

Korean Comparison Webquest Lesson Introduction

This webquest is useful for teachers to help student to understand the differences between N. and S. Korea. Specifically, it deals with the economic and political differences between the two Korea's. The lesson also uses visual and textual information to convey this information to your students. Another useful part of this lesson is it can be used to highlight the effect that the Cold War and the Korean War on the development of modern day Korea.

Content Statements: From the Ohio New learning Standards for Social Studies

American History/ Cold War

#23 The United States followed a policy of containment during the Cold War in response to the spread of Communism.

#26 The Cold War and conflicts in Korea and Vietnam influenced domestic and international politics.

Modern World History

#19 Treaties and agreements after WWII changed national boundaries and created multinational organizations.

#21 Postwar global politics led to the rise of nationalist movements in Africa and SE Asia.

Economics

#4 Different economic systems (traditional, market, command and mixed) utilize different methods to allocate limited resources.

#7 A nation's overall level of economic well-being is determined by the interaction of spending and production decisions made by all households, firms, government agencies and others in the economy. Economic well being can be assessed by analyzing economic indicators gathered by the government.

#8 Economic policy decisions made by governments result in both intended and unintended consequences.

Contemporary World Issues

#11 Decisions about human activities made by individuals and societies have implications for both current and future generations, including intended and unintended consequences.

#16 . Nations seek to ensure the security of their geographic territories, political institutions, economic systems and ways of life. Maintaining security has political, social and economic costs

North Korea v. South Korea Webquest

Use the following links to answer the questions on the webquest.

<https://www.louderwithcrowder.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/korea-north-south.jpg>

1. What is the population of S. Korea?
2. What is the population of N. Korea?
3. Compare the GDP (Gross Domestic Product) of N. Korea v. S. Korea.
4. Which of the two countries have a higher life expectancy?
5. What factors based on the various graphs could account for the disparity in the life expectancy between the two countries? Use specific graphs to support your answer.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/datablog/2013/apr/08/south-korea-v-north-korea-compared>

1. What are the formal names for the North and South Korea?
2. Why is most of the information for N. Korea an estimate and “almost certainly wrong.”
3. What clue does the percentage of internet use reveal about how isolated the people of North Korea are from the rest of the world?

<http://www.indexmundi.com/factbook/compare/south-korea.north-korea>

1. Find at least three demographic statistics that demonstrate that it is more healthy for people living in S. Korea as opposed to N. Korea. Please provide evidence to support your answer.
2. List the type of government that exists in each country.
3. How many political parties exist in S. Korea?
4. How many major political parties in N. Korea.
5. How many groups actively oppose the government in North Korea?
6. Give a description of the economic overview of North Korea in 4 bullet points.
7. Give a description of the economic overview of South Korea in 4 bullet points.
8. What is the major obstacle to North Korea changing its economic situation?

<http://i.imgur.com/b9QjfTR.jpg>

1. How does the picture of the Korean peninsula at night illustrate the differences between the two countries?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PPh8pBIUudA>

Watch the video for 7:25 minutes.

1. What is the average height difference between North and South Koreans?
2. What is the major factor that contributes to this difference?
3. What percentage of North Koreans live below the poverty line?

4. What is the percentage of people in South Korea below the poverty line?
5. How are North Koreans taught to think of their leader Kim Jong-Un?
6. What is the penalty for not being loyal to Kim Jong-Un?
7. True or False, there is free speech and freedom of the press in South Korea.
8. What were two causes of the famine that existed in North Korea from 1994-1998?
9. How many people died as a result of this famine?

Answer Key

Part I

1. 50.22 million
2. 24.9 million
3. Answers will vary but S. Korea's GDP is much higher.
4. S. Korea
5. Poor nutrition based on height disparity and lower GDP could account for less money to spend on food.

Part II

1. N. Korea- Democratic People's Republic of Korea, S. Korea-Republic of Korea
2. Because the country is so isolated from the rest of the world.
3. Low internet use means they do not get information about other countries in the world.

Part III

1. Answers will vary- examples could include, death rate, infant mortality, life expectancy
2. S. Korea- Presidential Republic, N. Korea- Communist dictatorship
3. At least 7
4. 3 but they are controlled by the communist party
5. 0
6. Answers will vary
7. Answers will vary
8. Government control of the economy

Part IV

1. Complete absence of light in the North due to lack of power and resources.

Part V

1. 1.2-3.1 inches.
2. Availability of food for children
3. 40%
4. 15%
5. Like a God
6. Prison or death
7. True
8. Loss of support after fall of USSR, flooding, drought and corrupt government officials
9. 240,000- 3.5 million.