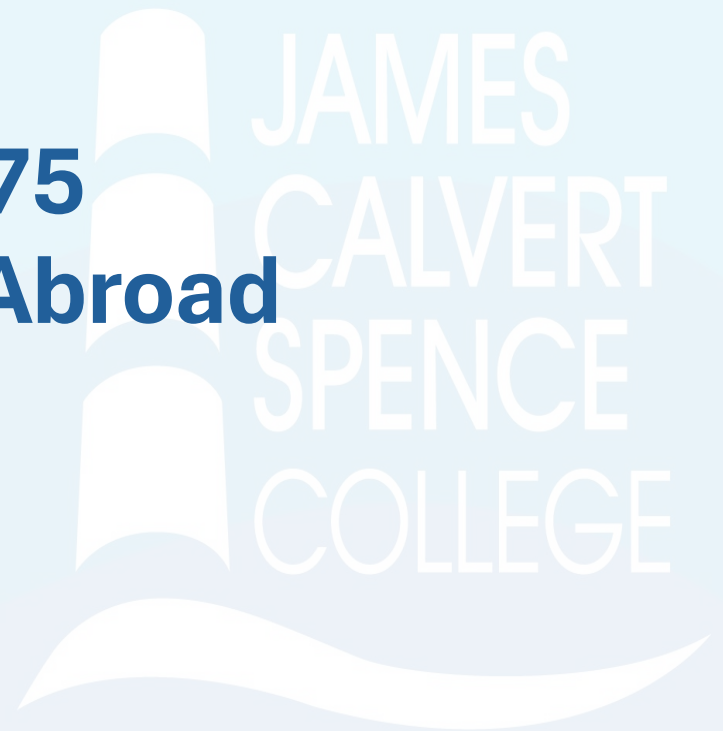


Paper 3, USA 1954-1975

Conflict at Home and Abroad

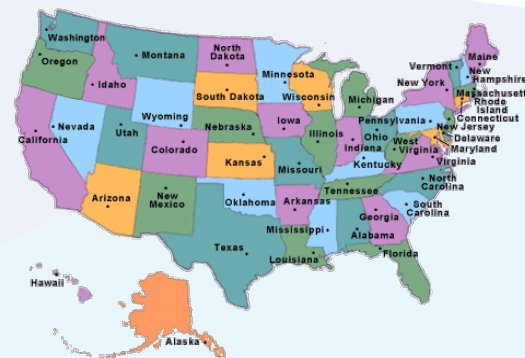
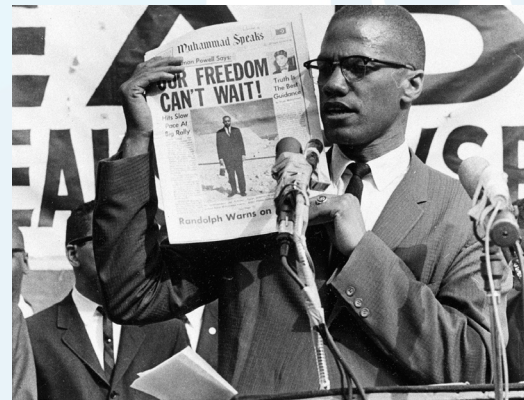
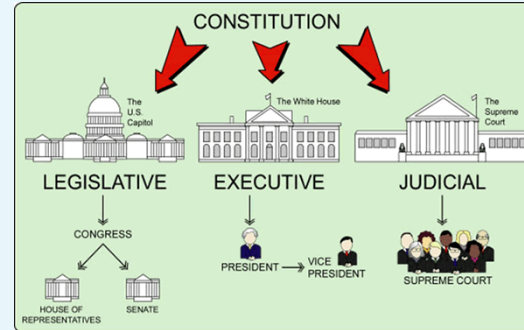
Revision Resources



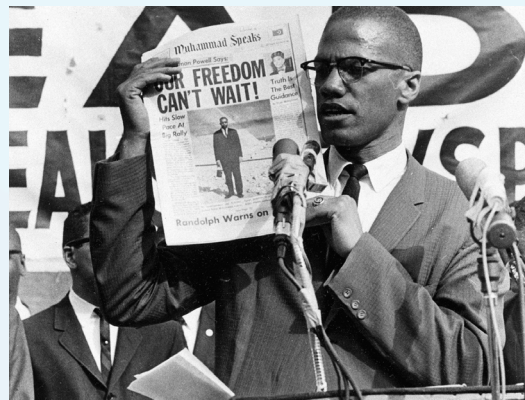
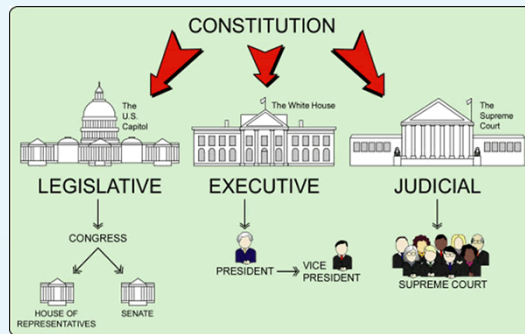
Paper 3 USA 1954-75 - Civil Rights Knowledge Organiser

Timeline – Civil Rights 1954-75

- 1896: Plessy v. Ferguson case – *made segregation legal*
- 1954: Brown case – *rules that schools should be desegregated*
- 1955: Murder of Emmett Till
- 1955: Rosa Parks arrested; beginning of Montgomery Bus Boycott
- 1957: Little Rock High School crisis
- 1957: SCLC founded
- 1957: Civil Rights Act - *allowed government to prosecute states which interfered with voting rights*
- 1960: Greensboro sit-in
- 1960: SNCC set up
- 1961: Kennedy becomes President
- 1961: Freedom Rides
- 1962: James Meredith case
- 1963: Campaign in Birmingham, Alabama
- 1963: March on Washington; MLK gives his "I have a dream" speech
- 1963: Kennedy assassinated; Johnson becomes President
- 1964: Freedom Summer
- 1964: Civil Rights Act – *banned segregation of public places*
- 1965: Malcolm X assassinated
- 1965: Campaign in Selma
- 1965: Voting Rights Act – *banned discrimination in voting*
- 1965: Riots in Watts, LA
- 1966: March Against Fear
- 1966: Black Panthers set up
- 1966: King's Campaign in Chicago
- 1968: Martin Luther King assassinated
- 1968: Kerner Report on riots
- 1968: Tommie Smith and John Carlos give Black Power Salute at Mexico Olympics
- 1969: Nixon becomes President



Paper 3 USA 1954-75 - Civil Rights Knowledge Organiser



Key concepts

Jim Crow Laws – laws enacted after the Civil War especially in southern states to restrict rights of black people

Segregation – the practice of separating people based on race

Desegregation – the process of ending separation based on race

The US Constitution – the fundamental laws of the USA which can only be changed with an amendment

Unconstitutional – breaking one of the fundamental laws of the USA, ruled on by the Supreme Court

Supreme Court – the highest court in the USA, no-one can over-rule it

Plessy v Ferguson – 1896 ruling by Supreme Court which supported segregation on the basis of “separate but equal”

Brown v Topeka (also known as **Brown v Board of Education**) – 1954 ruling by Supreme Court that segregated education was unconstitutional

15th Amendment to the Constitution – gave black men the right to vote

Lynching – hanging someone suspected of a crime by a mob with little or no evidence

Federal Government – the national government in the USA

State Government – the government of one state in the USA

Ku Klux Klan – a racist group which grew up in the South after the Civil War and revived in the 20th century

Boycott – to refuse to take part in a service normally to achieve a political goal

Freedom Rides – protests on national buses to the South in the 1960s to try to end segregation

White Citizens Councils – protest groups set up across the South to resist attempts at desegregation

Republicans – the more conservative political party in the USA

Democrats – the more liberal political party in the USA

Dixie – slang term for the Deep South

Dixiecrats – Democrat politicians who were also from the South

Filibuster – a trick to delay laws passing by refusing to stop talking in Congress

Freedom Schools – civil rights schools set up in the South in the 1960s to educate black people on their rights

1964 Civil Rights Act – ruled that segregation was illegal and federal courts would deal with discrimination

1965 Voting Rights Act – bans literacy tests and gives federal agents power to intervene in states

Voter suppression – any act which tries to prevent people from voting

Literacy tests – used in the South to deny to vote to black people

Poll taxes – used in the South to deny the vote to black people

The Northern Campaign – MLK's attempt to gain support for more reforms in northern states after 1965

Kerner Report 1968 – government report which concluded that racism was deeply embedded in American society

The Long Hot Summers – the summers after 1965 which saw widespread protest and riots

Civil Rights 1954-75 Knowledge Organiser

Segregation in the USA in the 1950s and 1960s Knowledge Organiser

Key Words

segregation	The separation of black and white people in transport, education, housing and facilities.
Jim Crow	A set of laws that made segregation a legal requirement.
lynching	The mob killing of a person outside of the law, but often overlooked by the authorities.
discrimination	Treating one group more unfairly than another.
NAACP	The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
integration	The opposite of segregation; combining different groups of people fairly.

Brown vs Board of Education

In 1954, the NAACP took the Board of Education in Topeka, Kansas to court to allow an African-American schoolgirl, Linda Brown, to attend a white school. Linda had to travel several kilometres and cross a dangerous railway track to attend her nearest blacks-only school. There was a whites-only school nearby.

The NAACP won the case, leading to the Chief Justice ordering that segregated schools were unfair and integrated schools should be established across the southern states.

Jim Crow

Although slavery had been abolished in 1865, laws in many southern American states enshrined segregation between black and white people. Public transport and facilities were divided between those suitable for whites and those suitable for blacks. Black Americans were supposed to use separate train carriages, drinking fountains, public toilets and schools. The facilities provided for black people were almost always inferior to those for the white people. These laws only existed in the south but the northern states were still rife with inequality, even if this was not put enshrined in law. These laws gained their nickname from a minstrel song called 'Jump Jim Crow'.



Little Rock

Despite the NAACP victory in 1954, by 1957 many states had refused to create integrated schools. At the Little Rock school in Arkansas, nine black students were stopped by state troops from entering the school. The official reason for this was that the Governor of Arkansas was concerned for their safety, but a direct order from President Eisenhower stood the troops down, allowing the students to attend their lessons.



The Ku Klux Klan

A racist, anti-Semitic, Protestant group that carried out intimidation and lynching in the USA. At its height, the Klan boasted 4 million members across the USA. Their distinctive face masks and their practice of burning crosses was designed to intimidate black Americans.



Ku Klux Klan members, 1948

Civil Rights 1954-75 Knowledge Organiser

Segregation in the USA in the 1950s and 1960s Knowledge Organiser

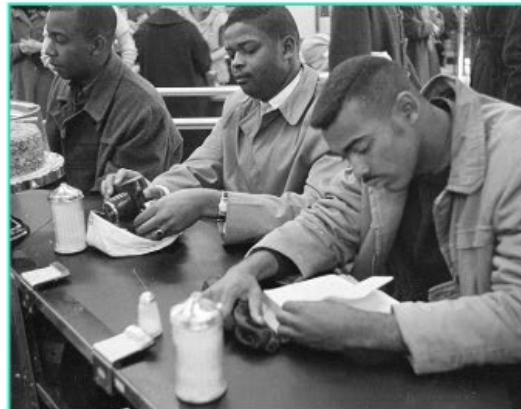
Civil Rights Timeline

1954	Brown vs Board of Education
1955-6	Montgomery Bus Boycott; Rosa Parks refuses to give up her seat on the bus
1957	Little Rock
1960	Greensboro sit-in
1961	Freedom Rides begin
1963	Assassination of JFK MLK speaks at the Washington March, ('I have a dream...') Nashville sit-ins Publication of The Feminine Mystique
1964	Civil Rights Act – housing and employment MLK receives the Nobel Peace Prize Malcolm X completes the Hajj pilgrimage
1965	Voting Rights Act Assassination of Malcolm X Los Angeles race riot Selma march President Johnson outlines his Great Society
1966	Founding of the Black Panthers Founding of the National Organisation for Women, (NOW)
1967	Detroit race riot

1968	Civil Rights Act – housing Assassination of Martin Luther King Jr.
1969	Inspired by the Black Power movement, indigenous Americans take over Alcatraz Island in the name of Red Power
1970	Women's Strike for Equality
1972	Contraception made legal for unmarried couples to use
1973	Roe vs Wade



Assassination of JFK - 1963



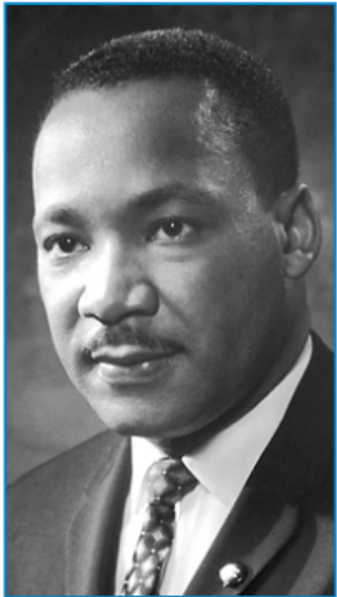
Greensboro sit-in - 1960



Selma march - 1965

Civil Rights 1954-75 Knowledge Organiser

Keywords



boycott	The practice of not using a service or purchasing goods from a company in the hope that the company will change a policy or practice.
MIA	Montgomery Improvement Association
non-violence	The belief that violence should not be used in protests or demonstrations.
CORE	Congress of Racial Equality, a civil rights group headed by James Farmer.
SNCC	Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, a group of students campaigning for civil rights.
sit-in	A protest where people sit down and refuse to leave a place.
SCLC	Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the civil rights group led by King.

Inspiration

Born in Atlanta, Georgia, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was a Baptist Christian minister and Civil Rights leader. He was inspired to peaceful protest by Mahatma Gandhi, an important player in the battle against racism in South Africa and against British rule in India. Gandhi had shown the world that non-violent protest could lead to great change, and King was determined to use these methods to bring civil rights to the USA.



Rosa Parks and the Montgomery Bus Boycott

1955 saw the start of the civil rights movement. Rosa Parks, an African-American woman, decided to take a stand against segregation by refusing to give up her seat to a white man on the bus. Like many of the southern states, Montgomery, Alabama had a segregated bus service with certain seats for whites and others for blacks. Rosa's peaceful refusal to follow this system saw her arrested, an act that sparked huge protest.

The African-American community in Montgomery formed an action group known as the MIA. This group, led by Martin Luther King Jr., boycotted the bus service which nearly bankrupted the company. This peaceful pressure saw the bus company give in and the MIA won a legal battle to have segregation banned on buses throughout the USA.

Freedom Rides

Many places in the USA refused to follow the new integrated bus rules. In places such as Birmingham, Alabama, this refusal to follow the new laws was met with peaceful protest. African-Americans rode on segregated buses, facing extreme violence as a result. It took pressure from President JF Kennedy to finally stop segregation on buses. 1961 saw the beginning of the 'freedom rides' with the result of 200 freedom riders being jailed.

Civil Rights 1954-75 Knowledge Organiser

Peaceful Protest

King and many civil rights groups led peaceful protests against segregation across America. Marches were frequent, as well as boycotts and sit-ins. Greensboro, North Carolina, saw students sitting in segregated restaurants as they faced abuse from white customers. 500 students sat-in at restaurants, libraries and churches during 1960 in Nashville, Tennessee. Although these protests were individually quite small, they became a powerful tool in the desegregation of many areas of the USA.

The March on Washington

In 1963, King led a march of 20,000 black and 50,000 white people to the centre of American government, Washington D.C. The march was entirely peaceful and culminated with King's famous 'I Have a Dream' speech:

'I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the colour of their skin but by the content of their character.'

This speech led the way for the Civil Rights Act of 1964.



Assassination

King faced intimidation and harassment throughout his life. He was arrested 29 times during his 13 years at the forefront of the civil rights movement, he was threatened many times and was even the target of an alleged FBI operation that aimed to make him commit suicide. On April 4th, 1968 he was shot and killed by James Earl Ray whilst on the balcony of his motel. Ray spent the rest of his life in prison. The last speech King gave the day before his assassination included the words 'I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the promised land'.

Legacy

King received the Nobel Peace Prize for his leadership of the civil rights movement in 1964. He is remembered in an annual National Holiday each January in the USA.

The Civil Rights Act

1964 saw an Act that gave black people equal rights in areas such as employment and housing.

The Voting Rights Act of 1965 allowed black people to vote in greater numbers than ever before.

The Civil Rights Act of 1968 saw further action against discrimination within the housing market.

Paper 3 USA 1954-75 – The Vietnam War Knowledge Organiser

Key words

ARVN	Army of the Republic of Vietnam (South Vietnam)
NVA	North Vietnamese Army
Vietminh	Communist Party of north Vietnam
Containment	From 'Truman Doctrine' referring to stopping the spread of communism
Domino Theory	Theory that if Vietnam fell under communist influence all surrounding countries would follow, e.g. Laos, Cambodia
Tonkin Resolution	In 1964, President Johnson gave legal power to attack North Vietnam
Vietcong (VC)	Communist fighters of South Vietnam
Guerilla Warfare	Tactics used by the VC, including ambushes and traps
Agent Orange	Chemical weapon used by the US
Napalm	Petrol based bombs used by the US airforce
Search and Destroy	US tactic to hunt, interrogate and kill VC fighters in South Vietnam
Vietnamisation	US policy to train the ARVN to replace US soldiers to allow US troops to leave Vietnam.

Assassination	The murder of an important or prominent person
Ho Chi Minh trail	The trail ran through Laos and Cambodia and connected the communist north with the democratic south. It took over a month to move from north to south and allowed the north to supply the VC with supplies and troops.
The Nixon Doctrine	Nixon gave a speech in July 1969 outlining the role of the USA in south east Asian politics. The USA would honour any treaty commitments, help allies against nuclear threat and provide aid and training (but not troops) to countries under threat.
Conscription	Compulsory Military service
Pacification	Winning over the 'hearts and minds' of the local population, so they do not support guerillas..
Green Berets	US special forces who trained local south Vietnamese citizens to resist communist influences of the VC.
Limited war	A war where a country supports a side in a conflict by sending supplies and training troops but not sending any of their own troops to fight.



Vietnam was split along the 17th parallel where no troops could be stationed. The north of Vietnam was under communist influence whereas the south was under a democratic system of government.

Key concept

The Cold War

A period of hostility between the USA and the USSR after WW2. It was a clash between 2 ideologies, communism and capitalism.

The USA was a capitalist country who wanted to stop the spread of communism from the USSR. They feared the USSR's influence was dangerous and must be stopped. This was a key reason for USA's involvement in Vietnam.

Key People

8	Ho Chi Minh – Leader of North Vietnam and the Vietminh	
9	Ngo Din Diem – Leader of South Vietnam	
10	President Eisenhower	
11	President Johnson	

Content of sources

Nature – what type of source are you studying?

Provenance – where has the source come from? Who created it? When? Why?

Contextual knowledge – What do you know about the event(s) described in the source? Does the content of the source match your own knowledge?

Paper 3 USA 1954-75 – The Vietnam War Knowledge Organiser

Key Events

1954 – The battle of Dien Bien Phu. France leaves Vietnam.
1963 – Ngo Din Diem is assassinated
1964 – The Gulf of Tonkin Incident
1965 – US troops enter Vietnam
1965 – Operation Rolling Thunder
1966 – Search and Destroy
1967 – Operation Cedar Falls
1968 – The Tet Offensive
1968 – The My Lai Massacre
1969 – Vietnamisation begins
1970 – Invasion of Cambodia
1971 – Invasion of Laos
1973 – The Paris Peace Conference – peace agreed and US troops leave Vietnam
1975 – The north invades and unites with South Vietnam

1954 – The end of French Rule in Vietnam. Vietnam had been a French colony but Ho Chi Minh, with the support of China, gained independence in the north.

A new government: Diem lead South Vietnam, however he was incredibly unpopular. There were religious clashes and Diem was unsympathetic with the concerns of the peasants in the south

1962 – The Strategic Hamlet Program: The Green Berets (US special forces) trained villagers in the south to protect their villages from the VC. Villagers were resistant to the new program as they did not want to leave their homes and were still vulnerable to VC propaganda due to their dislike of Diem.

1964 – The Gulf of Tonkin Incident: The US and President Johnson believed that their ships of the Gulf of Tonkin had been attacked by the north Vietnamese. This led to Johnson proposing the Tonkin Resolution that officially allowed US troops to become involved in the Vietnam War.

1965 – Operation Rolling Thunder: This was a bombing campaign over North Vietnam by US forces. It targeted the Ho Chi Minh trail, small industry in North Vietnam and used napalm during the attacks.

1967 – Operation Cedar Falls: This was an example of Search and Destroy tactics that failed.

1968 – The Tet Offensive – North Vietnamese and VC attacks on US bases. This took place during the Tet Holiday as US troops wouldn't have been expecting an attack during a religious holiday.

Vietnamisation– This was the process of withdrawing US troops from Vietnam. The ARVN were to provide their own officers. The US would continue to provide training and equipment and south Vietnam would remain a separate country.

Paper 3 USA 1954-75 – The Vietnam War Knowledge Organiser

Key Individuals



Dwight D. Eisenhower

USA President, 1953-61

- Believed in limited war
- Sent advisers to train the ARVN, but not ground troops
- Got involved in Vietnam to prevent the spread of communism ('domino theory') and to support Diem's weak government in the South



John F. Kennedy

USA President, 1961-63

- Continued limited war approach
- Sent in 16,000 more advisers
- Focused on winning over the villagers (pacification)
- Sent in Special Forces to train villagers against the VC
- Began chemical spraying of jungle
- Helped set up strategic hamlets



Lyndon B. Johnson

USA President, 1963-69

- Escalated the war following the Gulf of Tonkin incident in 1964
- Got the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution passed, allowing the use of ground troops
- Authorised Operation Rolling Thunder and search and destroy tactics



Richard Nixon

USA President, 1969-74

- Nixon Doctrine – no more ground troops, only aid
- Vietnamisation handed responsibility for fighting back to the ARVN
- Expanded the war into Laos and Cambodia
- Bombed North Vietnam
- Held peace talks 1972-73

Key Terms

Vietcong- Set up in 1960, the National Front for the Liberation of South Vietnam was given the name Vietcong (VC) by the Americans. Masters at using guerrilla warfare tactics.

Domino Theory- USA belief that if Communism was not stopped, other countries close by would fall like 'dominoes'.

Ho Chi Minh Trail- a complex maze of truck routes, foot and bicycle paths, and river transportation systems which supplied the VC with weapons and vital supplies.

Search and destroy- tactic used by the USA using helicopters to surprise attack villages suspected of hiding VC.

Agent Orange and napalm- Agent Orange was a chemical weapon which destroyed the rainforest & jungle but which also caused cancer to humans. Napalm was used to burn huge areas of land and caused terrible injuries.

The Tet Offensive 1968- during a cease-fire for the Tet New Year festival, the North Vietnamese Army (ARVN) and VC attacked over 100 places in South Vietnam including the US embassy in the capital Saigon.

Peace protests, 1968-73- these were made up of a mixture of young people opposed to the war, veterans who had fought in Vietnam.

Nixon and Vietnamisation- Nixon was voted in as President, promising to bring US troops home but also determined not to be the President which 'lost' the war. His policy was to gradually withdraw US troops whilst training up South Vietnam Army (ARVN)



Bao Dai

Leader of South Vietnam, 1949-55

- Former Emperor of Vietnam
- Put in charge of South Vietnam by the French after WW2
- Removed from power and replaced by Diem in 1955



Ngo Dinh Diem

President of South Vietnam, 1955-63

- Got rid of Bao Dai in a rigged referendum in 1955, then made himself president
- His government was corrupt and unpopular
- Catholic – he persecuted South Vietnam's Buddhist population
- Assassinated in a coup in November 1963



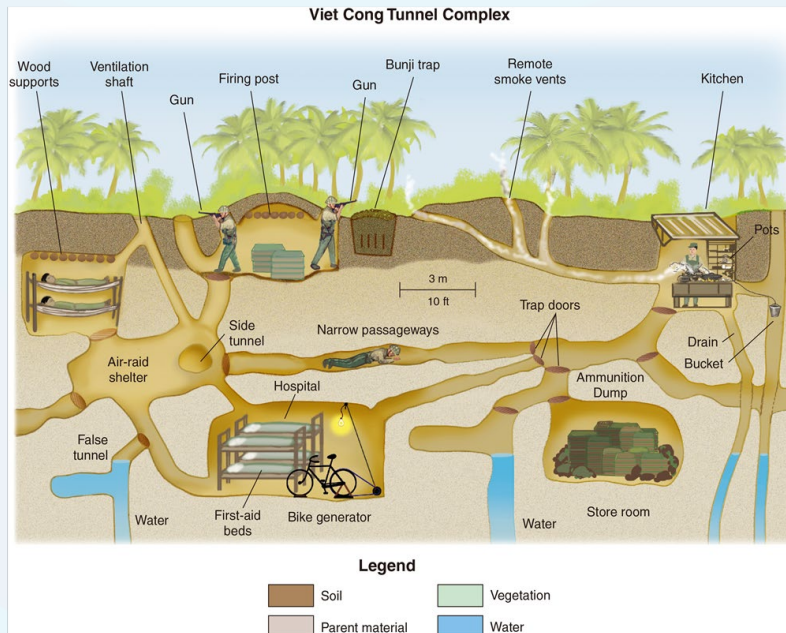
Ho Chi Minh

President of North Vietnam, 1945-69

- Leader of the Vietnam Communist Party
- Leader of North Vietnam until his death in 1969

Paper 3 USA 1954-75 – The Vietnam War

Knowledge Organiser



Timeline – Vietnam War

- 1953:** Eisenhower becomes President
- 1954:** Battle of Dien Bien Phu – French defeated by Vietnamese communists
- 1954:** Geneva Accords – Vietnam temporarily divided along the 17th parallel
- 1955:** Diem kicks Bai Dai out and makes himself president of South Vietnam
- 1956:** Diem refuses to hold elections as agreed at Geneva
- 1959:** North Vietnam starts using the Ho Chi Minh Trail
- 1961:** Kennedy becomes President – increases US involvement in Vietnam
- 1962:** Strategic Hamlets Program
- 1963:** Diem assassinated in a military coup
- 1963:** Kennedy assassinated; Johnson becomes President
- 1964:** Gulf of Tonkin incident - Gulf of Tonkin Resolution authorises the use of ground troops if necessary
- 1965:** Operation Rolling Thunder launched
- 1965:** Major increase in number of US troops in Vietnam
- 1968:** Tet Offensive
- 1968:** My Lai Massacre
- 1969:** Nixon becomes President – puts forward the Nixon Doctrine and policy of Vietnamisation; calls for the support of the 'silent majority'
- 1969:** Start of secret peace talks with North Vietnam
- 1970:** Expansion of the war into Cambodia
- 1970:** Kent State University Massacre
- 1970:** 'Hard hats' pro-war protest in New York
- 1971:** Expansion of the war into Laos
- 1971:** William Calley sentenced to life imprisonment for My Lai Massacre – serves 3 ½ years
- 1972:** USA launches Operation Linebacker – heavy bombing of North Vietnam
- 1972:** Start of official peace talks
- 1973:** Paris Peace Accords – agrees ceasefire and eventual reunification of Vietnam
- 1975:** Saigon falls to North Vietnam

Revision Links – Civil Rights

Brown v Topeka

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NB1qcAEv4nk&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtNYJO8JWpXO2JP0ezgxsrJJ&index=34&ab_channel=CrashCourse

Emmett Till

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4HljsKwpv3g&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtNYJO8JWpXO2JP0ezgxsrJJ&index=35&ab_channel=CrashCourse

Montgomery Bus Boycott

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y1Opide9dus&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtNYJO8JWpXO2JP0ezgxsrJJ&index=36&ab_channel=CrashCourse

Martin Luther King

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BmeUT7zH62E&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtNYJO8JWpXO2JP0ezgxsrJJ&index=37&ab_channel=CrashCourse

Civil Rights Protests

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F624q1jBd0Y&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtNYJO8JWpXO2JP0ezgxsrJJ&index=38&ab_channel=CrashCourse

Malcolm X and Black Power

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8woU9Rq0cPI&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtNYJO8JWpXO2JP0ezgxsrJJ&index=39&ab_channel=CrashCourse

The Black Panther Party

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ao0Jozn_7HM&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtNYJO8JWpXO2JP0ezgxsrJJ&index=40&ab_channel=CrashCourse

Revision Links – The Vietnam War

Overview of the War

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cNPtbmgjl6k&ab_channel=JohnDRuddy

Overview of the War

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7tNTh6KIXXU&ab_channel=TheLifeGuide

Ho Chi Min Trail

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=poE_nNW9-yk&ab_channel=TED-Ed

Gulf of Tonkin

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=crALHjTiXbk&list=PLu2xst_eS6druLUaz4d290aAowzbTX7GW&index=3&ab_channel=SimpleHistory

Vietcong tactics

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZIYHv00_6rl&ab_channel=I%27mStuck-GCSEandA-LevelRevision

Vietcong Tunnels

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-jNx4Gcm54c&list=PLu2xst_eS6druLUaz4d290aAowzbTX7GW&index=17&ab_channel=SimpleHistory

US tactics

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HR5ikIPHcFE&ab_channel=I%27mStuck-GCSEandA-LevelRevision

Tet Offensive

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ezuFR5OwHU8&ab_channel=SimpleHistory

Reasons USA lost

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zAq6MrYgLr0&ab_channel=TheArmchairHistorian

BBC Bitesize revision for this topic:

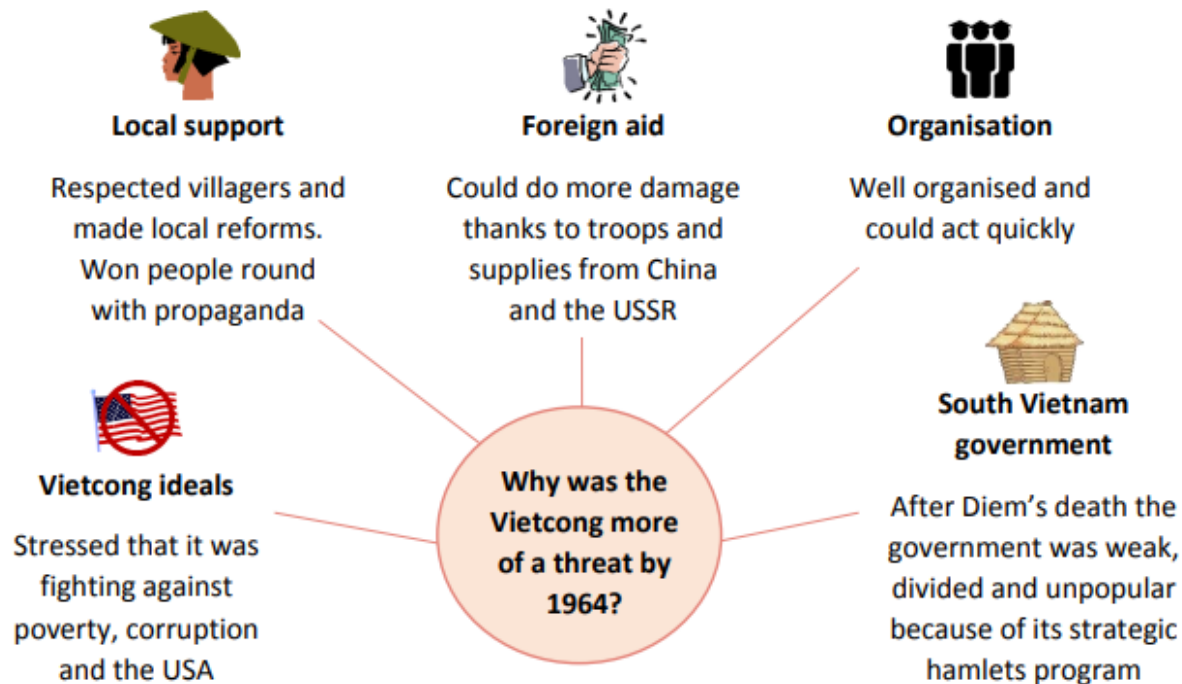
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zttbr2p>

Greater Involvement Under Johnson (1963-69)

President Johnson had the same goals as Kennedy – to set up a stable government in South Vietnam, and to avoid full-blown war. However, his situation was more difficult than Kennedy's.

The Vietcong was stronger

The VC was a much more serious threat than before. It seemed certain that South Vietnam would not survive without more US involvement. Johnson sent in more US advisers – there were 20,000 by 1964.



The Gulf of Tonkin incident (1964)

On 4th August 1964, two US Navy ships – the *Maddox* and *C. Turner Joy* – claimed they had been torpedoed by North Vietnamese boats in the Gulf of Tonkin.

However, there were doubts over what actually happened. Conditions were stormy and some believed there had been no attack at all (although North Vietnamese boats had fired at the US two days earlier, on 2nd August).



- Ignoring the confusion, President Johnson retaliated by ordering US airstrikes on North Vietnam.
- On 7th August, Congress passed the **Gulf of Tonkin Resolution**. This allowed Johnson to send in US troops if necessary.
- The Resolution was not a declaration of war – although North Vietnam saw it that way.

North Vietnam responded by increasing their involvement in the South. They sent more people and supplies south, while the Vietcong attacked US bases.

The Gulf of Tonkin incident escalated the war. By 1965...

- ...the US was spending \$2m a day on the war
- ...there were **184,300 US troops** in Vietnam (up from 23,300 in 1964)
- ...both sides were committed to a war neither really wanted
- ...many of Johnson's advisers were convinced that the war could be won quickly.



US Tactics

Operation Rolling Thunder (1965-68)

Rolling Thunder was a **bombing campaign** that targeted the Ho Chi Minh Trail and industrial areas in North Vietnam. As well as bombs the US also dropped napalm (a burning chemical) and pineapple bombs (which shoot pellets everywhere when they explode).

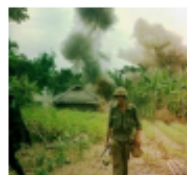


The first **ground troops** were sent in in March 1965, to protect the US air bases. Rolling Thunder caused significant damage to its targets. But -

- The Ho Chi Minh Trail was constantly repaired, so supplies still got through to the South.
- Aid from China and the USSR was not targeted.
- The destruction it caused turned the Vietnamese people against the USA.
- It killed thousands of civilians, which was bad for the USA's image.

Search and destroy

Search and destroy missions involved small units of US soldiers searching the jungle for VC camps, then ordering helicopters to bomb or spray them.



The USA thought these missions were successful because they destroyed VC supplies and tunnels. However, they made big mistakes:

- The US troops usually left the area once it had been 'destroyed'. This allowed the VC to move straight back in.
- The bombing and chemical spraying harmed villagers and turned them against the US.

During **Operation Cedar Falls (1967)**, the US and ARVN moved thousands of villagers to refugee camps and burned their villages, then declared the area a 'free-fire zone' – but many villagers didn't understand this and returned to their homes in the firing line.

Chemical warfare – Operation Ranch Hand

The US first used chemical weapons in Vietnam in 1961. They sprayed crops and jungle with herbicides to make the VC easier to find, and to cut off their food supply.

- **Agent Blue** was used to kill crops.
- **Agent Orange** was used to kill jungle forests.
- One plane could spray 300 acres in 4 minutes.
- The chemicals were very strong. They poisoned the soil and rivers, causing health issues and birth defects.
- Killing crops led to starvation.



People back home were outraged by the dangerous effects of spraying chemicals. The government stopped using them in 1971, but by then lots of damage had already been done.

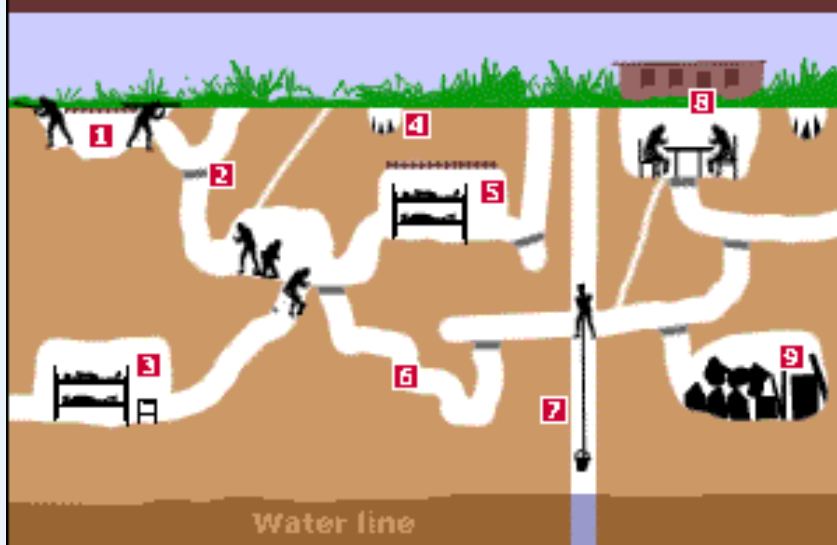
Vietcong Tactics

The Vietcong had the home advantage – unlike the USA, they were familiar with Vietnam's jungle terrain and used it to their advantage. They fought a **guerrilla war**:



- They attacked with **simple traps and sabotage** (e.g. blowing up roads and bridges)
- They used **'hit and run'** tactics, attacking then disappearing back into the jungle
- They only fought big battles occasionally, so that when they did it was a **surprise** tactic
- They dressed like normal people – they were a **'shadowy enemy'**
- They used a complex system of **tunnels** to move around and surprise US troops

VIET CONG TUNNEL COMPLEX



- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 Firing post | 6 Blast deflection wall |
| 2 Airtight trapdoor | 7 Well |
| 3 First aid post | 8 Meeting room |
| 4 Punji stake trap | 9 Storage cache for weapons and food |
| 5 Reinforced sleeping chamber | |

The Tet Offensive (1968)

The Tet Offensive was a series of attacks on cities and US bases by the VC and North Vietnamese. It began on January 30th 1968, which was the Vietnamese New Year (Tet).

Preparing for the offensive

- The VC and North Vietnamese attacked areas near the DMZ, to lure US and ARVN troops away from cities and bases. They surrounded the US base at Khe Sanh.
- The North Vietnamese suggested they might be willing to enter peace talks, to lure the US into a false sense of security.



Key features



- The Tet Offensive wasn't the usual jungle fighting – instead the VC and North Vietnamese attacked cities and military bases.
- The attacks began with the North Vietnamese and VC capturing key sites in Saigon such as the US embassy and ARVN headquarters.
- The attacks were on a much larger scale than usual. **84,000** communist troops took part.

The offensive was a **tactical win** for the US...

- The US and ARVN recaptured most cities and bases quickly.
- The VC suffered so many losses that they were almost wiped out.
- The offensive did not lead to a revolution in South Vietnam, as the VC had hoped.

...but a **political win** for North Vietnam and the VC:

- It was a huge propaganda victory for the VC – they had successfully caught the US off guard.
- People in America were shocked by the fighting, and lost faith in the government who said that the war would be won soon. Anti-war feeling increased.

Match these statements about the Tet Offensive with the person who would have made them.

The government tells us we're winning the war, yet somehow the VC managed to catch the US totally off guard! It's about time America got out of Vietnam.

Although we lost many men, the Tet Offensive was a political victory for the VC. We frightened the Americans and they are quickly losing public support for the war.

Tet was a victory for the US. We may have been caught off guard to begin with, but we quickly regained control and what's more, we've practically wiped the VC out.



A US soldier in Vietnam



A member of the US public



A VC fighter

Vietnamisation Under Nixon (1969-73)



Johnson didn't stand for re-election in 1968 because of the increasing criticism of the war. He was succeeded by **Richard Nixon**, who promised to get the USA out of the war.

Nixon's ideas – known as the **Nixon Doctrine** – said that the US would **no longer provide troops to its allies**, only aid and training.

This meant that the US would gradually withdraw and leave South Vietnam to fight their own war, a process called **Vietnamisation**.

Vietnamisation

Vietnamisation meant shifting responsibility for fighting to the South Vietnamese Army (ARVN).

- US ground troops would withdraw (but not the Air Force)
- The US would still provide training and equipment
- The US would leave with honour (it wouldn't simply abandon South Vietnam)
- South Vietnam would remain a separate (non-communist) country

Most Americans were pleased about troops being withdrawn, because it meant fewer US deaths. However, many army generals thought that with the VC weakened after the Tet Offensive, the US should be sending in *more* troops to finish them off. Vietnamisation failed for several reasons:



The ARVN

The ARVN was not strong enough to carry on the war without US troop support.

- It didn't have enough soldiers
 - Desertion was common
 - Corruption was common



US troops

US troops lost the will to fight once they knew they would soon be going home.

- Fraggings were common (where soldiers killed their own officer)
- Many US soldiers used drugs (especially heroin)

Why Vietnamisation failed



Training and equipment

The US supplied the ARVN with training and equipment, but there were problems:

- The training was often rushed
- Instruction manuals were in English, not Vietnamese



Problems in South Vietnam

- When the US personnel left, 300,000 South Vietnamese lost their jobs and there was an economic crisis
- The government was still seen as a puppet of the USA

Expansion of the War Under Nixon (1969-73)

Cambodia (1970)

In 1969 Nixon secretly ordered the bombing of the Ho Chi Minh Trail in neighbouring Cambodia, and in **1970** he sent in **30,000 US troops**.

America achieved its aim of damaging the Ho Chi Minh Trail and preventing a communist government in Cambodia, but people back home were outraged at Nixon for expanding the war. Congress cancelled the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution.

Laos (1971)

In 1971 the US agreed to provide air support for an ARVN invasion of Laos, where communists were still using the Ho Chi Minh Trail. The ARVN attacked the city of Tchepone but were driven out by the communists – an embarrassment for the USA.

Bombing of North Vietnam (1972)

In 1972 the North Vietnamese attacked the South in the **Easter Offensive**, so the USA responded with **Operation Linebacker** – heavy bombing of North Vietnam.

- Major cities including Hanoi were targeted
- North Vietnamese industry and communication was destroyed
- Supplies from China and the USSR were disrupted



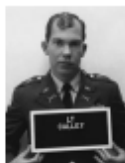
Ceasefire (1973)

By 1972 both sides felt pressured to make peace, and a ceasefire was agreed in the **Paris Agreement** in 1973. However, America never got what it had been fighting for all along - in March 1975 North Vietnam invaded the South, and Vietnam became united as a communist country.

The My Lai Massacre (1968)

In 1968, Charlie Company, led by Lieutenant William Calley, killed all the people in the village of My Lai. Most of the villagers were women and children, not members of the Vietcong.

The army organised a **cover-up** of the massacre, but it was exposed in 1969. An enquiry was held in 1970 and found that 347 civilians had been killed by US soldiers.



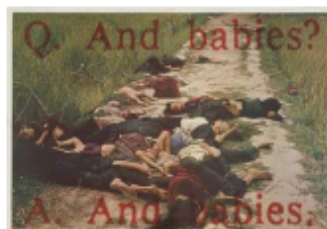
Calley's trial

Although Calley was acting under orders from above, no high-ranking officers were charged for their part in the massacre.

In 1971 Calley was sentenced to life imprisonment for murder. However, President Nixon reviewed the case and Calley only served 3 ½ years under house arrest on his military base.

Public reaction to the massacre

- The public was **shocked and horrified** at the massacre and its cover-up.
- People felt more strongly than ever that they should **trust the media**, not the government.
- Many people were **disgusted** that Calley served such a small sentence.
- Some felt that the soldiers were only following orders, and Calley was **being used** to take the blame for more senior officers.



The Kent State Shootings (1970)

On 4th May 1970, four unarmed students were shot dead by the Ohio National Guard during a protest at Kent State University.

Protests against Nixon's invasion of Cambodia had been taking place at the university for several days. On May 4th the National Guard were unable to break up the large crowd using tear gas, so began shooting instead.

The public were horrified by the shootings because they mainly involved **white middle-class students**; even more tragically, two of the victims were students simply walking between classes.



The shootings inspired protests and student strikes across the country, as well as a famous anti-war song (*Ohio*) by Neil Young.

Reasons for Growing Opposition to the War

Escalation of the war



Before 1965 there was general support for the war, but this decreased as more troops were sent in:

- People worried about the **rising death toll** and loss/injury of loved ones
- **Politicians** opposed the **high cost** of the war, and its bad impact on **America's image** abroad.

The student movement



Many students were part of the 1960s 'counter-culture' which rejected the values of their parents' generation.

- Students campaigned against the war using sit-ins, boycotts, strikes and protest marches. These got bigger and more violent through the 1960s.
- Student protests often got more media coverage because they were mainly white and middle-class.
- **Students for a Democratic Society (SDS)** was set up in 1960 and had 3000 members by 1965. The group angered some people because it actually supported the communist North Vietnamese.

The draft



The draft was compulsory military service which many felt was unfair. Men were drafted from the age of 18 and given basic training before going to fight.

The draft process was changed to a fairer lottery system in 1969, where men were chosen using a random number system. People could delay or avoid the draft:

- People burned or tore up their draft cards in protest
- College students could delay being drafted until they graduated
- Clergymen and workers in certain industries were exempt
- People who were the only sons or wage earner of a family were exempt
- Physically or mentally unfit people were exempt
- Conscientious objectors didn't have to fight, but they still had to do some kind of war work (e.g. in a weapons factory)
- Some people left the country illegally or went into hiding

About 650,000 of the 2.6m soldiers in Vietnam were drafted. About 15m eligible men avoided the draft.

TV and media



Vietnam was the first war that was widely watched on TV.

- Ordinary people saw uncomfortable footage of the war (and anti-war protests) which made them think about it.
- People lost faith in the government, because news reporters in Vietnam showed that the war was not being won like the government claimed.

Reasons for Support for the War

Fear of communism



During the 1950s people in America feared **communism** (the 'Red Scare'). Many were scared that it would spread around the world, and therefore felt that America was doing the right thing by fighting it in Vietnam. They didn't want it to look as though America was giving in to a communist country.

Patriotism



Many Americans were incredibly **patriotic** – they **loved their country** and supported whatever decisions the government made. Patriots felt that people who refused to fight were letting their country down. They wanted America to win the war so that it didn't look weak.



'**Hard hats**' was a nickname given to **construction workers** who supported the war. In May 1970, a group of 'hard hats' in New York beat up anti-war protestors and held a pro-war rally outside City Hall involving about 60,000 people.



The 'silent majority'



In 1969 President Nixon called for the '**silent majority**' to speak up – people who agreed with the war, but who didn't actively campaign either for or against it.

The speech was successful. Nixon received thousands of messages of support and a poll showed that 77% of people supported his policy in Vietnam. This high level of public support convinced Congress to keep funding the war.

Reasons for the USA's Failure in Vietnam

The 'home advantage'

The North Vietnamese were familiar with Vietnam's **landscape** and **language**. They knew how to fight in the conditions and **win people onto their side**.

The Ho Chi Minh Trail

The trail allowed the North Vietnamese to **move people and equipment** into the South easily. Neighbours Laos and Cambodia **allowed the trail to operate** in their countries.

Russian and Chinese support

China and the USSR gave money and weapons to North Vietnam – **\$3 billion** between 1954 and 1967.

Vietcong tactics

The VC were **well-organised** and experienced in **guerrilla fighting**. They had **tunnel systems** to move around quickly and had the **support of villagers**.

(They were badly weakened after the Tet Offensive though – the North Vietnamese army did most of the fighting after this point.)

Public support

Vietnam had been one country before and many people wanted it to be one again. Villagers helped **shelter the VC** and were **determined** to win the war.

North Vietnam's strengths

Poor understanding of Vietnam

US soldiers were **unfamiliar** with Vietnam's **geography, culture** and **language**. They didn't understand that villagers didn't want to leave their villages, or that most couldn't read.

Military tactics

The military thought **more troops and bombing** would win the war, but **failed to win over ordinary Vietnamese people**.

They measured their success by the number of enemy troops killed, but ignored the fact that the **ARVN still didn't control large areas of the South**. The **draft** meant that US troops were **young and inexperienced**.

Political problems

The US-backed South Vietnamese government was **corrupt** and **unpopular**, and many people still associated it with French rule. To the Vietnamese, the USA was a **foreign invader** trying to force its own ideas on them.

Opposition to the war at home

Presidents and Congress needed public support, and it was **impossible to ignore the large opposition** to the war. It was the war in which a large section of the population was against the US's involvement.

USA's weaknesses

The Cost of the War for the USA

Financial



The war cost the US **\$167 billion**. In order to pay for the war, the government took money from elsewhere. This meant that issues at home (e.g. improving black ghettos) lost out on funding.

America's image



Americans saw themselves differently – they had lost the war to a much smaller and less developed country. Despite all their efforts South Vietnam had still ended up communist.

Americans also **lost trust** in their government, who it seemed had misled them throughout the war.

Human cost



- **58,220** US soldiers were killed
- **303,704** were wounded
- **About 850,000** were left with psychological problems

Many returning soldiers struggled to readjust to normal life. There was a lot of **hostility** towards veterans and few large 'welcome home' parades.

There was little understanding of post-traumatic shock, and the **suicide rate** amongst Vietnam veterans was almost twice the average.

RTBQ!



ATBQ!



Source Analysis Question

Q3 (a). Study sources B and C.

How useful are sources B and C for an enquiry into the societal impact of the Black Panthers?

Explain your answer using sources B and C and your own knowledge of the historical context. (8 marks)

Questions to ask:

What do we mean by useful?

What do we mean by societal impact?

What do they tell us about the BPP's impact on society?

What information in the source is NOT relevant to the question?

What parts of the source are less useful for the question?

What does the source FAIL to tell us about the BPP's impact on society?

How can we question the reliability of the source AND link that to utility in a specific way?

Source B: Bobby Seale, co-founder in 1966 of the Black Panther Party for Self-Defense, talking in 2016.

“The biggest misconception is the FBI said that the Black Panthers hated all white folks. How could we hate white folks when we protested along with thousands of our white left radical and white liberal friends? We worked in coalition with each other, in coalition with the Asian community organizations and coalition with Native American community organizations, in coalition with Hispanic, Puerto Ricans and brown [people]. I had coalitions with 39 different organizational groups crossing all racial and organizational lines. I had a coalition actually with SCLC [Southern Christian Leadership Conference], Dr. Martin Luther King’s SCLC, particularly centered around the Poor People’s March. They had a coalition with 100 different other organizations and we joined it. I saw to it as chairman of the Black Panther Party that we would work with Dr. King to do that.”

Source C: Congressman L Richardson Preyer at a Congressional hearing, 1970

“During the 10-year period, 1960–1969, there were 561 law enforcement officers feloniously murdered while protecting life and property. In 1969, the last year for which complete statistics are available, there were 35,202 assaults on police officers, 11,949 resulting in injury. Eighty-six police officers, a 34-percent increase over 1968, were killed. While there are no complete statistics for 1970, the trend, if anything, would appear to be increasing.

News accounts have alleged that certain types of these killings and assaults have resulted from Panther activities. Statements by Panther leaders and remarks in their newspaper would seem to leave little doubt that the Panthers attempt to encourage physical attacks on police.”

Assessment Questions – Questions 3(b, c and d) – total of 24 marks

Q3 (b). Study Interpretations 1 and 2. They give different views about the Black Panther Party.

What is the main difference between these views? Explain your answer, using details from both Interpretations.

(4 marks)

Q3 (c). Suggest one reason why Interpretations 1 and 2 give different views about the Black Panther Party. You may use sources B and C to explain your answer.

(4 marks)

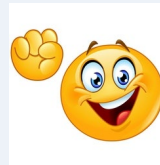
Q3 (d). How far do you agree with Interpretation 2 about the attitudes and actions of the Black Panther Party?

Explain your answer, using both interpretations and your knowledge of the historical context.

Spelling, punctuation, grammar and use of specialist terminology will be assessed in part (d).

(16 marks)

RTBQ!



ATBQ!

Interpretation1 - From “Black radicalism and political repression in Baltimore: the case of the Black Panther Party” by J.L. Jeffries, published in 2002

While the Baltimore chapter provided its residents with several meaningful community service endeavours the actual number of programmes provided by the Baltimore office paled in comparison to those offered at the National level. This was because the National office had access to certain resources that the Baltimore Panthers did not. Being in California afforded the National headquarters the opportunity to tap into liberal Hollywood celebrities and philanthropists like Jane Fonda, Marlon Brando, Donald Sutherland, Lynn Redgrave, Candice Bergen and others. One service that the Baltimore chapter did provide that did not exist at the National level was a free dry-cleaning service. Like the Oakland office, the Baltimore Panthers also operated a free medical clinic. Doctors and Nurses from the Johns Hopkins Hospital helped to staff the clinic. The Panthers also served as a liaison and spokesperson for many of the community's residents. For example, when one lady fell ill and was unable to work the Panthers took her to the department of social services and acted as her spokesperson. As a result she received the necessary funds. On another occasion when an elderly woman was on the verge of being evicted from her apartment for non-payment of rent the Party provided the money.

Interpretation 2 - From "The Black Panther Party 's Narratives of Resistance" by D.R. Papke , published in 1994

The Black Panthers prowled through the popular mind of the late 1960s and early 1970s as particularly lawless beasts. To a certain extent, they intentionally promoted this perception with their menacing bearing, berets, and leather jackets.¹¹⁵ They also ostentatiously displayed their weaponry, and the most famous photograph of Huey Newton showed him with a rifle in one hand and a spear in the other.¹¹⁶ Police reports, inflammatory media portrayals, and white racism in turn inflated the popular perception of Panther lawlessness.¹¹⁷ At the peak of their prominence the Panthers were considered by many as thugs, terrorists, and mad killers.¹¹⁸