

“Ronald Reagan and the Ending of the Cold War” Lesson Plan

Grade 8 and above

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I. Lesson Plan Summary

A. Using the Cold War overview, discuss and review the events leading up to Ronald Reagan’s presidency. from the text used, *Call to Freedom*. The lesson plan is designed to be used with the DBQ of the same title

B. Objectives: Explain why the Cold War had continued for so long up to the Reagan administration.

Sunshine State Standards Benchmarks: SS.A.1.3.3; SS. B.2.3.2; and LA.B.2.3.1.

C. U.S. History event/time period: The Cold War and the Reagan Administration

D. 8th grade and above

E. Materials needed

1. *Call to Freedom*, Chapter 31, p.931.
2. Large manila drawing paper
3. Markers

II. Lesson Procedures and Activities:

First Day:

- A. **The Hook:** Review with the students about the overview leading to the end of the Cold War. Make a timeline using the review facts from the overview as well as using the textbook showing the conflicts in the Cold War.
- B. Review what has been discussed from the textbook.
- C. Give paper and markers to make the timeline of the Cold War as a mapping.
- D. In groups of 4 working on 1 large sheet of paper, have the students each take a corner of the sheet and decide on the mapping of the review, putting all ideas and events together through words and /or drawings. Use the markers to make colorful and readable. (CRISS strategy)
- E. Students will share their mappings.
- F. Group students in pairs and give each a copy of the Document Based Question packet.
- G. Have each pair answer the scaffolding questions for each document in the DBQ.
- H. Discuss the documents with the students and review the ideas presented in the mapping activity.

III. Assessment

Students will go on to Part 2 of the “Reagan and the Cold War” Document Based Question and will write their DBQ essay individually as the final assessment.

IV. Resources

- A. *Holt’s A Call to Freedom* textbook, page 928-931, and p. 933 in student and also the TM.
- B. Holt’s CD listing websites for research for the handout.
- C. Technology Resource: Geography and History Transparency 24: “The Breakup of the Soviet Sphere.”
- D. Documents included in the DBQ activity.
- E. Additional resources may be added to enhance the assignment by individual teachers.

