

Exploring Vietnam



Read “Before the American War”

Why did Truman decide to allow France to try and gain control of Indochina after America had sought to end colonialism?

Why did America begin helping fund the French army?

Read “Into the Quagmire”

What does the defeat of the French say about the Vietnamese forces?

Was Eisenhower right to not get involved in the battle? Why or why not?

Why did the North Vietnamese not trust a system of diplomacy?

Read “Vietnam War”

What two ideas did President Kennedy use as justification for his foreign policy?

How did President Kennedy’s actions bring America one step closer to war in Vietnam?

Read “LBJ”

Looking back at the five options President Johnson believed he had in regard to America’s role in Vietnam, which option do you think he should have chosen? Why?

How did the Tet Offensive show that the Viet Cong were changing tactics?

Read Nixon and Vietnam

What was President Nixon’s plan for reducing American casualties called?

What replaced the military draft?

Read “The War’s Costs” & “The War’s Consequences”

Who do you believe lost the most due to the Vietnam War—America or Vietnam? Give three reasons for your answer.

What positive outcomes in regard to governmental policy are due to the Vietnam War?