

America Story Of Us Division Worksheet

*****KEY*****

Name _____ Hr _____

America: The Story of Us
Division



- In the 1800's the **INDUSTRIAL** Revolution was sweeping the world.
- The biggest construction project in the world was the **ERE** Canal.
- What state/city benefits most from this canal?
New York becomes the largest port, passes New Orleans.
- Because of the influx of wealth, what word was invented in 1842? **Millionaire**.
- Why does cotton grow well in the South? **Climate**. It has long growing seasons.
- What was the problem with growing cotton? Separating the seeds from the cotton was tedious and labor intensive. 1 pound of cotton.
- The invention of the **COTTON GIN** fixes this problem (1 slave could now do the work of **50**).
- By 1850 in the United States was producing **1/2** of the world's cotton; **3/4** by 1850.
- Cotton was known as "**WHITE** Gold."
- How did northerners profit from cotton? Northern textile industries take southern cotton and produce clothing, fabric, etc.
- What happened to the value of a slave after the cotton gin was invented? Increased \$300.
slave pre-cotton gin; now becomes worth \$2000 after cotton gin.
- Describe the **impact** of the following inventions:
 - Power Loom - raw cotton comes in; finished cloth comes out. Women enter the workforce for the first time. Modern factory is born. Fashion industry booms. People stop making their own clothing and buy ready-to-wear. Men's clothing becomes #1 manufacturing industry in New York. Technology of the loom becomes the influence behind binary code used in computers today. Women begin to self-educate, fight for rights, organize, etc.
 - Cotton Gin - slavery was on the decline before invention. Slaves become useful and profitable.
 - Waltham Looms - "opened up the night", allowed people to do more, achieve more, allowed Americans to work around the clock.
- 50%** of all African Americans were slaves = 4 million slaves.
- 1/3** (fraction) of all slave sales at auction tear families apart.
- Many slaves tried to run away. If caught, what are some punishments a runaway might face? Ears cut off, Achilles tendons cut, branding, etc.
- 80%** of slaves could not read or write.
- The best hope for escaped slaves was the legendary **UNDERGROUND** Railroad.
- What role did Harriet Tubman have on escaped slaves? Conductor on the Underground Railroad; Considered "Moses"; Escaped slave herself, who came back to the south to help.

America story of us division worksheet is an educational tool designed to help students explore the complex narratives that have shaped the United States. This worksheet serves as a comprehensive resource that delves into the various social, political, and historical divisions that have emerged throughout American history. By engaging with this material, learners can better understand the roots of division in American society, the impact of these divisions on contemporary issues, and the importance of unity in overcoming them.

Understanding the Concept of Division in America

The United States is often characterized by its diverse population and multicultural landscape. However, this diversity has also led to significant divisions based on race, class, ideology, and geography. These divisions have manifested in various forms, including social unrest, political polarization, and economic disparities.

Historical Context of Division

To comprehend the current state of division in America, it is essential to consider its historical roots. Key events and movements have contributed to the ongoing narrative of division:

- 1. The American Revolution (1775-1783):** This conflict laid the groundwork for a national identity but also highlighted divisions between loyalists and patriots.

2. **The Civil War (1861-1865):** One of the most significant divisions in American history, the Civil War was fought over issues of slavery and states' rights, resulting in lasting societal rifts.
3. **The Civil Rights Movement (1950s-1960s):** This movement sought to address racial inequalities and led to significant legislative changes but also sparked backlash and further divisions.
4. **Modern Political Polarization:** In recent decades, the political landscape has become increasingly polarized, with partisan identities often overshadowing common ground.

Components of the America Story of Us Division Worksheet

The America story of us division worksheet is structured to guide learners through various aspects of division in American history. The worksheet typically includes several key components:

1. Case Studies

Case studies provide real-world examples of division, allowing students to analyze specific events and their implications. Common case studies might include:

- The impact of redlining and housing segregation on urban communities.
- The role of social media in contemporary political polarization.
- Case studies of significant protests and movements, such as Black Lives Matter.

2. Discussion Questions

The worksheet encourages critical thinking through a series of discussion questions. These questions may prompt students to reflect on:

- How historical events have shaped current societal divisions.
- The implications of division on national unity and identity.

- Strategies for bridging divides and fostering dialogue.

3. Interactive Activities

Interactive activities engage students in hands-on learning experiences. Examples include:

- Debates on contemporary issues related to division.
- Role-playing exercises that explore different perspectives on divisive topics.
- Group projects that focus on community-building initiatives.

4. Reflection and Personal Connection

Encouraging personal reflection helps students connect the historical context of division to their own experiences. Prompts may include:

- Reflect on a time when you witnessed or experienced division in your community.
- How can you contribute to healing divisions in society?
- What role does empathy play in understanding different perspectives?

The Importance of Addressing Division

Understanding and addressing division in America is crucial for several reasons:

1. Promoting Unity

Fostering a sense of unity is essential for a healthy democracy. When individuals understand the complexities of division, they can work towards collaborative solutions that prioritize common goals.

2. Encouraging Critical Thinking

The America story of us division worksheet promotes critical thinking skills, enabling students to analyze information, question assumptions, and engage in constructive dialogue. This is vital for informed citizenship.

3. Building Empathy

By exploring different perspectives and experiences, students can develop empathy for those with whom they may disagree. This empathy is key to reducing hostility and promoting understanding in an increasingly polarized society.

How to Utilize the America Story of Us Division Worksheet

To maximize the benefits of the America story of us division worksheet, educators and students can follow these guidelines:

1. Integrate with Curriculum

This worksheet can be integrated into social studies, history, and civics curricula. It can complement lessons on American history, civil rights, and current events.

2. Facilitate Group Discussions

Encourage group discussions around the case studies and discussion questions. This can lead to richer conversations and diverse perspectives on complex issues.

3. Encourage Action

Promote action-oriented projects that allow students to apply their learning. This could include community service initiatives, awareness campaigns, or advocacy efforts that address specific divisions.

4. Assess Understanding

Use the worksheet as an assessment tool to gauge students' understanding of the material. Consider assigning reflective essays or presentations based on their learning.

experiences.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the **America story of us division worksheet** serves as an essential tool for educating students about the complexities of division in American society. By engaging with historical events, critical discussions, and personal reflections, learners can develop a deeper understanding of the factors that contribute to division and the importance of unity. In a time where polarization is prevalent, this resource empowers individuals to foster empathy, promote dialogue, and take meaningful action toward a more inclusive society. Understanding our past is vital for shaping a more unified future.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main theme of the 'America: Story of Us' series regarding division?

The main theme revolves around the historical and social factors that have led to division in American society, including issues of race, class, and regional differences.

How can the division depicted in 'America: Story of Us' be related to current events?

The division illustrated in the series can be seen mirrored in contemporary issues such as political polarization, social justice movements, and economic inequality, reflecting ongoing struggles in American society.

What educational activities are suggested in the 'division worksheet' to engage students?

The worksheet suggests activities such as group discussions, creating timelines of significant events that contributed to division, and analyzing primary sources from different perspectives.

What historical events are highlighted in the series that illustrate America's divisions?

Key events include the Civil War, the Civil Rights Movement, and recent political upheavals, all of which showcase the ongoing struggle between unity and division in the nation.

How does the 'America: Story of Us' division worksheet

encourage critical thinking?

The worksheet encourages critical thinking by prompting students to analyze different viewpoints, assess the causes of division, and reflect on how historical events shape current societal issues.

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