

LESSON PLAN FOR JAPAN: THE ATTACK ON PEARL HARBOR

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Purpose: This lesson is intended to help students understand the impact of industrialization, imperialism, global trade, economic depression and racial stereotypes on events leading to the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

Grade level: ninth grade

Objectives:

- Explain the global impact of imperialism on the modernization of Japan.
- Assess the global impact of post-World War I economic, social and political turmoil on the rise of militarists in Japan.
- Analyze how Japanese expansionism led to World War II.
- Explain how differing points of view play a role in conflicts over territory and resources.
- Explain how political and economic conditions, resources, geographic locations and cultures have contributed to cooperation and conflict.
- Analyze the economic costs and benefits of protectionism, tariffs, quotas and blockades on international trade.

Materials:

1. Textbook: *Modern World History: Patterns of Interaction*
Students should be familiar with material in the following chapters.
Ch. 12.2 *Japan Modernizes*
Ch. 15.4 *Aggressors on the March*
Ch. 16.2 *Japan Strikes in the Pacific*
2. Video: *Pearl Harbor: Surprise and Remembrance*
Directed by Crowley, Bird and Johnson
1993. Color. 88 Minutes. VHS
Facets Video
3. Handout: Anticipation Guide

Time:

The lesson should take one day.

Students have already read the chapters in the textbook and completed a map and timeline exercise on American and Japanese expansion in the Pacific.

Procedures:

1. Introduce the lesson by asking “why did Japan attack Pearl Harbor?”
2. Hand out copies of the anticipation guide: *Pearl Harbor: Surprise and Remembrance*.
For detailed instructions on using anticipation guides see www.maxteaching.com
3. Have students go over the vocabulary and rate their level of knowledge.
4. Have students turn the paper over and read through the statements checking all that they believe are accurate.
5. Have students compare their answers with a neighbor and make any changes they want.
6. Have students watch the video and note facts that prove or disprove any of the statements.
7. After viewing the video, have students go over the list of statements again and make changes.
8. Have students consult with neighbors and again make changes.
9. Have the class go over each statement providing evidence that proves or disproves the assertion. After discussion, make any changes in statements that would make them more accurate or cross out those that are incorrect.
10. Have students turn the paper over and give them five minutes to write a timed response to the question: why did Japan attack Pearl Harbor?

Evaluation:

1. Read the student’s timed response and make note of any inaccuracies. Give credit for completion. You might include the question on a later test.

Additional resources:

- Chalk, Alan. “Teaching Pearl Harbor Films: American and Japanese.” Education About East Asia Spring 2001: 22-27.
- Hackler, Jeffery. “Japan’s Motives for Bombing Pearl Harbor, 1941.” Education About East Asia Spring 2001: 54-57.
- Forget, Mark A. Max Teaching With Reading and Writing: Classroom activities for Helping Students Learn New Subject Matter While Acquiring Literacy Skills. Victoria, BC Canada: Trafford Publishing, 2004.

ANTICIPATION GUIDE: Pearl Harbor: Surprise and Remembrance

BEFORE WATCHING THE VIDEO: In the space to the left of each statement, place a check mark () if you agree or think the statement is true.

DURING OR AFTER READING: Add new check marks or cross through those about which you have changed your mind. Keep in mind that this is not like the traditional “worksheet.” You may have to put on your thinking caps and “read between the lines.” Use the space under each statement to note evidence that supports your thinking.

1. _____ The United States and Japan were long-time trading partners.
2. _____ Japan and the United States were competing against each other.
3. _____ The Japanese felt that they were justified in taking over colonies because everybody else did it.
4. _____ Racism was a factor in events leading up to the Pearl Harbor attack.
5. _____ Expanding countries are always brutal in their treatment of other people.
6. _____ Americans were horrified by the atrocities committed by the Japanese in China.
7. _____ As Japan industrialized it became more and more dependent on trade with other countries.
8. _____ The war in Europe made it easier for Japan to expand in Asia.
9. _____ The United States used trade as a weapon against Japan.
10. _____ Japan had to attack Pearl Harbor because that was the only chance they had to win the war.
11. _____ The attack on Pearl Harbor could have been prevented.

Attack on Pearl Harbor
Vocabulary

Name _____

On the line to the left of each word, rate yourself on your knowledge of the following terms. Use a plus sign if you understand the word well enough to explain it to others. Use a check if you have heard of it, but don't consider yourself an expert. Use a zero if you don't yet know the word.

_____nationalism_____

_____expansionism_____

_____militarism_____

_____racism_____

_____scarcity_____

_____humiliation_____

_____stereotypes_____

Focused Free Write: Explain why the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor.