(Pushing Possibilities)

AUTHOR INFORMATION

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Lesson Grade Span: Middle and High School, 6-8 and 9-12 Targeted Grade Level/Course: Social Studies, Economics Estimated Time to Complete Lesson: 1 class

FOCUSED QUESTION(S)

- What is significant about a countries production possibility?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages between high/low capital goods production and high/low consumer production?
- What types of governments are associated with high/low capital goods and high/low consumer goods production?

STANDARDS (STATE/C3)

- **D2.Eco.1.6-8.** Explain how economic decisions affect the well-being of individuals, businesses and society.
- **D2.Eco.7.6-8.** Analyze the role of innovation and entrepreneurship in a market economy.
- **D2.Eco.13.9-12.** Explain why advancements in technology and investments in capital good and human capital increase economic growth and standards of living.

STUDENT & TARGET OUTCOMES

- Understand the concept of Production Possibilities
- Make inferences about the impact that the Korean War has had on the economy of the Republic of Korea (South Korea)

Understand how production possibilities curves illustrate choice, how choice illustrates opportunity cost and how opportunity cost is illustrative of trade-offs encountered on a daily basis.

LESSON OVERVIEW

Students will explore the economic differences between North Korea and South Korea and apply concepts of production possibilities in order to make informed determinations about the economic prosperity (or lack thereof) in both North Korea and South Korea.

In small groups of 4-5, students will be presented with a variety of sources. These sources will help students draw conclusions, make inferences and make comparisons of production possibilities in both North Korea and South Korea.

Students will then engage in a gallery walk to view the conclusions of the various groups in the classroom.

Finally, students will individually reflect on the activity.

PROCEDURES

Materials Needed:

- White Boards (Class Set)
- Dry Erase Marker (1 per student)
- Primary & Secondary Source Documents printed or,
- Ipads/Computers
- Production Possibilities Chart Sheet
- Korean Peninsula Compare/Contrast Sheet
- Reflective Journal

Prior Knowledge:

Teacher

- The teacher should have an understanding of the implications of opportunity cost and how choice and tradeoffs are universally shared amongst everyone everywhere.
- The teacher should understand the sources used in the activity.

- The teacher should understand the macro application of the Production Possibilities Curve and the differences between economies that focus on capital goods production versus those focused on consumer goods production.
- The teachers should have an understanding of the micro application of the Production Possibilities Curve and how it is illustrative of maximum individual potential in relation to opportunity cost.
- The teacher should have knowledge of government types and how command and free market economies relate to a focus on capital goods production over consumer goods production respectively.

Students

- Students should have an understanding of various types of governments.
- Students should have a basic understanding of a how to draw, correctly label and interpret a Production Possibilities Curve.
- Students should have the ability to discern a primary source from a secondary source.

Introduction (Focus, Anticipatory Set):

In order to draw on previous knowledge, students will be asked to correctly draw and label two production possibilities curves. The first will represent an economy at full production and the second will represent an economy in a recession. Additionally, students will define Capital Goods and Consumer Goods by giving two examples of each.

Procedure:

Teacher will:

- Split students into groups of four or five
- Give each group a pre-sorted folder of primary and secondary sources, Production Possibilities Chart Sheets and Korean Peninsula Compare and Contrast Sheets
- Keep time

Students will:

- Individually, read/analyze primary and secondary sources looking for exemplars of production possibilities in Korea
- Collaboratively, compare and contrast North and South Korea using the Korean Peninsula Compare and Contrast Sheet
- Individually, plot North Korea and South Korea on their respective production possibilities graphs
- Collaboratively, compare their graphs, and then produce one, agreed upon, production possibilities graph for North and South Korea

Teacher will:

• Facilitate a "gallery walk" or a rotation through group areas (whichever is best for the classroom)

Students will:

- Rotate, with groups, through the gallery walk or around group areas
- Read and critique their peer group charts
- Return to their seats and individually reflect on the findings

Closing and Evaluation:

The teacher should close the lesson by making personal application of production possibilities to students' lives. On a macro level, students should be able to determine where the United States economy would be placed on the graph. On a micro level, students should understand that production possibilities curves can illustrate our own potential. Because they are illustrative of trade-offs, full potential requires choices and choices are reflective of opportunity cost.

After the teacher will invite students to complete a personal reflection based on their observations of the activity. Students should place focus on how the production possibilities curve illustrates the economic focus of each country. Additionally, reflections should draw support from the primary sources and secondary sources included in the activity.

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

Students will be assessed, formatively, in various ways throughout the lesson.

- Focus, Anticipatory set (Production Possibilities Curves)
- Group participation
- Personal Reflection

RESOURCE LIST

https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/sep/19/parallel-lives-matching-portraits-from-southand-north-korea-in-pictures

https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-41228181

MODIFICATIONS & EXTENSIONS (OPTIONAL)

MODIFICATIONS

The teacher is the expert in the classroom and must preview all materials prior to students completing the lesson. From there, teachers may decide which materials are most appropriate for various learner group or individuals in their classroom. Given the focus of the lesson, teachers may choose to look for pictures or materials that might better suit students in their classes.

Pushing Possibilities



Examples of Consumer Goods:

3. Analyze why both types of economies are good and why focusing on one is bad.





North v South Korea				
Country	N.Korea (Democratic People's Republic of)	S.Korea (Republic of)		
Population	24,720,407	48,955,203		
GDP (purchasing power parity), \$bn	40	1,622		
GDP - real growth rate (%)	0.8	2.7		
GDP - per capita (PPP), \$	1,800	32,400		
Unemployment rate, %		3.8		
Urban population (%)	60	83		
Military expenditures				
Median age	33	39		
Infant mortality rate, per 1,000 live births	26.21	4.08		
Life expectancy at birth (total population)	69.2	79.3		
Area	122,762 sq km	99,313 sq km		
Corruption Index ranking 2012	174	45		
Press Freedom Index 2013	178	50		
Total executed, 2007-2011	105	0		
Total sentenced to death, 2007-2011	0	13		
CO2 Emissions (metric tons per capita)	3.1	10.4		
% of rural population with access to an improved water source	97	88		
Internet users per 100 people	< 0.1	81.5		
Intentional homicide, rate per 100,000 population	15.2	2.6		
Intentional homicide, count per 100,000 population	3,658	1,251		
Exports, \$ billion	4.71	552.6		
Imports	4	514.2		
Net official development assistance (ODA) and official aid (current US\$)	78,840,000	-69,070,000		
Net ODA per capita (current US\$)	3			
Global Hunger Index score	19	N/A		
Manpower fit for military service, males age 16-49	4,836,567	10,864,566		
Manpower fit for military service, females age 16-49	5,230,137	10,168,709		
Active duty	1190000	655000		
Reserve	600,000 (Armed Forces). Paramilitary 5,700,000	4,500,000. Paramilitary 3,000,000		
Military expenditure as a percentage of GDP	22.3	2.8		
Military spending, \$ billion	8.21	26.1		

North v South Korea

Dynasty vs democracy

Leaders since 1948



3



L-r: Kim II-sung, Kim Jong-il, Kim Jong-un



L-r: Rhee Syng-man, Yun Bo-seon, Park Chung-hee, Choi Kyu-hah, Chun Doo-hwan, Roh Tae-woo, Kim Young-sam, Kim Dae-jung, Roh Moo-hyun, Lee Myung-bak, Park Geun-hye, Moon Jae-in

Source: CIA World Factbook

BBC

Hardly anyone has a mobile

Mobile phone subscriptions, 2015



North Koreans are shorter than South Koreans



North Korea's roads are bad



Coal is king in the North

Main exports from North and South Korea, 2015



Source: OEC

BBC

But the Koreas used to be much more closely matched

GDP per capita in USD, 1950-2010



Source: The Maddison Project

Military might

Active Personnel		North Korea	South Korea
Total		1,190,000	630,000
Army	*	1,020,000	495,000
Navy	-	60,000	70,000
Air force	*	110,000	65,000
Paramilitary	۲	189,000	4,500
Reserves	Ť	5,700,000	4,500,000
Tanks	-	3,500	2,434
Aircraft	+	545	567
Submarines	-	73	23
Artillery	"	21,100	11,000

Source: The Military Balance 2017, IISS

BBC

South Koreans live longer

Average life expectancy, 1960-2015
South Korea
North Korea



Source: World Bank

... but North Koreans have more babies

Birth rate per 1,000 people





Seoul Before the Korean War



Seoul During the War





Seoul Modern Day



Schooling Before the Korean War



Schooling During the War





Schooling Modern Day



Businesses Before the Korean War



Businesses During the War



Businesses Modern Day



Transportation Before the Korean War



Buses right after the Korean War were either donated by the U.N., or assembled with components from vehicles damaged during the war.

Transportation During the War



Transportation Modern Day



Han River Before the Korean War



Han River During the Korean War



Han River Modern Day



Homes Before the Korean War



Homes During the Korean War



Homes Modern Day

