



Vocabulary Instruction

Vocabulary Games & Practice

3 Truths and a Lie

Students select a word from their list and then to write down four statements about that word. Encourage them to think about the word's part of speech, the definition, related and unrelated words, associations they may have, and the word's personality. One of the statements they write should be a lie.

Here's an example: Ubiquitous - Ubiquitous is kind of like the plague. Even if you don't like it, you can't get rid of it. / Ubiquitous is an adverb / Ubiquitous is cousins with the words "pervasive" and "universal." / If cockroaches were ubiquitous, I'd move to Mars.

Your students can get as creative as they want with their sentences. After creating them, collect the statements, and put students in small groups. Have them discuss the words and statements to try to identify the lie.

If you're concerned about the accuracy of your students' sentences and want to avoid unnecessary confusion, read through them first and have students work in groups to discuss them the next day.

Personify a Word Using Social Media

Words can be given personalities based on their meaning. Asking students to personify a word gets them to think about it differently. It's beneficial to allow students to choose a word they want to learn. Encourage students to select a new word from the list, one they either have never heard of, or one they have heard of but cannot explain.

- To do this activity digitally [Snapsr](#) can be used to generate Fake Snapchat Posts from the perspective of the chosen word
- [iOSText](#) can be used to create a fake texting conversation from the perspective of the chosen word

Black History Month

[The NC Heritage Calendar 2018: Celebrating the NC African-American Experience](#)

Honors some of the men and women, of all races, who have contributed significantly to the lives and experiences of African-Americans in our state

[Smithsonian Resources for Teaching American History: Civil Rights](#)

Several Documents Based Questions for various levels, lessons and primary sources on the topic of Civil Rights

[Newseum Ed Lessons: Civil Rights](#)

Lessons and activities using the newspapers from the appropriate period reporting the events

[Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade Database](#)

Sponsored in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities The database and the separate estimates interface offer researchers, students and the general public a chance to rediscover the reality of one of the largest forced movements of peoples in world history

[Created Equal: America's Civil Rights Struggle](#)

Four films on the long civil rights movement sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities

Essential Questions

Constitution & Amendments

What rights should all people have?
Why are individual rights and freedoms essential for citizens?
What is the role of compromise in our diverse democracy?
How does religion shape the creation of laws?

Business & Capitalism

How does something acquire a value?

Islamic Empires

What happens when cultures collide?
How do Muslim ideas in math & medicine still influence the world today?
How are Islam, Christianity and Judaism similar and different?
How does access to water influence how we live?
How does expansion create challenges?

Ancient Africa

How has geography shaped the culture and relationships in the region?
How did choices about how trade was conducted affect the wealth of Ghana?

American Revolution

What is worth fighting for?
Was the American Revolution a radical revolution?

Progressive Era & Reforms

How do new technologies result in broader social change?
How does who you are help determine your perception of progress?
Does government have a responsibility to help the needy?

Ancient India

How did the beliefs of Brahmanism and Hinduism impact Indian society?
How does geography affect the spread of ideas and information?

Great Depression

Does economic prosperity result from tax cuts and minimal government?
Was the New Deal an effective response to the depression?
Has the United States abandoned the legacy of the New Deal?

Resources

Primary Source Documents

[100 Milestone Documents](#)

From the National Archives a listing of with access to 100 documents from 1766 to 1965 determined to be documents that shaped the course of US History

[Many Pasts](#)

From George Mason University primary documents in text, image, and audio about the experiences of ordinary Americans throughout U.S. history

[LIFE Photo Archive](#)

Hosted by Google is a searchable repository of all LIFE photos from 1860 to 1970

Constitution & Amendments

[Interactive Constitution](#)

Explore the amendments with interpretations of each amendment in student friendly language

[Rights Around the World](#)

Interactive map showing which amendment rights exist in other countries

[Constitute](#)

View and compare constitutions from around the world

Business & Capitalism

[Economics of Sports](#)

Lessons illustrating economic concepts using real world examples from the world of professional sports

Islamic Empires

[Inside Islam: What A Billion Muslims Really Think](#)

Documentary explores the opinions of Muslims around the globe based on Gallup data. Including questions such as: Who are the extremists and how do Muslims feel about them? This film is rated PG13 so it would be prudent to select excerpts to share with students

African History

[TED-ED: The History of African-American Social Dance](#)

American Revolution

[Interactive timeline of the American Revolution](#)

Progressive Era & Reforms

[Boston Molasses Disaster](#)

Article describing the Boston Molasses Disaster and its result in calls for reform

Great Depression

[Interactive Dust Bowl](#)

An interactive experience that will show you what life was like on the southern Great Plains during the Dust Bowl.

[Great Depression Interviews](#)

From Washington University, audio/video interviews with individuals who lived during the Great Depression

Historical Thinking Skills

Historical Significance

When did the struggle for African American civil rights begin? Examining this question about the origin of the civil rights movement requires students to evaluate their understanding of what makes an event, individual or accomplishment historically significant.

To start the lesson, provide students with a series of visual images to examine. They each vote to select the two images that they most closely associate with the fight for civil rights. The top vote getters will likely be images which include Martin Luther King Jr or Rosa Parks. After sharing the results of the vote, pose questions to the class driving them to consider their own thinking about why those are the images most associated with the civil rights movement. Then post questions to determine if those images are truly the most representative of the movement. When leading students through this discussion, remember that they come to your history class with ideas about the past often based primarily on oral family stories, historical films and television.

Next, have students work as a class to develop a group definition for what makes something historically significant. They will use the criteria in their definition to determine what people, events, ideas and actions were potentially the origins of the civil rights movement. After using the class formulated definition for historical significance, pose questions to direct students in honing their criteria for determining historical significance. Lead the class to come up with at least three key criteria.

Historians usually consider the five key criteria to be: importance, profundity, quantity, durability and relevance.

Using the refined criteria for determining historical significance, students look at an annotated timeline with key moments from the civil rights movement including events from 1900 to 1955. Students match the criteria for significance to the items on the timeline to determine what they think is the origin of the civil rights movement. Once they have determined the event(s) that started the movement students must defend their choice with evidence and examples.

From Bruce Lesh, "Why Won't You Just Tell Us the Answer?"

Media Literacy

Everyone interprets media through the lens of their own experience. In the media saturated modern day students need to be able to comprehend what is being communicated through media similar to the way they comprehend what they read in texts. Media literacy includes understanding, critically viewing, and communicating through media.

Some Questions to Ask When Analyzing Media

Who made this film/image?

What do I need to know about the filmmaker/photographer/designer to analyze this image?

What does the filmmaker/photographer/designer want people to know or remember?

Who is the target audience?

Who might benefit from the messages in this film/image? Who might be harmed?

What ideas, values and information are overt? Implied?

How might others see this film/image in a way that differs from the way I see it?

What is my reaction to this film/image? What do I learn about myself from my reaction/interpretation?

Media Based Questions

Stanford History Education Group provides assessments, at [Beyond the Bubble](#), that require students to use historical thinking skills to analyze images and similar media. This style of assessment can also be applied to videos, such as commercials, clips and news reports from past decades, charts and map.

Note: These questions and images can be put into Canvas as a quiz to digitize the assessment.

Professional Development

Civil Rights Movement: Grass Roots Perspective

Participants will learn the bottom-up history of the Civil Rights Movement and receive resources and strategies to bring it home to their students, so that they can see themselves in this history. Teachers will have the unique opportunity to learn from people who were key organizers in the Civil Rights Movement, and from leading scholars of that era.

Dates: July 9 – 27, 2018 - 3 weeks

Location: Duke University, Durham, NC

Application Deadline: March 1, 2018 / To Apply visit the [NEH Teacher Summer Institute Website](#)

Stipend: \$2,700

Integrating Technology

Create a Political Advertisement

Essential Question: What is the most effective persuasive technique used by the media to influence voters?

The Campaign Ad Project serves as a powerful tool for students to engage in the election process. Students think critically about the various persuasive techniques that you are used in campaign ads to identify what they believe to be the most effective technique and use that technique to create a political advertisement for themselves or a fictional candidate.

To add an element of authentic audience and community involvement students can also create campaign ads for real political candidates to inform voters about the candidates platform, voting record, campaign promises, etc.

To give students context and develop a foundation for creating political advertisements consider using the [Anatomy of a Political Ad lesson](#) from KQED

Video Tools

FlipGrid
iMovie
Quicktime
PhotoBooth

Design Tools

Canva
Piktochart
Pages
Keynote

Audio Tools

GarageBand

Google News Archive

Hidden behind the current events is the Google News Archive with digitized copies of newspapers from around the world, some dating back to the 1800s. Viewers can zoom in on newspapers and read the articles.

Google Keep

New tool from Google is similar to Evernote but lives in side Google Drive. Students can take notes, add media, share and collaborate on notes.

Miscellany

1898 in Wilmington, NC was the only successful coup d'etat in US History when a mob overthrew the elected government in Wilmington due to dissatisfaction with Reconstruction

Games in Social Studies

Civics Games

Why Games

Games can get students thinking critically about the subject matter the games addresses.

Games can also be used those as discussion points
A powerful way to use games in the classroom is to ask students to propose modifications to a game based on the issues discussed

History Games

The Republia Times

The Republia Times puts you into the shoes of the editor-in-chief of the national newspaper of Republia, a fictional country recovering from a war with its neighbor. Republia is run by a totalitarian government and is keeping your wife and children until you can increase the loyalty of the public by highlighting good things about the government. In managing your newspaper, you must select articles as they come into the newsroom, making sure to pick flattering stories. The Republia Times is not just a propaganda machine as you must balance your political agenda with interesting articles that will secure a large reader base.

Simulation Games

3rd World Farmer

Simulates some of the real-world mechanisms that cause and sustain poverty in 3rd World countries. In the game, the player gets to manage an African farm and is soon confronted with the difficult choices that poverty and conflict can cause.

Ayiti: The Cost of Life

Simulates what it is like to live in poverty, struggling every day to stay healthy, keep out of debt, and get educated. Players take responsibility for a family of five in rural Haiti. From UNICEF with Microsoft support.

Parable of the Polygon

Using simple geometric shapes, the game shows how small individual biases can become large institutional biases

Syrian Journey: Choose Your Own Escape Route

Players explore the exodus of the Syrian people. Game aims to bring the audience closer to the plight of Syrian refugees in an interactive and creative way.

Darfur is Dying

Players takes a role of a displaced Darfurian living in a refugee camp, facing lack of water they have to find a new sources of this resource. During their searching players need to be very careful and hide – otherwise they end up captured by aggressive militia.

The Redistricting Game

Designed to educate, engage, and empower citizens around the issue of political redistricting. Players experience the realities of one of the most important aspects of our political system. The game provides a basic introduction to the redistricting system, allows players to explore the ways in which abuses can undermine the system, and provides info about reform initiatives. Beyond playing the game, the web site for The Redistricting Game provides opportunities for civic engagement and political action.

That's Your Right

Digital card game that teaches students in middle school and high school about the first ten amendments of American Constitution

Fake it to Make it

Players take on the role of someone creating and distributing fake news for profit. Players learn how misinformation is created, spread, and emotionally targeted, and leave better prepared to be skeptical of misinformation that they encounter.

NOTE: Check on student computer a few days before use games, etc to ensure these sites are not blocked by the internet filter.

- *If you find that they are blocked please [submit an unblock request](#).*
- *You can [check the progress of your unblock request](#)*