# Korean War Perspectives

## Author Information

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## General Information

**Lesson Grade Span:** Secondary (9-12)  
**Targeted Grade Level/Course:** World or US History  
**Estimated Time to Complete Lesson:** 2 45-minute classes

## Focused Question

How did perspectives differ during the Korean War?

## Standards (State/C3)

**D2.His.5.9-12.** Analyze how historical contexts shaped and continue to shape people’s perspectives.

**D2.His.6.9-12.** Analyze the ways in which the perspectives of those writing history shaped the history that they produced.

## Student & Target Outcomes

Examine and infer the perspectives of soldiers and civilians during the Korean War.
# WHDE Lesson Plan

## LESSON OVERVIEW

Using the information from “Beyond the Bridge of No Return”, [Perspectives from the Korean War Legacy Foundation](https://koreanwarlegacy.org) and the image collection, consider the perspectives of the various people involved in the Korean War. Students will write a detailed statement and draw faces/heads with emotions that match an aspect of their experience.

## PROCEDURES

**Part One:** Print the included pictures and post them around the room. Paste each picture onto a larger piece of paper, or attach to white boards around the room. Have students do a gallery walk and do a “silent conversation” about the photos by writing comments on the paper. They are practicing visual thinking by responding to the question “What is going on in this photo?” Students should read and respond to comments by other students.

**Part Two:** Watch the documentary “Beyond the Bridge of No Return” from the Korean War Legacy Foundation, available online here [https://koreanwarlegacy.org/beyond-the-bridge-of-no-return-legacy-of-a-korean-war-veteran/](https://koreanwarlegacy.org/beyond-the-bridge-of-no-return-legacy-of-a-korean-war-veteran/)

Have students find the “Perspectives” page from the Korean War Legacy Foundation [https://koreanwarlegacy.org/chapters/multiple-perspectives-on-the-korean-war/](https://koreanwarlegacy.org/chapters/multiple-perspectives-on-the-korean-war/) where students will read the information there.

**Part Three:** Students thoughtfully complete the graphic organizer, writing first person accounts from various participants in the Korean War.

## FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

**Part Four:** Students write a paragraph, using evidence from the lesson, responding to the following question: How did the context of people’s experiences or roles in the war shape their perspectives of the conflict?

## RESOURCE LIST


Graphic organizer and images in separate, attached file
Korean War Perspectives

Using the information from “Beyond the Bridge of No Return”, Perspectives from the Korean War Legacy Foundation, and the image collection, consider the perspectives of the various people involved in the Korean War. Based on your research, infer a detailed statement and draw emotions that match an aspect of their experience. Use specifics and accurate images (ex. mustache on Stalin, pipe for MacArthur).

As General of the UN forces, I know that the only way to contain Communism in Korea is to use nuclear weapons against them. A lot of nukes!

Douglas MacArthur