VIETNAM WAR WEB QUEST

Follow directions carefully!

Section 1: Go to http://www.history.com/topics/vietnam-war/vietnam-war-history

1. Watch the video. Write down 3 facts from the video:

Read the introduction section of the article to answer these questions:

2. The Vietnam War pitted the communist regime of _____________ and its southern allies, known as __________________ against _________________________ and its principal ally, the United States

3. When did the war begin? ______________

4. More than ____ million people were killed (including _____________ Americans); more than half were ________________________________________

5. Growing _______________ to the war in the U.S. led to bitter divisions among Americans

6. President Richard Nixon ordered the ______________________ of U.S. forces in ____________.

7. In 1975, communist forces seized control of _____________, ending the Vietnam War, and the country was unified as the _________________________________.

Read the Vietnam War: U.S. Intervention begins section of the article to answer these questions:

8. 1955, Eisenhower pledged support to Diem and ________________________

9. December 1960, Diem’s opponents within South Vietnam formed the ________________________________ to organize resistance to the regime.

10. What is “domino theory?”
Vietnam War Web Quest

Section 2: Go to: http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/vietnam/index.html

On the left side menu, click on “Who’s Who”.
1. Who is Ho Chi Minh? Provide some background on his life story and his experience as a communist.

2. From what country did Ho Chi Minh seek independence?

3. Page through or click on Ngo Dinh Diem under “Who’s Who”. Who is Ngo Dinh Diem?

4. Click on Lyndon Johnson under “Who’s Who”. Who is and what role did he play in the Vietnam conflict?

Click on (to the left) Timeline and fill in the blanks.

Timeline:
- In 1945, Ho (Chi Minh) declares ____________________________ for Vietnam (from the ____________________________)
- In 1954, President Eisenhower cites ____________________________ regarding Vietnam and Southeast Asia.
- Vietnam is supposed to hold “free” (meaning democratic elections) but in 1955 ____________________________ refuses them. The U.S. supports Diem’s decision (even though free elections are so important to democracy) because Ho Chi Minh is likely to win. This would mean that Vietnam would be ____________________________.
- In 1956 the _______________ passes.
- Vietnam is now split between Ho Chi Minh’s communist leadership in the North and Diem’s non-communist (but not democratic, either!) leadership in the _______________.
- In 1960 the ____________________________ is formed. This is Ho Chi Minh’s fighting force in the South.
• In 1963 Diem is ______________________.

• 1964. Describe the Gulf of Tonkin incident.

• Describe the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution.

The Gulf of Tonkin incident and Resolution that came afterward leads to escalated involvement of American troops in Vietnam.

• 1965. Describe Operation “Rolling Thunder”.

• By 1965, U.S. troop levels top ________________.

Back on the left hand menu, click on In the Trenches. Explore the weapons and attire of soldiers available to both the U.S. and the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong (see menu at top to switch between the two).

1. Describe the differences between U.S. and Viet Cong weaponry. Be thorough in your description.

2. Who supplied the weapons to the N. Vietnamese and Viet Cong?
3. Click on “The My Lai Massacre” and describe what happened there.

**Section Three:** Click on the “Primary Sources” tab on the left side of the page, then click “American Policy in Vietnam.” Read from the beginning of the speech up until the paragraph that ends with “…and we will do only what is absolutely necessary.” Use that section of the speech to answer these questions:

1. According to Johnson, what are the reasons that America needs to be in Vietnam?
   a. Reason 1 (listed in paragraph 3):
   b. Reason 2 (listed in paragraph 6):
   c. Reason 3 (listed in paragraph 7):

2. Why does he say is our continued responsibility after WWII?

3. What is the objective of the United States?

4. Do you agree with Johnson’s claims about U.S. involvement in Vietnam? Why or why not?
Section Four: Protests

Go to: http://www.history.com/topics/vietnam-war/vietnam-war-protests and use the article to answer the questions:

1. Where did the movement against the Vietnam War begin?
2. Describe some of the reasons people began to feel disillusioned with the Vietnam War by November 1967:

3. On _____________________, __________, one of the most prominent anti-war demonstrations took place, as some ________________ protesters gathered at the Lincoln Memorial; around ______________ of them continued in a march on the Pentagon later that night
4. Which Civil Rights leader publicly opposed the war? Why?

5. The launch of the _______________ by North Vietnamese communist troops in 1968 helped fuel discontent and sparked the most anti-war protests to date.
6. By Feb. 1968, a poll showed _____ of people disapproved of Johnson’s handling of the war
7. How did the Vietnam Veterans Against the War help win people over to the anti-war cause?

8. 1968: President ____________________ was elected, promised to restore “______________________________”
9. Nixon claimed in speech that anti-war protesters were a _______ minority that should not drown out the “______________________________” of Americans.
10. December 1969: government instituted first U.S. draft ________________ since WWII – inciting vast amount of ________________ and causing men to flee to ________________ to avoid conscription
11. May 1970: National Guard troops shot into a group of protesters demonstrating over U.S. invasion of Cambodia, killing ______________________________
12. Mid-1971: publication of the ____________________ revealed confidential details about the war’s conduct – caused more Americans to question the accountability of the U.S. government and military establishments
13. Nixon announced the effective end to U.S. involvement in Southeast Asia in ________________, ________________.