

Critical Thinking Skills

The Vietnam War

Skills For Critical Thinking		Location and Geography?	Background and Causes	Major Figures	Major Battles	Weapons of War	The Role of the Navy	The War at Home	Remembering the War
LEVEL 1 Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> List Details/Facts Recall Information Match Vocabulary to Definitions Recognize Validity(T/F) 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
LEVEL 2 Comprehension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summarize Describe Interpret Compare/Contrast 	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓
LEVEL 3 Application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use Outside Research Tools Application to Own Life Organize Facts Apply Vocabulary Words in Sentences 		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
LEVEL 4 Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draw Conclusions Identify Cause and Effect Make Inferences 				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
LEVEL 5 Synthesis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prediction Imagine Self Interacting with Subject Create a Plan Imagine Alternatives 				✓			✓	
LEVEL 6 Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State and Defend an Opinion Evaluate Explain 	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Based on Bloom's Taxonomy

NAME: _____



Background and Causes

1. Circle the word **TRUE** if the statement is TRUE or Circle the word **FALSE** if it is FALSE.

a) The French controlled Vietnam prior to World War II.

TRUE **FALSE**

b) Vietnam was a democratic country.

TRUE **FALSE**

c) The Soviet Union was an American ally.

TRUE **FALSE**

d) The United States backed the leadership of Ngo Dinh Diem.

TRUE **FALSE**

e) President Kennedy was assassinated in Texas during the Vietnam War.

TRUE **FALSE**

f) Lyndon Johnson was less aggressive with the actions he took.

TRUE **FALSE**

2. Complete each sentence with a word from the list.

Leadership
south

Democratic
defeated

Japanese
nine

supported

During World War II Vietnam was occupied by _____ forces. During this

a

period Great Britain _____ the return of the French to Vietnam. France

b

fought a _____ year war in Vietnam before being _____ in

c

d

1954. The United States moved into _____ Vietnam hoping to help the

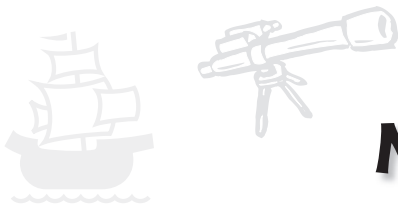
e

south Vietnamese develop a _____ government. The United States

f

backed the _____ of Ngo Dinh Diem.

g

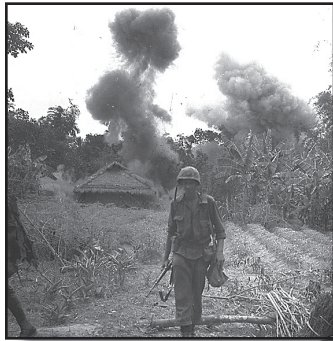


Major Battles

There were many different battles and operations during the Vietnam War. Most involved large numbers of U.S. troops performing sweeps of certain areas searching for the enemy. These were called search and destroy missions. Three of the major battles are described below.



The battle of Ia Drang took place from November 14th – 17th 1965. The U.S. 1st Cavalry Division was specially trained in using helicopters as their main means of transportation. They were sent inland to Pleiku to help relieve Special



Forces units under attack in that area. The battle began when two North Vietnamese Army (NVA) regiments attacked the Special Forces camp at Plei Me. The 7th Cavalry landed troops on the battlefield using helicopters. American forces used heavy artillery and air support over two days and were able to defeat the NVA regiment. The NVA retreated losing more than 2000 men compared to U.S. losses of around 200 men.

A day later when moving to a new location a couple miles away, U.S. troops were ambushed killing or wounding 280 Americans. In the battle of Ia Drang the U.S. was the clear winner in numbers killed, what they called the body count. The Americans learned that they had a clear advantage of mobility and superior firepower when used properly.

Khe Sanh was a remote base near DMZ, or Demilitarized Zone, in the north part of South Vietnam. It was very strategically important. Khe Sanh was one of the highest points in



When did the battle of Ia Drang take place?



Remembering the War



4. Circle the word **TRUE** if the statement is TRUE or Circle the word **FALSE** if it is FALSE.

a) Combat Veterans returned to America and felt unappreciated.

TRUE **FALSE**

b) Once the POW's were returned there were no more soldiers missing in action.

TRUE **FALSE**

c) Currently there are no memorials for the Vietnam veterans.

TRUE **FALSE**

d) PTSD is a mental disorder.

TRUE **FALSE**

e) As time passed veterans were even less appreciated.

TRUE **FALSE**

f) Even Hollywood movies showed the more negative side of the Vietnam War.

TRUE **FALSE**

g) The Geneva Conventions of war allowed for the torture of prisoners.

TRUE **FALSE**

h) American troops called Hoa Lo prison camp the "Hanoi Hilton."

TRUE **FALSE**

5. The Vietnam Memorial in Washington D.C. has engraved:

a) the names of every American Killed in the Vietnam War

b) the names of every American who helped in the Vietnam War

c) the names of every one killed in the Vietnam War

d) None of the above