

NAME: _____



Activity One

Hosting the Olympics

Almost every country wants to host the Olympics. People from all over the world will be visiting the host country, spending millions of dollars.

In order to be considered, countries must write a bid. The bid describes what their country has to offer, what changes will be made to allow for the Olympics, and why their country is the best choice.

Once a country has been chosen to host by the International Olympic Committee, the country starts building different sites for the sporting events. These could be all centered in one city, or they can be in several locations in the country.

The years before the Olympics will be very busy. Roads will need to be widened, and hotels and other buildings will need to be constructed. This brings many new jobs to the country.

After the Olympics, people will have seen the best the country has to offer on their television. Tourism will increase, and more money will be spent in the country. The country will benefit for years.

Directions: Answer each question below.

1. Why do countries want to host the Olympics?

2. What happens to a country after their bid is chosen?

3. How do countries benefit for years after hosting?

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Activity Two

NATO

Directions: Use the Internet, encyclopedias, textbooks, and other resources to help you answer the questions below.

1. What does NATO stand for? When did it begin?

2. Who were the first country members to join NATO?

3. What is the cause for NATO to form?

4. What's the difference between a NATO member and a NATO partner?

5. Which European countries are currently NOT a member of NATO?

6. Which European countries are currently a NATO partner? Why are they not members?

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Activity Three

Apartheid

Imagine going to vote for a new leader for your country. You go to vote, but are told to go home. You are told your vote does not count because of the color of your skin. This is what life was like in South Africa for black citizens during apartheid.

South Africa was and still is an important port city. During the 17th century, Dutch traders settled in South Africa. These settlers brought slaves with them from India, Madagascar, and other countries. This began the separation of races in South Africa.

Slavery was later made illegal in South Africa, but new laws were created that did not give the same rights to black citizens as they did to white citizens.

This continued for decades. Mandela's time in prison brought worldwide attention to apartheid. After his release, apartheid laws were removed, and all people in South Africa began to enjoy the same rights and freedoms.

1. How did slavery begin in South Africa?

2. After slavery was made illegal, why did black citizens not enjoy the same rights as white citizens?

3. How did Nelson Mandela's prison time help bring about an end to apartheid?

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Activity Four

The Cold War

Directions: Put the events of the Cold War in the correct order on the lines provided. Start with the earliest events and end with the last event. You may use other resources to help you.

- Berlin Wall falls.
- Fidel Castro takes over Cuba.
- End of Soviet Union.
- Communist leader Mao Zedong takes over China.
- Construction of the Berlin Wall.
- Reagan and Gorbachev remove their missiles from Europe.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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Activity Five

The Nobel Peace Prize

Directions: Use the Internet, encyclopedias, textbooks, and other resources to help you answer the questions below.

1. Where is the Peace Prize awarded?

2. How often is the Peace Prize awarded?

3. How are people selected to receive the Peace Prize?

4. What is the Nobel Peace Center?

5. List the last four people who have received the Nobel Peace Prize.

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Activity Six

Buddhism

Buddhism is an ancient world religion. It is one of the five major religions of the world. Most Buddhists live in central and Eastern Asia, but Buddhists live throughout the world.

Buddhists do not believe in a central God figure. They follow the teachings of the Buddha. They also believe in ending suffering. This can be done through perfect spiritual awareness.

Buddhists believe in showing compassion to all living creatures. This includes animals. Because of this, many Buddhists are vegetarians.

Meditation is a common practice. They do this to clear their mind and gain spiritual wisdom. Many Buddhists meditate several times a day in order to get perfect spiritual awareness.

1. Where do most Buddhists live?

2. How do Buddhists believe suffering will end?

3. Why are some Buddhists vegetarians?

4. Why do Buddhists meditate?
