

Lesson Plan – East Asia

Lori Nickel

Time: One Week

Materials:

- Computer lab
- Note cards
- Books from school library
- Online resources (see attached)
- Activity sheets (see attached)

Purpose: For students to be able to compare and contrast various government systems.

Grade Level Indicators from State Standards for Ohio:

- 1. Describe the defining characteristics of democracies, monarchies and dictatorships.**
- 2. Explain how opportunities for citizens to participate in and influence the political process differ under various systems of government.**
- 3. Compare the rights and responsibilities of citizens living under various systems of government.**
- 4. Analyze information from primary and secondary sources in order to summarize, make generalizations and draw conclusions.**
- 5. Communicate a position on a topic orally or in writing and support the position with evidence.**
- 6. Work effectively to**
 - a. Engage in active listening**
 - b. Provide feedback in a constructive manner**

Procedure/Activities:

1. Begin class with two overriding questions: why might it be important to understand the workings of other government systems around the world? AND what are the duties of those who are head of state and/or head of government?
2. Web responses on board or chart paper.
3. Explain to students that the purpose of this lesson is to find those answers. Explain to them that we will be doing a simulated Meet the Press in a week and they will either be taking the role of a governmental leader or a member of the press.

4. Have each student draw a role card. The role cards represent the following positions in government and in the press:
George Bush, Dick Cheney, Roh Moo-hyun, Goh Kun, Kim Jong Il, Hong Song-nam, Hu Jintao, Emperor Akihito, and Koizumi.
5. Students will research each role in government and then be prepared to answer questions from the press. Students who are representing leaders in government must attempt to dress in character, being careful not to be derogatory to the culture or the leader.

Assessment: The Meet the Press forum will serve as the assessment tool for those playing the role of governmental leaders from East Asia and the United States. For the members of the press, they will be responsible for writing an editorial comparing and contrasting two governmental leaders. This will be their assessment.

Grade Level: 6th grade

Adaptations:

- Students can research governmental leaders and write a comparison/contrast paper on two leaders.
- Students could complete a Venn diagram comparing two leaders.
- Teacher could provide information to students in lieu of them looking the information up on their own.

Meet the Press

Governmental Leaders:

Who are you?

What are your main responsibilities?

What rights do your people have under your government?

What is the economy like in your country?

What is life like in your country for your people?

What other information might be important for outsiders to know about you, your government, and your country?

You **MUST** information **WELL** and dress in character as you will be answering questions from the press. They will be writing an editorial about you and you want it to come across favorable.

Meet the Press

News Reporters:

- 1. Pick 2 governmental leaders (cannot be from the same form of government) that you would like to learn more about.**

_____ & _____

- 2. Create a minimum of 10 key questions relating to governmental responsibilities, way of life, economy, and the rights & responsibilities of the people that you would like to ask the leaders at Meet the Press.**

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

After Meet the Press, you will be asked to write an editorial comparing and contrasting the two leader including your opinion of the two, whether you would live under their government, and why or why not?

Take notes during the Meet the Press on the back of this sheet!!

Meet the PRESS

Emperor Akhito – You are the current monarch in the Japan. You need to be prepared to answer questions in a press conference relating to your role in the government. Please remember that being a national symbol for your country leaves you open for questions related to any topic. Please dress in character to the best of your ability.

Prime Minister, Koizumi - You are the current Prime Minister of the Japan. You are in charge of most governmental functions for your country. You need to be prepared to answer questions in a press conference relating to your role in the government, how you were given the position, and what political party you represent. However, please remember that being an influential governmental leader leaves you open to questions on various topics, some of which may not be related to government. Please dress in character to the best of your ability.

Kim Jong Il - You are the chief of state in communist North Korea. The country is a dictatorship. You are in charge of most governmental functions for your country. You need to be prepared to answer questions in a press conference relating to your role in the government, how you were given the position, and what political party you represent. However, please remember that being an influential governmental leader leaves you open to questions on various topics, some of which may not be related to government. Please dress in character to the best of your ability.

Hong Song-nam - You are the premier in communist North Korea. You are appointed to the position by the chief of state. The country is a dictatorship. You need to be prepared to answer questions in a press conference relating to your role in the government, how you were given the position, and what political party you represent. However, please remember that being an influential governmental leader leaves you open to questions on various topics, some of which may not be related to government. Please dress in character to the best of your ability.

Hu Jintao - You are the president in communist China. The country is authoritarian. You need to be prepared to answer questions in a press conference relating to your role in the government, how you were given the position, and what political party you represent. However, please remember that being an influential governmental leader leaves you open to questions on various topics, some of which may not be related to government. Please dress in character to the best of your ability.

Roh Moo-hyun - You are the chief of state in South Korea. The country is a republic. You need to be prepared to answer questions in a press conference relating to your role in the government, how you were given the position, and what political party you represent. However, please remember that being an influential governmental leader leaves you open to questions on various topics, some of which may not be related to government. Please dress in character to the best of your ability.

Goh Kun - You are the prime minister in South Korea. You are the technically the head of government, but not in practice. You are appointed by the president. The country is a republic. You need to be prepared to answer questions in a press conference relating to your role in the government, how you were given the position, and what political party you represent. However, please remember that being an influential governmental leader leaves you open to questions on various topics, some of which may not be related to government. Please dress in character to the best of your ability.

George Bush - You are the president in the United States. You are the head of government, but must confer with all branches. You are elected by the people. The country is a democracy. You need to be prepared to answer questions in a press conference relating to your role in the government, how you were given the position, and what political party you represent. However, please remember that being an influential governmental leader leaves you open to questions on various topics, some of which may not be related to government. Please dress in character to the best of your ability.

Dick Cheney - You are the vice president in the United States. You are elected by the people. The country is a democracy. You need to be prepared to answer questions in a press conference relating to your role in the government, how you were given the position, and what political party you represent. However, please remember that being an influential governmental leader leaves you open to questions on various topics, some of which may not be related to government. Please dress in character to the best of your ability.

JAPAN TIMES— You are a reporter that is responsible for finding out the ins and outs of the government. Who runs it and how does it operate? Be specific in your questions to each member of the panel. Do not make general questions to all.

MAINICHI— You are a reporter that is responsible for finding out the ins and outs of the government. Who runs it and how does it operate? Be specific in your questions to each member of the panel. Do not make general questions to all.

THE KOREA TIMES— You are a reporter that is responsible for finding out the ins and outs of the government. Who runs it and how does it operate? Be specific in your questions to each member of the panel. Do not make general questions to all.

THE SOUEL TIMES— You are a reporter that is responsible for finding out the ins and outs of the government. Who runs it and how does it operate? Be specific in your questions to each member of the panel. Do not make general questions to all.

TIME MAGAZINE— You are a reporter that is responsible for finding out the ins and outs of the government. Who runs it and how does it operate? Be specific in your questions to each member of the panel. Do not make general questions to all.

US NEWS AND WORLD REPORT– You are a reporter that is responsible for finding out the ins and outs of the government. Who runs it and how does it operate? Be specific in your questions to each member of the panel. Do not make general questions to all.

NEW YORK TIMES– You are a reporter that is responsible for finding out the ins and outs of the government. Who runs it and how does it operate? Be specific in your questions to each member of the panel. Do not make general questions to all.

BEIJING DAILY– You are a reporter that is responsible for finding out the ins and outs of the government. Who runs it and how does it operate? Be specific in your questions to each member of the panel. Do not make general questions to all.

INSIDE CHINA TODAY– You are a reporter that is responsible for finding out the ins and outs of the government. Who runs it and how does it operate? Be specific in your questions to each member of the panel. Do not make general questions to all.

PYONGYANG TIMES– You are a reporter that is responsible for finding out the ins and outs of the government. Who runs it and how does it operate? Be specific in your questions to each member of the panel. Do not make general questions to all.

PEOPLE MAGAZINE– You are a reporter that is responsible for finding out the ins and outs of the government. Who runs it and how does it operate? Be specific in your questions to each member of the panel. Do not make general questions to all.

WASHINGTON POST– You are a reporter that is responsible for finding out the ins and outs of the government. Who runs it and how does it operate? Be specific in your questions to each member of the panel. Do not make general questions to all.

Internet sites:

<http://onlineedition.culturegrams.com/>

(only available at school)

<http://media.graniteschools.org/Curriculum/korea/>

<http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/>

<http://www.yahooligans.com/>

<http://www.countryreports.org/>

<http://www.infoplease.com/countries.html>

<http://www.atlapedia.com/>

<http://www.countrywatch.com/>

http://www.elca.org/dgm/country_packet/select.html

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www.lonelyplanet.com/

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(background notes)