

Korean Conflict Activity

Background on Korea

1. Japan annexed Korea in the year _____. What does the word annex mean? (use your phone if you need to)
2. Why do you suppose Korea got divided after WWII between the U.S. and USSR?
3. What does it mean that it was divided at the 38th Parallel? (see the map)
4. What occurred in 1948?

Why do you suppose this occurred?

War Breaks Out

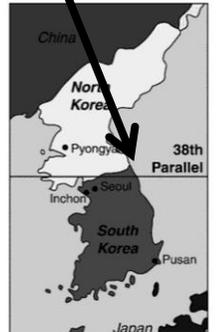
5. Who started the war? _____ Why?
6. What was the United Nations response to the war in Korea?
7. Why do you think that the Soviet Union would have vetoed the UN Resolution to send troops to help out South Korea?
8. Why do you think it was significant that the U.S. never declares war on Korea?

Major Movements of the War

9. Who seemed to be winning in the early parts of the war? _____ Why? (ask me to project this map in color so you can shade it in)
10. What did General MacArthur do in response?
11. Why do you think the Chinese intervened in the war?
12. How did their intervention impact the war?

Background on Korea

- 1910** • Japan annexed Korea (ended in August 1945)
- After WWII (1945)** • Divided b/w Soviet control in north & U.S. control in south
• 38th parallel—dividing line
- 1948** • 2 nations developed:
• North Korea = communist
• South Korea = democratic



War Breaks Out

June 25, 1950—North Korean forces crossed the 38th parallel and attacked South Korea
North Korea wanted a united Communist Korea

South Korea ask the UN for help (first "test" of the UN)

UN Resolution: All nations in UN send troops and supplies (16 countries)	Soviets did not VETO the resolution b/c they were boycotting UN
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This was a United Nations war not U.S. war
*U.S. NEVER DECLARED WAR ON KOREA

Major Movements in War

- June 1950**
North Korean troops invade South Korea & capture capital, Seoul.
- Sept. 1950**
North Koreans push South Koreans & UN troops south to the perimeter of Pusan.
- Sept. - Oct. 1950**
UN troops under U.S. Gen. MacArthur land at Inchon & move north. This attack drives the North Koreans out of South Korea. UN troops continue into North Korea and advance further north (toward China).
- Nov. 1950- Jan. 1951**
The Chinese intervene & force UN troops to retreat across 38th parallel.

GEOGRAPHY SKILLBUILDER
Movement: How far south did North Korean troops push the UN forces?
Place: Why do you think MacArthur chose Inchon as his landing place?

Disagreements over the Strategy

13. What did General MacArthur want to do?
14. How did President Truman feel about the war in Korea?
15. Who would you have supported if you had lived during the Korean Conflict—MacArthur or Truman? Explain your answer.
16. Do you think the most American supported MacArthur or Truman? Why?

Disagreement Over the Strategy



Armistice

17. What is an armistice? (look it up if you need to)
18. What is supposed to occur after an armistice is signed? (ask me if you are not sure)
19. Why do you think this is called the longest armistice in history? (think about the answer to the previous question)
20. What actions has North Korea taken in recent years that might be alarming?
21. What do you predict Kim Jung Un (the current leader of North Korea) might impact global affairs in the future? Be specific.
22. How different do you think history would be if Korea had never been divided at the 38th Parallel?

Armistice

