SOL Connections for High School Social Studies Teachers

A field trip to the National Museum of the Marine Corps gives Virginia public school teachers the opportunity to enhance students’ understanding of the SOL Curriculum Framework.

World Geography

WG.1: The student will use maps, globes, photographs, and pictures.

Following a visit to the Museum, students will be able to answer these SOL Essential Questions:

- What are ways that maps show information?
- How do maps reflect changes over time?

SOL Essential Understandings and Essential Knowledge (WG.1) identified in the Museum’s World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War Galleries:

- Geographic sources include photographs, maps, and primary sources
- Use of mental maps to understand world events
- Use of mental maps to describe the location of places
- Maps are visual representations of geographic information
- Maps reflect change over time, including disputed areas (Korea)

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WG.4: The student will locate and analyze physical, economic, and cultural characteristics of world regions: Southeast Asia, East Asia, and the Pacific Islands.

Following a visit to the Museum, students will be able to answer these SOL Essential Questions:

- In what ways do physical, economic, and cultural characteristics influence regional development?
- What impact do elements of the physical environment, such as major bodies of water and mountains, have on countries?

SOL Essential Understandings and Essential Knowledge (WG.4) identified in the Museum’s World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War Galleries:

- Southeast Asia (Vietnam)
- East Asia (North and South Korea)
- Pacific Islands—Volcanic, coral, or continental
- Varied climate regions and influence of water
- Bodies of water (Pacific Ocean, Mekong River)

WG.10: The student will analyze how the forces of conflict and cooperation affect the division and control of the Earth’s surface.

Following a visit to the Museum, students will be able to answer these SOL Essential Questions:

- What are some examples of spatial divisions at the national and international levels?
- How do spatial divisions generate conflict?
- How do spatial divisions cooperate to solve problems and settle disputes?
SOL Essential Understandings and Essential Knowledge (WG.10) identified in the Museum’s World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War Galleries:

- Spatial divisions may generate both conflict and cooperation
- Reasons for conflict include boundary disputes and competition for scarce resources
- Spatial divisions include economic and political alliances (NATO, UN)

WG.12: The student will apply geography to interpret the past, understand the present, and plan for the future.

Following a visit to the Museum, students will be able to answer this SOL Essential Question:

- How are current events connected to the geographical characteristics of places and regions?

SOL Essential Understandings and Essential Knowledge (WG.12) identified in the Museum’s Global War on Terrorism Gallery:

- Current events are shaped by the physical and human characteristics of the places and regions where they occur