

Mr. Pruett, World History
Distance Learning Assignment
Week 2, (April 27th – May 1st, 2020)
Online/Edmodo Version
DUE FRIDAY, May 8th at 3:00pm (All Periods)

Student Name:
Teacher Name:
Class Name/Subject:
Period:
Assignment Week #: 1

Rationale: - The Vietnam War

The Vietnam War was a long, costly and divisive conflict that pitted the Communist world versus the Democratic/Capitalist world once again, lasting roughly from 1963-1975. The two adversaries were the Communist government of North Vietnam against South Vietnam, and its main ally, the US. The conflict was considered a proxy (“stand-in”) war in the ongoing Cold War between the US and the Soviet Union. More than 3 million people (including over 58,000 Americans) were killed. After treaties were signed to gradually pull out American forces beginning in 1973, Communist forces ended the war by seizing control of South Vietnam in 1975. South Vietnam was unable to defend itself without American support, so all of Vietnam was unified as a Communist state the following year.

Objective:

Students will be able to complete written responses to the prompts, outlined below, for THREE of the SIX world events discussed in this unit.

Essential Questions:

- 1) How was American involvement in Vietnam an example of “Domino Theory” in effect?
- 2) What role does the “Gulf of Tonkin” incident play at the start of the war?
- 3) What role does the Tet Offensive play as a turning point in the war?
- 4) Why is Vietnamization considered a failure?
- 5) What lessons did America learn regarding “Containment” from the Vietnam War?

Directions:

- a) Choose THREE of the FIVE that you would like to answer.
- b) Follow the steps for each question using the resources below.
- c) Type on a separate Microsoft Word document, or equivalent.
- d) Choose one of these fonts only: Ariel, Calibri, or Times New Roman
- e) Font size: 12.
- f) Length: DOUBLE-SPACED (that means skipping one line in between) TYPED HALF-PAGE PER QUESTION.
- g) Upload to your class period at Mr. Pruett’s Edmodo page (see Edmodo for help with this.)
- h) Don’t forget to type your name and class period at the top!

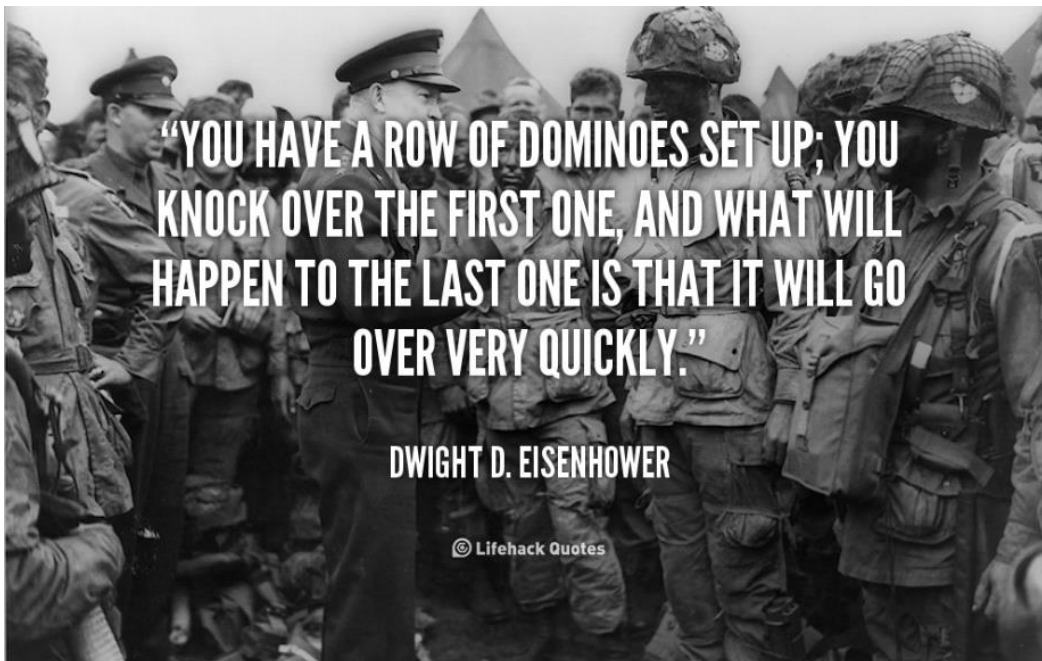
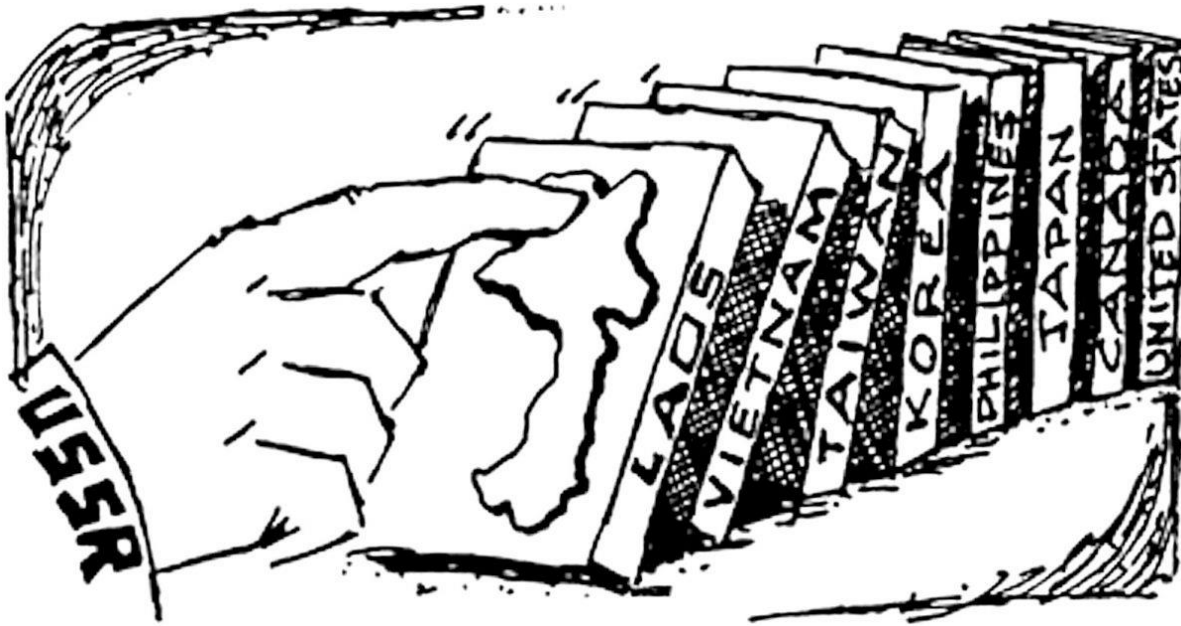
See below for questions and resources...

#1 - How was American involvement in Vietnam an example of “Domino Theory” in effect?

Secondary Resource: https://www.history.com/topics/vietnam-war/vietnam-war-history#section_9

Use the above secondary resource, and quote at least one of the primary resource from below in your response.

Hint: Remember what our government thought of Communism and the Soviet Union in general (evil.)



2) What role does the “Gulf of Tonkin” incident play at the start of the war?

Secondary Resource: https://www.history.com/topics/vietnam-war/vietnam-war-history#section_9

Use the above secondary resource, and quote the primary resource from below in your response.

Gulf of Tonkin Resolution Excerpt – Primary Resource:

88th Session of Congress, 2nd session, January 7th, 1964. Joint Resolution.

Topic: To promote the maintenance of international peace and security in southeast Asia.

“Whereas naval units of the Communist regime in Vietnam, in violation of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and of international law, have deliberately and repeatedly attacked United States naval vessels lawfully present in international waters, and have thereby created a serious threat to international peace; and

Whereas these attackers are part of deliberate and systematic campaign of aggression that the Communist regime in North Vietnam has been waging against its neighbors and the nations joined with them in the collective defense of their freedom; and

Whereas the United States is assisting the peoples of southeast Asia to protect their freedom and has no territorial, military or political ambitions in that area, but desires only that these people should be left in peace to work out their destinies in their own way: Now, therefore be it

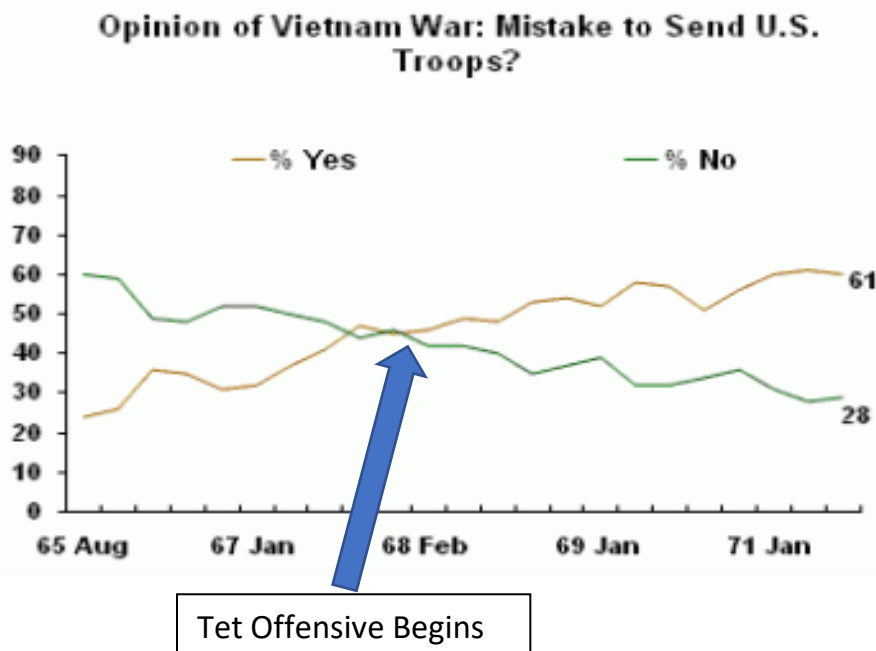
Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Congress approves and supports the determination of the President, as Commander in Chief, to take all necessary measures to repel any armed attack against the forces of the United States and to prevent further aggression.”

3) What role does the “Tet Offensive” play as a turning point in the war?

Secondary Resource: https://www.history.com/topics/vietnam-war/vietnam-war-history#section_9

Use the above secondary resource, and use the image/chart below in your response.

Hint: First explain what the Tet offensive was, then use the chart below.



4) Why is "Vietnamization" considered a failure?

Secondary Resource: <https://www.history.com/topics/vietnam-war/vietnamization>

Secondary Resource:

https://www.vietnam.ttu.edu/events/2002_Symposium/2002Papers_files/vietnamization.php

Hint: First explain what Vietnamization was.

5) What lessons did America learn regarding "Containment" from the Vietnam War?

Secondary Resource: https://www.history.com/topics/vietnam-war/vietnam-war-history#section_12

Hint: First define what "Containment" was, then answer the question. Use at least one of the resources below in your answer.

Resource #1:

From: The Vietnam War and the Tragedy of Containment

by Michael O'Malley

"Under President Harry Truman, the United States had established a foreign policy doctrine called 'containment.' Originated by George Kennan, Dean Acheson, and other diplomats and policy advisors, the policy of 'containment' aimed not to fight an all out war with the communist Soviet Union, but rather to confine communism and the Soviet Union to their existing boundaries. This doctrine led directly to the Vietnam war. 'Containment' was based on several premises:

1. That the Soviet Union was always expansionist--the Soviet Union, 'animated by a new fanatic faith,' was determined 'to impose its absolute authority on the rest of the world.'

2. That any new communist governments would inevitably be part of Soviet 'empire'--in the doctrine of 'containment' there could be no such thing as a "nonaligned nation." No nation could be neutral. It must be either part of the Soviet empire or what we would probably then have to call the "American empire."

3. That communism, and the Soviet Union, must be contained. The doctrine of containment argued that all-out war should be avoided, but the US should pledge itself to stopping any new communist governments, or preventing any existing communist governments from expanding."

Resource #2:

From: The Vietnam War and the Tragedy of Containment

by Michael O'Malley

"It was the United States' first clear loss in a war, leaving 58,000 American dead. It had cost 140 billion dollars."