

The Vietnam War : A look through statistic + data.

 **Discover** : key statistics about the war. **Explore** : how to draw conclusions from data. **Skills** : graphs and maths!



Use the statistics to complete questions.

1: Create a line graph to show U.S. troop numbers on the template below and using the following figures.

1961 : c 5000 **1962** : c 10 000 **1963** : 15 000 **1964** : c 20 000

1965 : c 190 000 **1966** : c 385 000 **1967** : c 490 000

1968 : 540 000 **1969** : c 475000 **1970** : c 330 000 **1971** :

1972 : c 30 000 **1973** : 0.

2: Which year saw the highest number of U.S. troops in Vietnam?
*

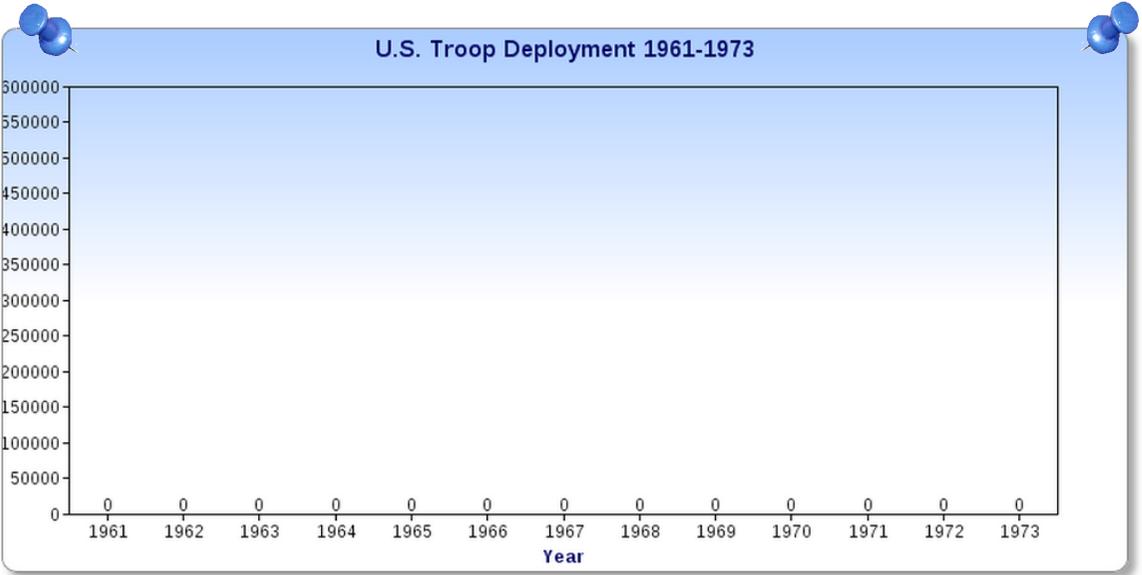
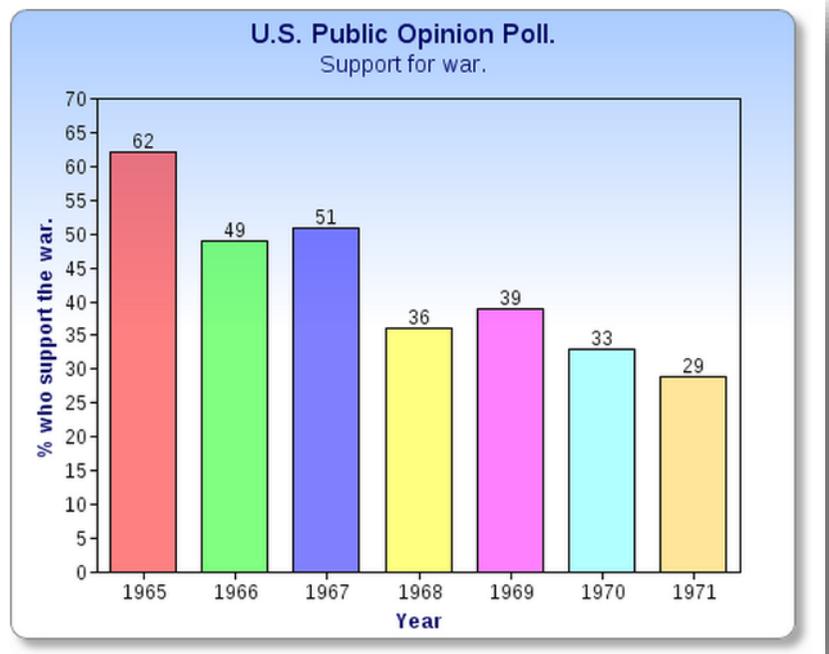
3 : Can you account for the highest number of troops in this year?
*

4 : What percentage of US soldiers were casualties (killed) in the Vietnam War?
*

5: Approximately how many (number) of soldiers volunteered?
*

6: Are there any statistics / data that you find questionable?
*

Create your own questions from this data.



Vietnam War Selected Statistics : Statisticsbarain.com

U.S. soldiers deployed to Vietnam	536,100
U.S. casualties in the Vietnam War	58,220
U.S. soldiers wounded in the Vietnam War	303,644
Total wounded from both sides	2.094 million
Total civilian casualties from both sides	4 million
Percent of casualties who were caucasian (white)	86 %
Percent of casualties who were black	12.5 %
Percentage of Vietnam Vets who say their glad they served	91 %
Vietnam Vets who said they'd serve again	74 %
Percent of Vietnam Veterans who've been jailed for crimes	0.5 %
Percent of Vietnam veterans who voluntarily signed up	66 %

Vietnam / Cold War Propaganda.

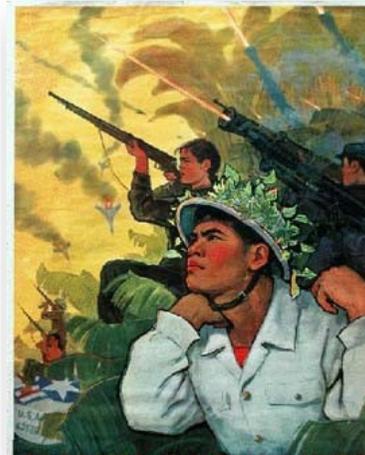
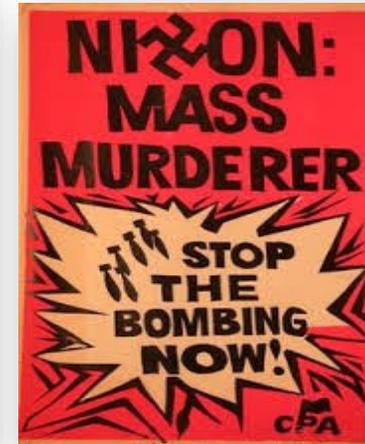
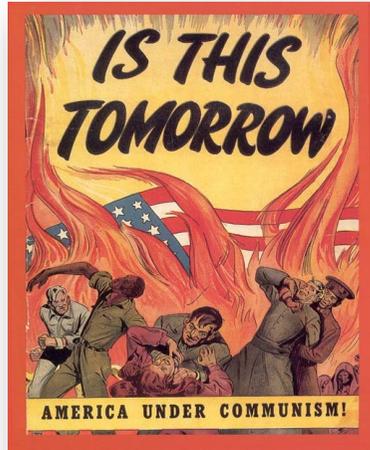
 **Discover** : examples of pro and anti-war propaganda. **Explore** : their messages contained within them. **Skills** : interpretation..

Like most wars the Vietnam war was being fought on many fronts. All sides used propaganda to try and raise the morale of their populace and military. The US did not only have to deal with propaganda from its enemies but also from its own people. Below are a number of examples relating to the Vietnam and Cold War. For each poster write down their origin and decide if the message is PRO War or ANTI war. You could also design a pro / anti war poster of your own in the empty frame provided. **Which is the most effective?**



Origin : Vietnamese.

Pro War.



The USA was **RIGHT**
send troops to Vietnam.



Debate

You are going to prepare for a debate about **Americas involvement in Vietnam**. You should conduct research and be ready to contribute during each round of the debate.

Top Tips!

Listen and allow others to speak.

Keep to the question focus for each round.

Come prepared, bring evidence (eg images) and present facts.

Encourage quieter members to contribute.

Listen, think of good come backs to points what you hear.

Don't talk over other people or try to shout others down.

Be dramatic. use body + expressions to make your point clearer.

1 The Domino Theory.

2 The Actions of Diem.

3 Ho Chi Minh : Nationalist or Communist?

4 The conduct of both sides during the war.

5 Any other business?

The USA was **WRONG**
send troops to Vietnam.



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US involvement in Vietnam was.....?



Judge

You are going judge for the debate about the rights and wrongs of **American involvement in Vietnam.**
You must judge **objectively.**

Take the following into account for each round.

Evidence of research.

What is said during each round.

How things are said: clearly, respectfully, too aggressively?

The number of debaters for the entire debate.

Respectful behaviour towards the other team.

Other guidelines, ideas or rules?

Tick : 2 bonus points for each member that contributes.

Right					Wrong				
<input type="checkbox"/>									
<input type="checkbox"/>									
<input type="checkbox"/>									

1	Right — 10	The Domino Theory.	Wrong — 10
	Right — 10	The Actions of Diem.	Wrong — 10
2	Right — 10	Ho Chi Minh Nationalist or Communist?	Wrong — 10
	Right — 10	The conduct of both sides during the war.	Wrong — 10
3	Right — 10	Any other business?	Wrong — 10
	Right — 10	TOTAL	

US involvement in Vietnam was.....?



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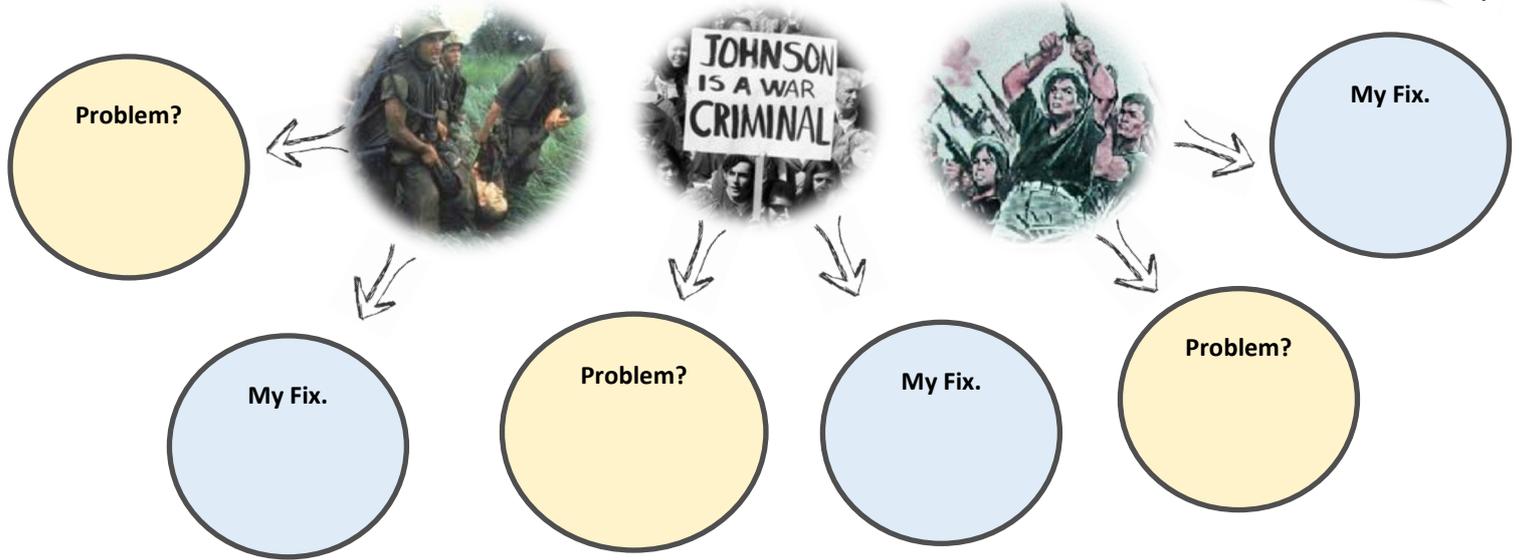
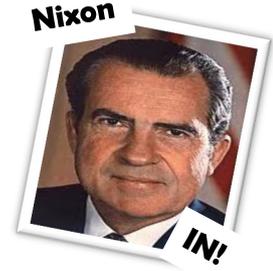
What Was Vietnamization and was it a success?

Discover : about Vietnamization. **Explore** : its effectiveness. **Skill** : making predictions / cartoon analysis.



The "Vietnam Quagmire".

Following the TET offensive, U.S. President Lyndon Johnson chose not to stand for re-election, giving up his role as the American President. The new president, Richard Nixon had to find ways to solve the problems of the 'Vietnam quagmire'. Use the images below to outline the problems faced by Nixon and suggest ways to fix them.



Vietnamization.

Nixon took a new approach to Vietnam. He believed in building up the ARVN (South Vietnamese army) thus allowing them to fight the civil war for themselves. This was called Vietnamization. In doing this he hoped to end the loss of American lives. What do you think about Nixon's policy of Vietnamization. I think Vietnamization will be a success / failure because :

What is the message of the cartoon?



1973-75 : The end of the war and the fall of Saigon.

With less and less American support the Southern Vietnamese started to lose ground. Despite this the US Congress refused to continue to provide support for South Vietnam. In 1973, US and North Vietnamese officials met in Paris to sign a ceasefire. US troops left the country. After a short period of peace, North Vietnam invaded the south easily routing the remaining ARVN forces. The NVA captured Saigon on April 30, 1975. Vietnam was finally a unified and independent country. **The Vietnam war was finally over.**



The last Americans flee Saigon, 1975.

The Cartoon About The Wind Up Boy.

Discover : how to identify main features of a cartoon. Explore : how to interpret these features Skill: cartoon analysis and evaluation.



Cartoon Provenance Unknown.

Message of the cartoon (write this AFTER completing DEC process)

Describe the main features of the cartoon.

-
-
-
-
-
-

Explain what each of these features means / represents

-
-
-
-
-
-

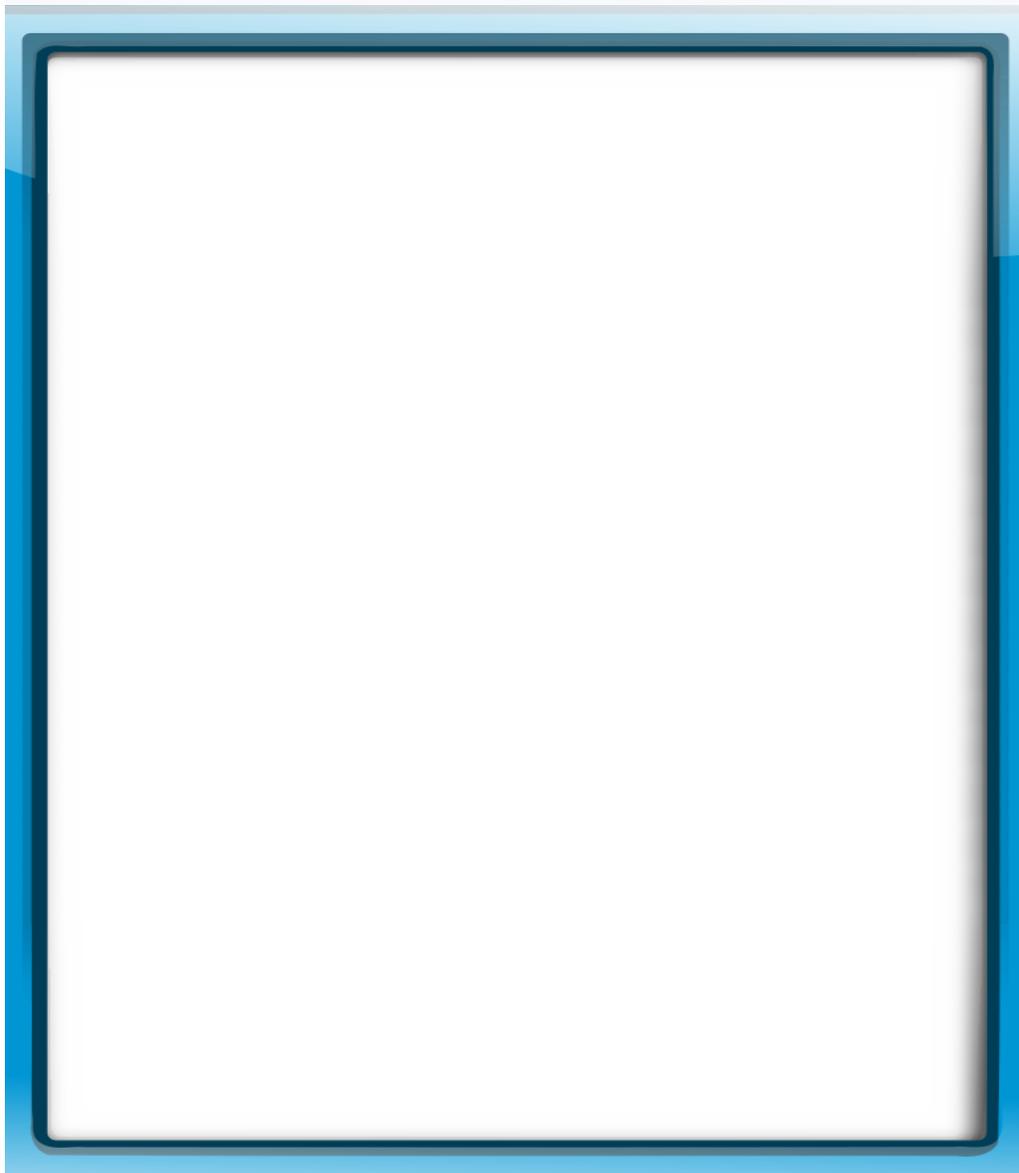
Context: what historical event is this cartoon about?

Reliable or Not? (Circle a score below)

Unreliable 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Reliable

The Cartoon About ...

 **Task :** create a cartoon of your own to show the causes or consequence of hyperinflation in Germany c 1923.



Message of the cartoon (write this AFTER completing DEC process)

Describe the main features of the cartoon.

-
-
-
-
-
-

Explain what each of these features means / represents

-
-
-
-
-
-

Context: what historical event is this cartoon about?

A cartoon created by:

Titled:

Reliable or Not? (Circle a score below)

Unreliable 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Reliable

The USA and Vietnam : Review 2.



Review : create and complete review questions. Focus on the period 1968 - 1975.

1	Name 3 US presidents that were in power during the Vietnam conflict.
	/ /
2	Which year saw the greatest number of US troops in Vietnam?
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	



Describe the TET offensive in January 1968.

- Keep answers short
- Intro : Give a broad , main answer to explain what the TET offensive was.
- Give the MAIN reason why the TET offensive was launched.
- Think about the MAIN consequence / outcome of the TET offensive.

Introduction:

Why TET ? :

What happened :

What happened :

Consequences :



My mark

4

Peer mark

4

Teacher mark ?

4

Investigate : Why did the USA 'lose' the Vietnam war?

Discover : four reasons why the USA lost the war. **Explore** : the strength of these reasons. **Skills** : source analysis and evaluation.

A father shows his dead child to ARVN (southern Vietnamese) soldiers.

How do you think the child died?

Why do you think the father did this?



What factors led to the U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam?

In 1973, during peace talks in Paris, it was agreed that the USA would begin the process of removing its combat troops from Vietnamese soil. At the time the U.S. president Richard Nixon described this as an “honorable withdrawal”. In reality this was a humiliating defeat for the USA. How had this happened ?

1 : Vietnamese Military Strengths.

2 : American Military Weaknesses.

3 : The Battle For Hearts and Minds.

4 : Public Opinion In The United States.

25 May, 1968.

Dear Roberta,

Today is probably the worst day I have ever lived in my entire, short life. Once again we were in contact with Charlie, and once again we suffered losses. The losses we had today hit home, as my best friend in this shit hole was killed. He was only 22 years old and was going on R&R on the first of June to meet his wife in Hawaii. I feel that if I was only a half second sooner in pulling the trigger, he would still be alive. If there is a place called Hell this surely must be it, and we must be the Devil's disciples doing all his dirty work.

Love,

Stan.

A



"We could here them coming. The big Americans cannot move quietly.' Sometimes we could smell them before we heard them. They dropped thousands of tons of bombs on us, be we weren't even scratched. It was more difficult for them to suffer the hardships of the battle front. We could suffer the hardships much better than they could."

Accounts of a VC guerrilla.

C

" The first time I killed an American I felt more enthusiasm and hatred. I thought, I would like to kill more Americans to make my country peaceful again. Many of my people were killed by bombs. 10 people in my own village were killed by a napalm bomb. We pulled the bodies out and they only had burned and crooked limbs. These things fuelled my hatred. I did not think of my own hardship. The Americans considered the Vietnamese animals. They wanted to destroy us all and everything we had. " **Vi Thi Mo. (Female VC).**

D

1969. A woman grieves her dead husband. She identified him only by his teeth.

E



A U.S. medic tries to save a dying comrade at 'Hamburger Hill', 1969.

F

'The tour in Vietnam was one year. Soldiers were most likely to die in the first month. The large majority of deaths took place in the first six months. Just as a soldier began gaining experience he was sent home. A rookie army that constantly rotated inexperienced men was pitted against experienced guerrillas on their home ground.'

From *Four hours in My Lai*, Michael Bilton , 1991.

G

What was found and learned in Vietnam, by John Kerry, Major Veterans association, in a speech to US Congress, 1971.

"... We found most people (southern Vietnamese) didn't know the difference between communism and democracy. They only wanted to work in rice paddies without helicopters strafing them and bombs with napalm burning their villages and tearing their country apart. They wanted everything to do with the war, particularly with this foreign presence of the United States of America, to leave them alone on peace. They practised the art of survival by siding with whichever military force was present at a particular time, be it Vietcong, North Vietnamese, or American. We found also that American men were dying in those rice paddies for want of support from their allies. We saw first hand how money from American taxes was used for a corrupt dictatorial regime. We saw that many people in this country had a one-sided idea of who was kept free by our flag, as blacks provided the highest percentage of casualties. We saw Vietnam ravaged equally by American bombs as well as by search and destroy missions, as well as by Vietcong terrorism, and yet we listened while this country (the USA) tried to blame all of the havoc on the Viet Cong. We rationalized destroying villages in order to save them. We saw America lose her sense of morality and refused to give up the image of American soldiers who hand out chocolate bars."

H

www.youtube.com/watch?v=LDAd8i7dAWs





"You can kill ten men for every one I kill of yours. But even at these odds I will still win and you will lose."

Ho Chi Minh, 1954.

J

'The problem with the American strategy was that, although the suffering of the enemy was great it was not enough to make them concede (give up). Throughout the war the capacity of the Vietnamese to absorb pain outstripped that of the Americans to inflict it. For the Americans, that war was a 'limited one' far from home. For the Vietnamese it was total: they were fighting to defend their homeland.'

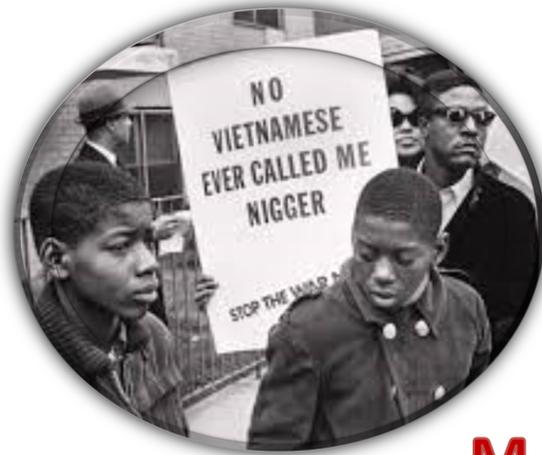
A modern Historian's view.

K

"I had heard of the dedication of the enemy before but to actually see it on the battle field was a mind blower. It was the moment where I solidified my opposition to which the old men in government had put us in. We had no prayer of doing anything positive in this country because the enemy is everyone -everyone either hated us or just be left alone to grow their rice. We should just fold up our money and go home.

Marshall Darling, 1968.

L



M

I needed a job so I could live unnoticed in the South. I decided to open a noodle shop. Most of my customers were US diplomats and military. I'd be smiling and serving soup to the Americans while the high command upstairs were planning their victory over the United States.'

Viet Cong Spy, Toai, speaking in 1991.

N

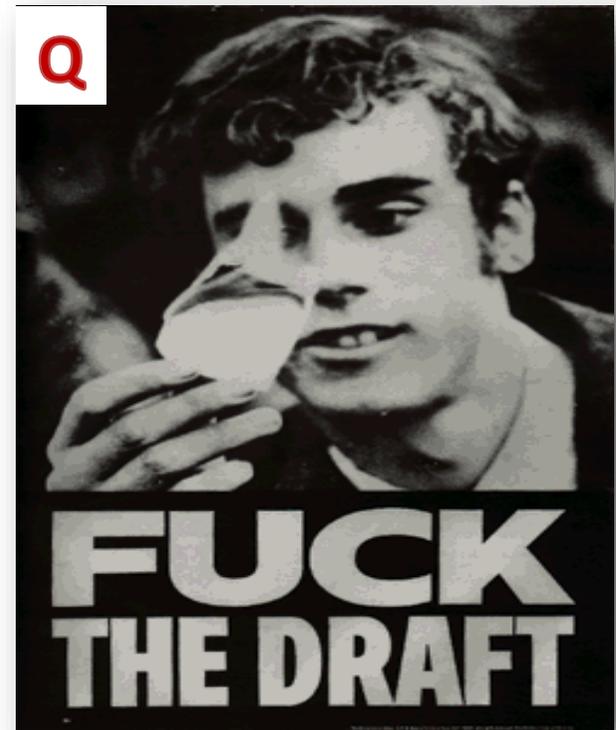


O

... over 150 very highly decorated veterans testified to war crimes committed in Southeast Asia, crimes committed on a day-to-day basis with the full awareness of officers at all levels of command....They told the stories at times they had personally raped, cut off ears, cut off heads, taped wires from portable telephones to human genitals and turned up the power, cut off limbs, blown up bodies, randomly shot at civilians, razed villages in fashion reminiscent of Genghis Khan, shot cattle and dogs for fun, poisoned food stocks.....In our opinion, and from our experience, there is nothing in South Vietnam, that realistically threatens the United States of America. And to attempt to justify the loss of one American life in Vietnam by linking such loss to the preservation of freedom, it is that kind of hypocrisy which we feel has torn this country apart.

John Kerry : Vietnam Veteran, 1973.

P



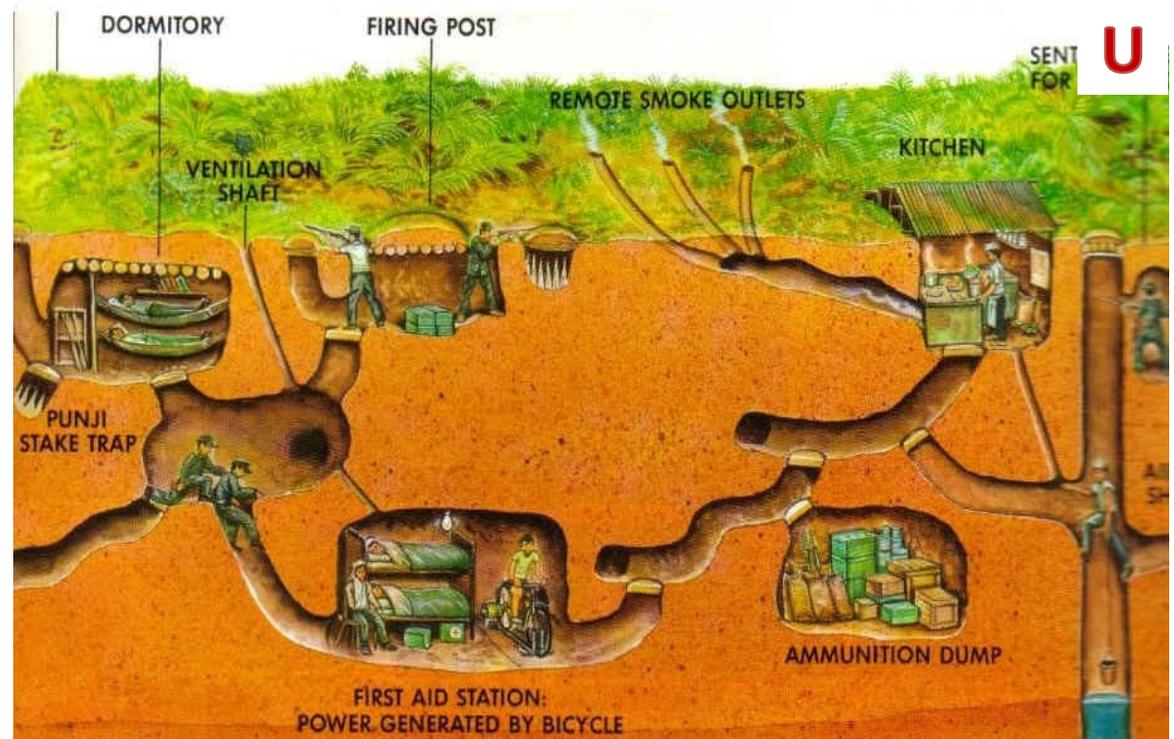
Q

After a peace treaty was signed in January 1973, South Vietnam made major advances. Hanoi returned POWs and for a time almost everything the U.S. had fought for was achieved. But in March 1973, Congressional leaders in the USA told Nixon that they would not support further U.S. military involvement even if the communist side resumed its aggression. Nixon concluded that Vietnam was a lost cause, although the military situation was otherwise favourable. www.wiki.answers.com/

R

S 'You just work and work and work, and blow up and blast but the tunnels are still there. They are so vast and deep and there are so many of them, destroying them was like trying to fertilise a forty acre field with a fart'. Brigadier General, Ellis Williamson.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=uKORCSk2hvw



V

U.S. planes spray Agent Orange onto the jungle.



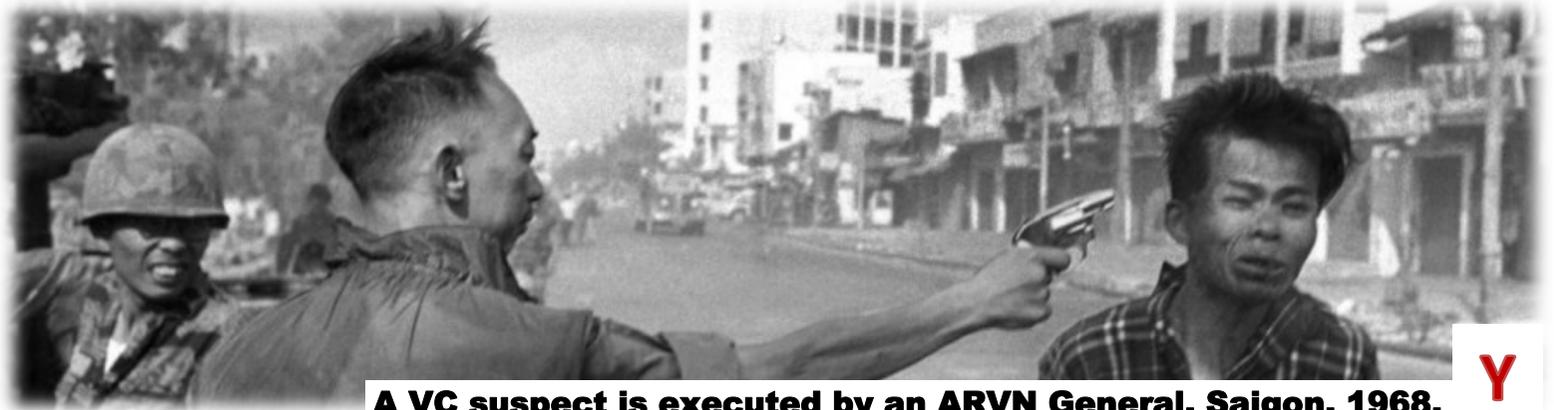
(Perform a web search for Agent Orange)

W

'I didn't make it all the way through my second tour because I was wounded. When I got back home to California, I was treated like someone who had the plague. I was spit on, yelled at, threatened and looked upon as a mass murderer. I wouldn't do it again..'

Gerald Cooper, Ex U.S. Marine, 1986.

X



A VC suspect is executed by an ARVN General, Saigon, 1968.

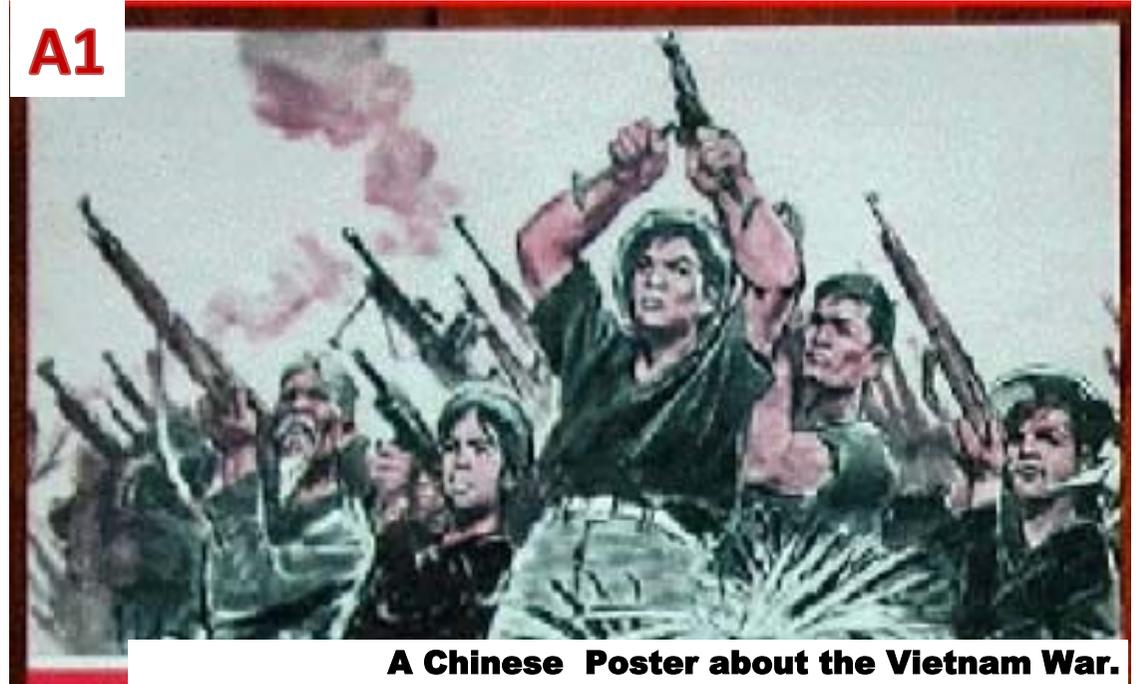
Y



NVA troops enter Saigon in Soviet Tanks, 1975.

Z

A1



A Chinese Poster about the Vietnam War.

'There were unexploded shells everywhere and we made workshop chambers in the tunnels. We took them apart and made them into weapons of which the Americans were very afraid. We made booby traps and mines with them that could injure up to seven Americans at one time. Every village had specially trained villagers one trained to remove the explosives, another would prepare a new weapon and another worked on the detonators to set them off.'

Captain Linn, Viet Cong.

A2

'In military terms the Viet Cong's TET operations were a failure, but that was not important. TET was the moment that American casualties overtook those suffered in the Korean War. The TET offensive was the moment of painful truth for America that this was a war they couldn't win. Public and political opinion never recovered from seeing such American losses. Within two months U.S. President Andrew Johnson announced he would not stand in the next election. Ironically, TET was an event from which the Viet Cong would never recover also. Their hardships were so severe that by 1970 and Viet Cong Captain Linh admitted'.. "Our morale had collapsed and there were many deserters from the Viet Cong".

Extract : The Tunnels of Cuchi.

A3

Why Did The USA Lose The Vietnam War?

Source	Who?	Date Pri : Sec : Ter	1 : Vietnamese Military Strengths.	2 : American Military Weaknesses.	3 : The Battle For Hearts and Minds.	3 : Public Opinion In The United States.
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Essay Plan : How Far Was ' ___X___ ' Responsible For the US Withdrawal From Vietnam?

Introduction: 1: Use a full sentence to answer the question above in a 'thesis statement' EG; how far was this factor responsible: (Limited: Some: Large) 2: Outline the other Y and Z factors to be discussed.

Points	Examples to support you point.	Explain the examples you have used.	Evidence A "quote" or statistic?	Link back to the ? Role in US withdrawal?	
Lowest Grade.	Low Grade.	Average Grades.	Good Grades.	Highest Grades.	
<p>Firstly, primarily</p> <p>1: _____</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 80px; width: 100%;"></div> <p>Furthermore....</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 80px; width: 100%;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 80px; width: 100%;"></div>	<p>Links to :</p>	
<p>Also, secondly,</p> <p>2: _____</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 80px; width: 100%;"></div> <p>Furthermore....</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 80px; width: 100%;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 80px; width: 100%;"></div>		<p>Links to :</p>
<p>Finally, in addition.</p> <p>3: _____</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 80px; width: 100%;"></div> <p>Furthermore....</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 80px; width: 100%;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 80px; width: 100%;"></div>		

Conclusion: 1: Explain how you have shown your thesis statement to be true. 2: Say how all the factors were important and how they link 3: Finish with something fresh /new that helps support your main points / answer.

Top Grade!

Why Did The USA Lose The Vietnam War?

Summarise: the reasons for the loss of the war **Explore:** the relationship between factors **Skill:** making links.

1: US Military Weaknesses.



Inexperienced.

Low Morale.

Links to: 3 + 4

2: NVA Military Strengths.



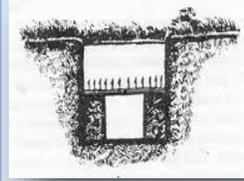
Links to:

3: The Battle For Hearts + Minds.



Links to:

5 : The Viet Cong.



Links to:

4: US Public Opinion.

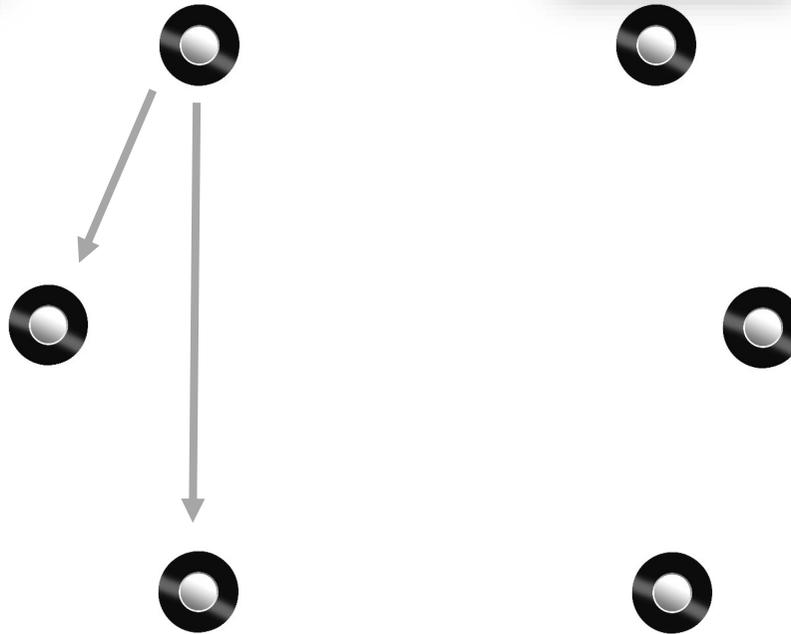


Links to:

6:



Links to:



How Far Was 'X' Responsible US Loss Of The War?

Discover : how to answer an 'X,Y,Z' exam type question. **Skill** : writing introductions and conclusions.

It is possible you will have to write an answer to a 'How far ' style of question in a history exam.

For this unit of study the X in the question could be replaced by any of the factors that led to the US withdrawal. E.g:

How far were **the tactics of the Viet Cong** responsible for the US defeat ?

How far were the **weaknesses in US military strategy** responsible for American withdrawal from Vietnam ?

How far was **opposition to the war in the USA** responsible for the US decision to end the war in Vietnam ?

It is easy to be tricked by this question and just write about the 'X' factor . However, the X will never be 100 % responsible.

You therefore need to make a judgment as to 'how far ' the 'X' contributed / how important it was. You then need to consider the role of at least two other factors. Your job is to decide which other 'Y' and 'Z' factors to discuss in your answer. (You won't have time for a detailed answer on all the factors involved).

You are going to write an introduction and conclusion to the following question:

How far were the tactics of the Viet Cong responsible for the US defeat in the Vietnam War?

In this answer you must discuss 'X' (the Viet Cong), followed by a second 'Y' factor and a third 'Z' factor. To help decide the 'Y' and 'Z' factors consider 1: which factors had most influence on others. 2: which factors link with the Viet Cong.

Show your thinking by highlighting the bar in the boxes further below. E.g. —→

Small extent Some extent Large extent

The introduction should be short and simple. **Do**: begin by referring to the question in a full sentence **Do** : Answer the question 'how far' Viet Cong tactics were responsible. (You can use 'large extent', 'some extent' or just a 'small extent'). **Do** : State the 'Y' and 'Z' factors you will also discuss. **Don't** : Ask your own questions, **Don't** : write 'In this essay', **Don't** : start writing a story **Don't** : begin to explain factors in any detail.

Now write your introduction :

NVA Military Strengths .

Small Extent

Some Extent

Large Extent

American Military Weaknesses .

Small Extent

Some Extent

Large Extent

The Battle For Hearts + Minds .

Small Extent

Some Extent

Large Extent

US Public Opinion.

Small Extent

Some Extent

Large Extent

The Viet Cong .

Small Extent

Some Extent

Large Extent

Other Factor :

Small Extent

Some Extent

Large Extent

Conclusions can be tricky. **Do** : Finish by referring back to the question. **Do** : state which factor was the most important and explain why. **Do** : show how factors link. **Do** : try to say something original. **Don't**: forget to answer the question. **Don't** : simply repeat things already said in the main body of the answer.

Now write your conclusion:

The Vietnam War, summary and timeline .

Review: the causes, process and outcomes of the Vietnam war.

1: The Global Cold War Context.



- 1: Name the theory that explained the spread of communism.
- 2: What U.S. policy planned to stop the spread?

2: The Failures of Diem.



List 2 reasons how Diem angered the Southern Vietnamese.

- 1:
- 2:

3: First U.S. Combat Troops Arrive.



After the G ___ o _ T _____ incident the first large numbers of combat soldiers arrived. Roughly how many were deployed in 1965?

4: The TET Offensive.



How it was a success.

- 1
- 2
- 3

How it was a failure.

- 1:

5: My Lai Massacre.



Give examples how the U.S. failed to win 'hearts and minds'.

- 1:
- 2:
- 3::

8: The Americans Leave



What was agreed in Paris, 1973?

7: Vietnamization.



Define Vietnamization.

Which US president promoted this strategy?

Was Vietnamization successful?

6: 'Uncle Ho' Chi Minh Dies.



How did he die?

'Who' took over control of North Vietnam?

Date	The Vietnam War : Timeline 1858-1975.
1858	France colonises (takes control of) Vietnam.
1890	Ho Chi Minh born.
1930	Ho Chi Minh forms Indochinese Communist Party. (ICP)
1941	Japan invades Vietnam : The French kicked out.
1945	The Viet Minh defeat the Japanese : Vietnamese independence
c1945	The Cold War begins.
1946	The French return and attack the Viet Minh.
1948	The USA commits to a policy of Containment.
Apr 1954	U.S. President Eisenhower gives his 'Domino Theory' Speech.
1954	The Viet Minh defeat the French at Dien Bien Phu.
1954	Vietnam split North / South : elections scheduled for 1956.
1955	Diem becomes president of the South : cancels elections.
1963	Diem overthrown and executed by ARVN generals.
1964	The Gulf of Tonkin Incident : the USA officially enters the war.
1965	200 000 U.S. combat troops arrive.
Jan1968	The TET offensive.
Mar 1968	The My Lai Massacre.
1969	Ho Chi Minh dies.
1969	Nixon elected US president : Vietnamization begins.
1973	Ceasefire agreed in Paris : U.S. soldiers start to leave Vietnam.
1975	North Vietnamese troops invade the South : Vietnam unified.

What do you consider to be the MOST important cause of the war?

A :

What do you consider to be the MAIN reason the Americans left?

A :

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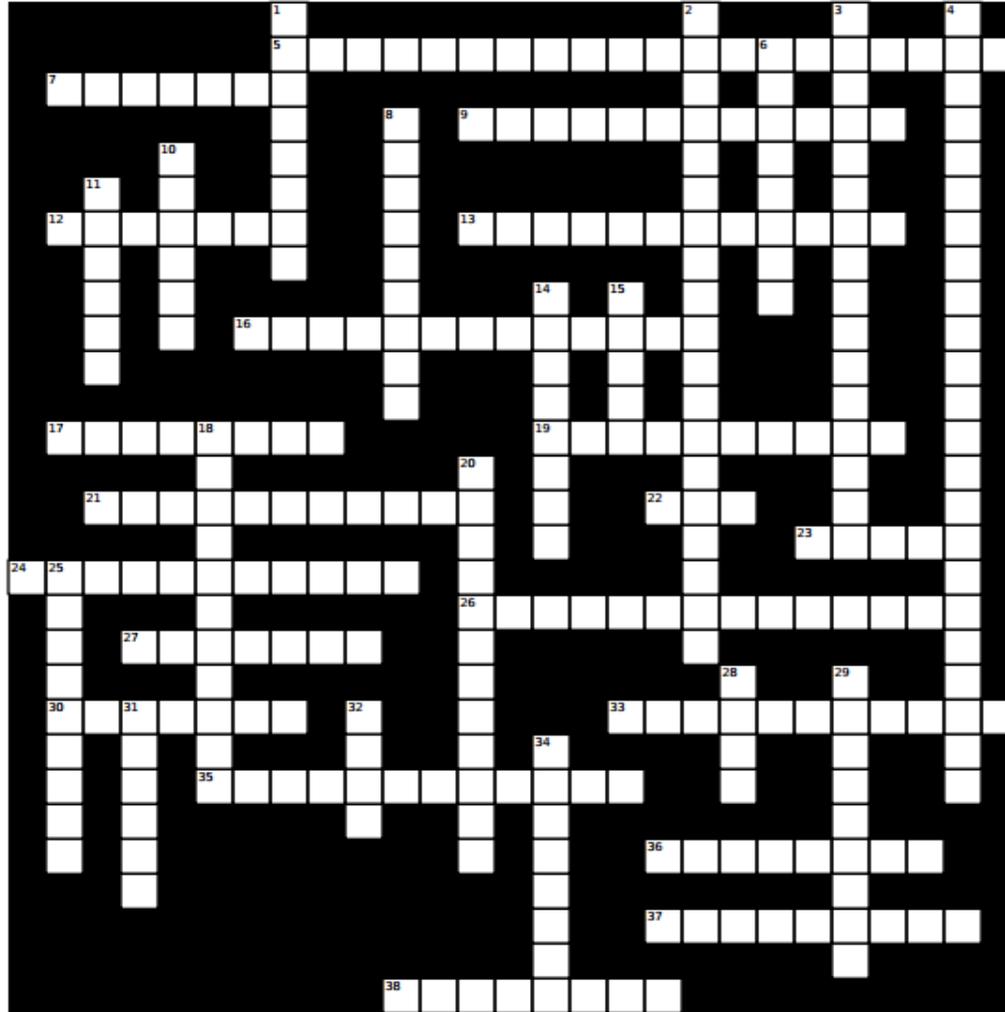
Puzzled About The Vietnam War?

Review : the causes of the conflict, process of the conflict and the reasons for the US withdrawal from Vietnam.

Across



- 5 PAVN.
- 7 The Vietnam **WAR** was part of this bigger one.
- 9 What does this explain. **(A)**
- 12 Decided not to stand for re election after TET.
- 13 Many blacks felt the US was being very h...
- 16 The feelings of the civilian population.
- 17 Southern Vietnamese guerrilla fighters.
- 19 Nickname given to these special soldiers. **(B)**
- 21 What is being sprayed here? **(C)**
- 22 Major NVA / VC attack in January 1968.
- 23 One of the most well known atrocities.
- 24 Who is he ? **(D)**
- 26 Nixon's idea to let the ARVN carry the fight.
- 27 Who is this? **(E)**
- 30 Used by the Viet Cong to fight the US.
- 33 Super power that supported the NVA.
- 35 The usual length of time a US soldier served.
- 36 The killing of their own officers.
- 37 This Viet Cong booby trap. **(F)**
- 38 Korea and Vietnam were these types of war.



Down



- 1 Giap hoped to start this in the south.
- 2 NVA.
- 3 A very destructive US army tactic.
- 4 NLF.
- 6 Ho Chi Minh's communist fighters.
- 8 The 'Uncle' of the North Vietnamese.
- 10 This country supported the USA.
- 11 His is very low. **(G)**
- 14 The average age of a US soldier in Vietnam.
- 15 The president who introduced Vietnamization.
- 18 The policy to stop what is happening in **(A)**
- 20 Agreements made in 1954.
- 25 Diem cancelled these scheduled for 1956.
- 28 The southern leader who made things worse!
- 29 Diem banned the practises of these people.
- 31 What has been dropped here? **(H)**
- 32 Army of Republic of (Southern) Vietnam.
- 34 A terrible act committed during war.



A



B



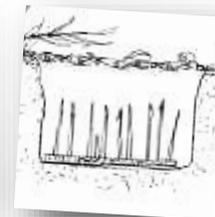
C



D



E



F



G



H

Thank you for supporting the site.

Part 2/2

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and resources remain for your
personal / school teaching use only.**

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