genocide](#)
    - [UN Response in Bosnia](#)
    - [Action and Investigation of the Uyghur](#)
  - Students can research into the root cause of each example of modern genocide. (many of the websites in the above section as well as at the end of the lesson plan can assist in this)
  - Watch Hotel Rwanda in class and evaluate Hollywood’s portrayal of the genocide from Rwanda.

### Resource Support:

This lesson plan was developed by Alisha Speer, who participated in the [Global Teacher Seminar 2023: Global Movement of Goods and People](#). The seminar was a partnership with the Center for African Studies (CAS), Center for Latin American Studies (CLAS), Center for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies (CSEEEES), East Asian Studies Center (EASC), and Middle East Studies Center (MESC) and funded in part by U.S. Department of Education Title VI National Resource Center grants to The Ohio State University. The content of this lesson plan does not necessarily represent the policy of the U.S. Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government. Lesson plans are available online for classroom use worldwide and can be accessed at the [Global Teacher Seminar Resource page](#).



Office of International Affairs/Area Studies Centers

[oia.osu.edu](http://oia.osu.edu)