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| **What will we be learning?**  The Vietnam War: 1954 - 1975 | **Why this? Why now?**  This Unit will examine the Causes, Events and Consequences of the Vietnam War. In this depth study you will see the inter-relationship of political, economic and military factors in shaping the conflict between the USA and North/South Vietnam  **Previous Learning –** 20th Century Conflict KS3 Unit  **Future Learning –** A Level History Coursework Unit/ Civil Rights Unit | **Key Words:**  See Glossary  **Key People:**  Ho Chi Minh  Ngo Dinh Diem  Harry Truman  Dwight. Eisenhower  John. F. Kennedy  Lyndon. B Johnson  Richard Nixon |
| **What will we learn?**  1 Reasons for US involvement in the conflict in Vietnam, 1954–63  ● The battle of Dien Bien Phu and the end of French rule in Vietnam.  ● Reasons for greater US involvement under Eisenhower, including the domino theory and weaknesses of the Diem government.  ● Greater involvement under Kennedy, including the overthrow of Diem and the Strategic Hamlet Program.  2 Escalation of the conflict under Johnson  ● The increasing threat of the Vietcong.  ● The Gulf of Tonkin incident (1964), and increased US involvement in Vietnam.  3 The nature of the conflict in Vietnam, 1964–68  ● The guerrilla tactics used by the Vietcong.  ● The methods used by the USA, including Search and Destroy, Operation Rolling Thunder and chemical weapons.  ● The key features and significance of the Tet Offensive, 1968.  4 Changes under Nixon, 1969–73  ● The key features of Vietnamisation. Reasons for its failure.  ● The Nixon Doctrine and the withdrawal of US troops.  ● Attacks on Cambodia (1970) and Laos (1971), and the bombing of North Vietnam (1972).  Key topic 4: Reactions to, and the end of, US involvement in Vietnam, 1964–75  1 Opposition to the war  ● Reasons for the growth of opposition, including the student movement, TV and media coverage of the war and the draft system.  ● Public reaction to the My Lai Massacre (1968). The trial of Lt. Calley.  ● The Kent State University shootings (1970).  2 Support for the war  ● Reasons for support for the war, including the fear of communism.  ● The ‘hard hats’ and the ‘silent majority’.  3 The peace process and end of the war  ● Reasons for, and features of, the peace negotiations (1972–73).  ● The significance of the Paris Peace Agreement (1973).  ● The economic and human costs of the war for the USA.  4 Reasons for the failure of the USA in Vietnam  ● The strengths of North Vietnam, including the significance of Russian and Chinese support, Vietcong tactics and the Ho Chi Minh Trail.  ● The weaknesses of the US armed forces. The failure of US tactics.  ● The impact of opposition to the war in the USA. | |
| **What opportunities are there for wider study?**  Careers:   * Working for a campaign group, thinktank or lobbying firm * Law * Journalism   Further Reading   * Vietnam: An Epic Tragedy, 1945-1975 – Max Hastings * The Vietnam War: An Intimate History – Ken Burns * Vietnam, Korea and US Foreign Policy 1945-1975 – Christine Bragg | |
| **How will I be assessed?**  **Y11 Mock Exam**   1. Give two things you can infer from Source A about… 2. Explain why… 3. How useful are Sources B and C for an enquiry into… 4. Study Interpretations 1 and 2. They give different views about…What is the main difference between these views? 5. Suggest one reason why Interpretations 1 and 2 give different views about… 6. How far do you agree with Interpretation 2 about… | |