

US History

The Vietnam War

Questions to Consider

French Involvement in Vietnam

1. When did France colonize Vietnam?
2. Identify the four contributors to the French Indochina War.

France vs. The Vietminh

1. Why did the United States choose to support France over the Vietminh in the French Indochina War?
2. In Ho Chi Minh's quote about the war with the French, who does the tiger represent and who does the elephant represent? Explain why.
3. What did the Geneva Accords do to Vietnam?

The Diem Regime

1. What characteristics of Diem made him a bad choice to lead South Vietnam?
2. Why did the National Liberation Front form in South Vietnam?
3. Give an example that caused the U.S. to conclude Diem had to go.

Tonkin Gulf Incident

1. What is the controversy surrounding the Tonkin Gulf Incident?
2. Why is this event significant in the Vietnam War?

A War of Attrition

1. Identify the three types of Vietnamese troops in the war.
2. Explain how the U.S. hoped to win a war of attrition and how the Vietcong hoped to win a war of attrition.

Ia Drang Valley

1. Why was the United States and North Vietnam both convinced that they would win the war after the battle of the Ia Drang Valley?

Tet Offensive

1. What was the major difference between the attacks on Saigon and Hue?
2. How could the U.S. win the battle on the battlefield but also lose the battle at the same time?

The Draft

1. What were the common ways to avoid the draft?
2. How was the draft conducted after 1969?

The My Lai Massacre

1. What type of mission was Charlie Company on in My Lai?
2. What did My Lai represent in Vietnam to the American public?

The End of the Vietnam War

1. What was Vietnamization?
2. What was the major difference between the two proposed peace treaties?