

**Marc Montella**  
**Korea Lesson Plan**  
**Google Earth and The Coldest Winter: America and The Korean War**

**Standards**

**10th Grade- History**

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.

**Objectives**

1. Students will explore the geography of Korea through the use of Google Earth.
2. Students will explain how the Korean War influenced U.S. foreign policy through passages of David Halberstam's book The Coldest Winter: America and The Korean War.

**Activities**

For this part of the lesson students will need to be using a computer that is able to access Google Earth. Students should have previously used Google Earth for this lesson to only take 1 day. But it can be extended based on how much you want to use Google Earth.

1. Student will be given a blank map of Korea (attached). They will be asked to label the following:
  - A. North Korea
  - B. South Korea
  - C. Pusan
  - D. Inchon
  - E. Seoul
  - F. Pyongyang
  - G. Yalu River
  - H. China
  - I. 38<sup>th</sup> Parallel
  - J. DMZ
  - K. Panmoonjum

Students will use Google Earth to find these places in Korea. They will then, based on previous knowledge explain the significance of the places in relation to the Korean War in a Word document. Students can use the Internet if they needed. This gives the students background information about the Korean War that will aide them in explaining how the war affected foreign policy in the following years. Using Google Earth will also allow the students to obtain knowledge of the geography of Korea and give the students an idea of what the soldiers faced during the war.

2. Students will be given a handout of a section from The Coldest Winter: America and The Korean War pages 619-657. The students will begin reading the section

when finished with the Google Earth activity. The section focuses on the consequences of the Korean War. Then students will finish reading the section for homework.

3. The next day in class the section from The Coldest Winter: America and The Korean War pages 619-657 will be discussed. Upon entering class students will be given a question to respond to: Based on the reading what were some consequences that The Korean War had on U.S. foreign policy? The students will have about 10 minutes to answer the prompt.
4. The students will break into their groups to discuss their answers for 5-10 minutes.
5. The groups will then report back to the class about what was discussed. The time on this part of the lesson could vary based on the responses given by the students and how likely they are to share their responses.

### **Evaluation**

Students will be both formally and informally assessed during this lesson. They will be formally assessed based on their work on Google Earth. They will turn in their map and description of the places. This will be graded for correctness. It is important that the students are aware of this prior to the beginning of the lesson. They will be informally assessed on their work on the reading from: The Coldest Winter: America and The Korean War pages 619-657. They will be informally assessed based on their work in groups and their participation during the discussion. I would spend time with each group during the discussion time to ensure that all students were participating in the discussion.

### **Modifications**

The use of Google Earth is not required. If you do not have access to this program or the Internet, classroom books could be used. Also, this could be done as a whole class assignment. A different reading could be used instead of the section I chose from The Coldest Winter: America and The Korean War pages 619-657. For an extension the students could read the entire book: The Coldest Winter: America and The Korean War pages 619-657.

