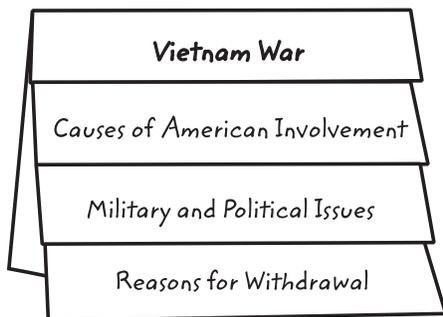


The Vietnam War

TOPIC SUMMARY

United States involvement in Vietnam began as an attempt to contain the communist regime of North Vietnam and preserve the non-communist regime of South Vietnam. The U.S. commitment began with a few military advisers in the late 1950s, but by the war's end, about 58,000 Americans had lost their lives in the fighting. More than 2 million Vietnamese died. The war divided public opinion, arousing a protest movement during the 1960s that permanently altered American society.

Chronicling Phases of the War



Layered-Look Book

Students should create a Layered-Look Book to chronicle the Vietnam War. After reviewing information on the war, students should organize the information into three categories: causes of American involvement; military and political issues that arose during the war; the reasons for American withdrawal. Encourage students to include political, military, economic, and diplomatic dimensions of American involvement.

Materials Needed: two sheets of 8.5" x 11" paper, stapler.

Defining Vietnam Terminology

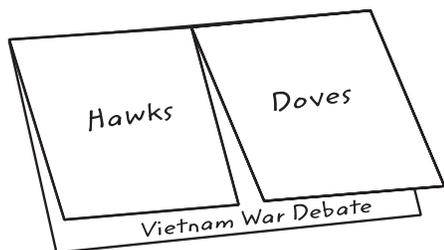


Vocabulary Book

Ask students to create a Foldable that will aid their review study of the Vietnam War. They should select terms as they read the chapter and then create a 10-tab Vocabulary Book. Students will choose different terms, but examples might include *Ho Chi Minh*, *containment*, *domino theory*, *guerrilla*, *napalm*, *Agent Orange*, *Dien Bien Phu*, *Geneva Accords*, *Gulf of Tonkin resolution*, *Vietminh*. Terms will be defined under each tab as appropriate.

Materials Needed: one sheet of 8.5" x 11" paper, scissors.

Clarifying Opposing Arguments



Two-Tab Book

Ask students to research the reasons people gave for and against U.S. foreign policy during the war in Vietnam. Students can then list the major arguments in a Two-Tab Foldable under the headings *Hawks* and *Doves*.

Materials Needed: one sheet of 8.5" x 11" paper, scissors.