

Comparing Data

Purpose:

This is an introductory lesson that can be used at the beginning of a larger unit on Asia. This lesson will introduce students to the CIA Factbook while introducing basic facts about Japan, Korea, and China as well as the United States. Students will then use this information to develop conclusions about these nations.

Rational:

Exposes students to the similarities and differences of the Asian nations that many students see as the same.

Materials:

- 1) Students need access to the internet
- 2) Student Data Collection Packet (Handout A)
- 3) Student Instruction Sheet (Handout B)
- 4) Teacher Data Collection Key: **Answers will change over time.**

Activities:

Preparation

Place students into pair groups or allow them to choose partners or place them into groups. (This lesson is easily adaptable to groups of four if one wishes to shorten the length of time needed.)

Give Instruction

Distribute "Student Instruction Sheet" and review your expectations with the students. Take the students to the computer Lab and give adequate time to gather the information needed.

Research

Depending how many students you put in the groups the students can divide up the countries and look up the information they need. This can be assigned as homework.

Share information

The students should regroup together and share the information that they gathered. They should then discuss the information and draw conclusions about the similarities and differences among these nations.

Regroup as a class

(This activity can be done after the packets have been collected and graded.) Have the class regroup as an entire class. Move through each of the categories of information collected and have the students share their conclusions. This is an opportunity to discuss misconceptions the students may have.

Assessment:

The packets can be assessed for the quality of the responses and the class discussion can be assessed a pretest of prior knowledge the students have about Asia.

Grade Adaptation:

This lesson is intended for students in the middle school but it is easily modified.

- 1) More students in a group can make the lesson easier for lower grades or special needs students.
- 2) Students can work alone to make the assignment more difficult
- 3) The quality of the student's conclusions can be modified for grade level.
- 4) The number of categories that the students must research can be increased or decreased.
- 5) Overall conclusions could be drawn about each nation to go along with the individual conclusions drawn about categories.

Nation	Area	Land Use	Environment Issues	Population
China				
North Korea				
South Korea				
Japan				
United States				
Conclusion				
Nation	Pop/sq. mile (you calculate)	Age Structure	Population Growth Rate	Sex Ratio

China				
North Korea				
South Korea				
Japan				
United States				
Conclusion				
Nation	Government	Suffrage	GDP & GDP Growth	GDP by Sector

China				
North Korea				
South Korea				
Japan				
United States				
Conclusions				
Nation	Labor-Occupation	Unemployment	Exports/Imports	Cellular Phones

China				
North Korea				
South Korea				
Japan				
United States				
Conclusions				
Nation	Internet Users	Military-availability	Military Expenditures	Expenditures % GDP

China				
North Korea				
South Korea				
Japan				
United States				
Conclusions				

Nation	Area	Land Use	Environment Issues	Population
China	9,596,960 sq km	Arable Land: 13.31% Permanent crop 1.02% Other 85.49%	Air pollution, acid rain, water shortages	1,286,975,
North Korea	120,540 sq km	Arable Land: 14.12 % Permanent crop 2.49% Other 83.39%	Water pollution deforestation	22,466,481
South Korea	98,480 sq km	Arable Land: 17.44 % Permanent crop 2.05% Other 80.51%	Air pollution, acid rain and water pollution	48,289,037
Japan	377,835 sq km	Arable Land 12.13% Permanent crop 1.01% Other 86.86%	Air pollution, acid rain depleted fishing	127,214,499
United States	9,629,091 sq km	Arable Land 19.3% Permanent crop .22% Other 80.46%	Air pollution, acid rain & water pollution	290,342,554
Conclusion	Answers will Vary	Answers will Vary	Answers will Vary	Answers will Vary
Nation	Pop/sq. km (you calculate)	Age Structure	Population Growth Rate	Sex Ratio

China	134	0-14 years: 23.7% 15-64 years: 69.5% 65+ years: 7.4%	.6%	At birth 1.09 male/female Under 15 years: 1.1 15-64 years: 1.06 65 + years: .89 Total: .96
North Korea	186	0-14 years: 25.% 15-64 years: 67.8% 65+ years: 7.2%	1.07%	At birth 1.05 male/female Under 15 years: 1.03 15-64 years: .97 65 + years: .5 Total: .94
South Korea	490	0-14 years: 20.6% 15-64 years: 71.5% 65+ years: 7.9%	.66%	At birth 1.1 male/female Under 15 years: 1.12 15-64 years: 1.03 65 + years: .66 Total: 1.01
Japan	337	0-14 years: 14.4% 15-64 years: 67% 65+ years: 18.6%	.11%	At birth 1.05 male/female Under 15 years: 1.05 15-64 years: 1.01 65 + years: .72 Total: .96
United States	30	0-14 years: 20.9% 15-64 years: 66.7% 65+ years: 12.4%	.92%	At birth 1.05 male/female Under 15 years: 1.05 15-64 years: 1. 65 + years: .72 Total: .97
Conclusion	Answers will Vary	Answers will Vary	Answers will Vary	Answers will Vary
Nation	Government	Suffrage	GDP & GDP Growth & Capita	GDP by sector
			\$5.989 trillion	Agriculture 15.2%

China	Communist State	18 + Universal	8% \$4,700	Industry 51.2% Services 33.6%
North Korea	Authoritarian Socialist	17+ years universal (one man dictatorship)	\$22.26 billion 1% \$1,000	Agriculture 30.4% Industry 32.3% Services 37.3%
South Korea	Republic	20+ years universal	\$941.5 billion 6.3% \$19,600	Agriculture 4.4% Industry 41.6% Services 54%
Japan	Constitutional Monarchy	20 + years universal	\$3.651 trillion .2% \$28,700	Agriculture 1.4% Industry 30.9% Services 67.7
United States	Republic	18+ year universal	\$10.45 trillion 2.4% \$36.300	
Conclusions	Answers will Vary	Answers will Vary	Answers will Vary	Answers will Vary
Nation	Income by % share	Unemployment	Exports	Cellular Phones

China	Lowest 10% : 2.4% Highest 10%: 30.4%	10%	\$325.6 trillion	65 million
North Korea	Lowest 10% : NA% Highest 10%: NA%	NA%	\$842 million	NA
South Korea	Lowest 10% : 2.6% Highest 10%: 24.8%	3.1%	\$162.6 billion	28 million
Japan	Lowest 10% :4.8% Highest 10%: 21.7	5.4 %	383.8 billion	63.88 million
United States	Lowest 10% :1.8% Highest 10%: 30.5	5.8%	\$687 billion	69.209 million
Conclusions	Answers will Vary	Answers will Vary	Answers will Vary	Answers will Vary
Nation	Internet Users	Military-availability	Military Expenditures	Expenditures % GDP

China	45.8 million	375,520,255	\$55.91 billion	4.3 %
North Korea	NA	6,103,615	\$5,217.4 million	33.9
South Korea	25.6 million	14,252,851	\$13,094.3 million	2.8%
Japan	56 million	29,392,559	39.52 billion	1%
United States	165.75 million	73,597,731	276.7 billion	3.2%
Conclusions	Answers will Vary	Answers will Vary	Answers will Vary	Answers will Vary