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| **Lap 4 – the Middle East** |
| Final Assessment of the Essential Question – Middle East Peace Process |
| **ESSENTIAL QUESTION – How can we fix the Middle East?** |

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Introduction

Welcome to the first annual Incarnate Word Academy conference for peace. The emphasis on these important discussions is to find a way to create a lasting peace in the Middle East for all people and for all faiths. This historic event unfortunately coincides with much violence as Israel and the Palestine continue to clash in the Gaza strip. Syria is in the middle of total civil war and calls for President Bashar to remove himself have been replaced with shouts for his head. Iran has consistently stuck to their destructive and violent tone against Israel and the west leaving many in the area very nervous. Finally, Iraq is in continued political, cultural, and economic flux due to the radical Islamic group known as ISIS as the U.S. continues to deal with the aftermath.

Through this role-play my hope is that you gain an understanding of some of the major issues that plague this region and the difficulty in achieving a workable compromise.

Task

Your delegation will develop a proposal that addresses the issues of importance to your country or group. This problem and potential solution will involve the country or group you represent. Your proposal will be discussed by the whole class.

Working in groups of two or three (class decision) you will represent Israel, Syria, The Palestinian National Authority, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Iraq, Iran, Pakistan, Egypt, al Qaeda, Hezbollah, Hamas, or ISIS.

I will act as the moderator representing the United States’ interests in the region. Some groups will not like me and that is okay.

Assignment

Your summative assignment for this Lap will require your group to work collaboratively with one another, think critically about real life situations plaguing people today, develop creative solutions to the situations, and communicate both through writing and in a presentation how you would create peace in the Middle East.

Part 1: Research Overview

Each person within the group will have a different responsibility. Each group member will turn in a one page overview prior to the start of the conference. Here are your options:

1. **Historical researcher** - You will provide the necessary background information on the country or group you represent and the issues that you face. You will be writing about such things as the origins of your country or group, population of your country or group, and religious makeup.
2. **Domestic Policy Analyst** - You will provide the necessary research on your country or groups current situation in the region. You will be writing about things such as modern or recent history, detailing the current leadership and how they came to power and the government/leadership structure of your country or group if it exists.
3. **Diplomatic Consultant** – You will provide the necessary research on the issues affecting your country or group and outline possible solutions for each issue you raise. Solutions must be plausible and work towards peace.

Part 2: Presentation

Each group also has the responsibility of creating a Google Presentation following this exact format – no exceptions. Presentation must be shared with me.

* **Slide 1** – Name of your country or group, a picture of your country or group, and your names somewhere on the slide.
* **Slide 2** – Title of slide: “Background Information.” Origin of your country or group.
* **Slide 3** – Title of slide: “Background Information.” Population and religious makeup of your country or group.
* **Slide 4** – Title of slide: “Modern Times.” Current leadership. How they came to power.
* **Slide 5** – Title of slide: “Modern Times.” Government or Leadership structure of your country or group.
* **Slide 6** – Title of slide: “Issues.” Here is where you will list the issues affecting your country or group of people.
* **Slide 7** – Title of slide: “Solutions.” Describe the solution to your issues. Who you need to talk to and what they would need to do to help you.
* **Slide 8** – Title of slide: “Solutions.” Describe the solution to your issues. Who you need to talk to and what they would need to do to help you. An additional slide may be included if you need it after slide eight.
* **Slide 9** – Title of slide: “Peace.” On this slide you will describe how the solution to the issue you just presented will create peace. An additional slide may be included if you need it after slide nine.

The Process

**Round 1**

**Presenting Country or Group**

* During this time each country or group will present their Google Presentation on their country or group. Your introduction should last about 5 minutes. I will give you a warning when you reach 4 minutes.
* This will be presented – not read. You may use index cards only. The index cards may be a guide to help you on your way but they cannot be a crutch. Do not read directly from the index cards!
* Other groups will be given an opportunity to ask questions. You must be prepared to answer their questions.

**Listening Country or Group**

* During this time you should be taking thorough notes about each country’s plan regarding their issues. You need to think if your interest will be compromised if they get their wish and their plan succeeds.
* Begin to develop questions for the countries presented. Questions should be high in quality not necessarily in mass quantity.

**Break**

* During the break between Round 1 and Round 2 you and group will reconvene and talk about what just happened.
* You will need to develop a strategy on going forward. Think about who you need to talk to? What do you want to accomplish? Are our goals still attainable now after what we just heard?

**Round 2**

* During this round you will be able to send messages to other countries or groups in an effort to persuade them to help you achieve your goal and to create peace in the Middle East.
* You may contact the United States if you wish for further help.
* You will have a certain amount of time for this process so work quickly and diligently.

**Break**

* You will be given a short break to reconvene with your group and make your final plans.

**Round 3**

* Large group discussion of how you plan on making peace in the Middle East. We will focus on your interactions with other groups and see if you were successful in carrying out your initial plan.

Structure

* My role as the United States is to be the moderator and to keep everyone on track.
* I will determine whether you can speak or not and the order of speakers. You must raise your hand in order to be recognized. Do not shout out.
* I will determine if there has been enough discussion on a topic, and at this time discussion will end and voting will take place.
* If anyone is disruptive you will be removed from the conference and your grade will suffer incredibly.
* As with any peace conference, a large amount of dealing takes place before the conference officially begins. Look to see which groups you have something in common with.

Possible Topics

* Israeli security
* The creation of a Palestinian State
* Water rights
* Israeli occupation of Jerusalem
* Israeli occupation of the West Bank
* Economic aid or development for Palestinians and/or other countries which contain a large Palestinian population
* Terrorist activity & Islamic fundamentalism
* Return of the Israeli occupied Golan Heights territory
* Palestinian refugees in the countries surrounding Israel
* Lebanese sovereignty (removal of Syrian troops)
* Israeli occupation of the Gaza Strip
* Countries suspected of supporting terrorist groups
* The United States militarypresencein the Middle Eastern affairs
* Nuclear weapons program in Iran
* Kurdish independence
* Stability of Afghanistan
* Stability of Iraq
* ISIS
* Syrian Civil War

Resources

These sites are only a starting point.

* <http://news.bbc.co.uk/hi/english/world/middle_east/default.stm>  BBC News –The Lateness news from the Middle East. Also background information on each country in the Middle East.
* <http://www.cnn.com/MIDDLEEAST/> CNN’s home for Middle East news. Explore and you can find a multitude of information.
* <http://www.mideastweb.org/hamas.htm> Hamas Charter
* <http://www.mideastweb.org/history.htm> Middle East history and resource links by journalists and others from the Middle East and the USA.
* <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>  This site contains a great deal of the basic information about the countries involved
* <http://www.usaid.gov/west-bank-and-gaza> Contains information about the economic conditions & water resources in the West Bank & Gaza Strip.
* <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/special_reports/middle_east_crisis/> Excellent site on the Middle East peace process
* <http://www.un.int/wcm/content/site/palestine/pid/11544> Excellent site on all things related to the Palestinian’s plight
* <http://www.mideastweb.org/osamabinladen1.htm>- Background and objectives of Osama Bin Laden
* <http://www.aljazeera.com/>- Homepage for Al jazeera which is the equivalent of The Middle East’s version of CNN
* <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-28116033> Detailing the rise of the Islamic State
* <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-29052144> What is the Islamic State?

Conclusion

While you are being graded individually your partners will be counting on you for your best effort. Do not let them down. If a member of your group is not working diligently come see me. The non-participating member will be dismissed from the group and given a separate assignment. Trust me – you do not want the separate assignment. You must be actively researching in open lab, the library, and during the time allotted in class. “I have the Internet at home and will do it there” will not be an acceptable excuse. This is a lengthy process and if you are not researching you will get left behind.

Please keep this in mind; you are not being graded on whether or not your proposal passes. You are being graded on how well you understand and express in the written and verbal form the situations of your group.

Grading Criteria

* Research 10%
* Quality of written overview 30%
* Presentation 50%
* Defending your issue 10%

***Essential Question (EQ) Rubric***

**Name**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Lap 4 Essential Question Presentation**

**Country/Group**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Class**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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| **Graded Criteria** | **Mastered** | **Approaching** | **Progressing** | **Beginning/Lacking** |
| **Research** | Researchers independently locate at least 2 reliable, interesting information sources for **EACH** of their issues and turned in an **MLA formatted work cited page**.  **10pts.** | Researchers independently locate at least 2 reliable information sources for EACH of their issues and turned in an MLA formatted work cited page.  **9-6pts.** | Researchers, with some help, locate at least 2 reliable  information sources for EACH of their issues and  turned in an MLA formatted work cited page  **5-3pts.** | Researchers, with help, locate at least 1 reliable information sources for EACH of their issues and turned in an MLA formatted work cited page.  **2-0pts.** |
| **Written Portion** | Information clearly relates to the main topic. It includes several supporting details and/or examples.  **30-22pts.** | Information clearly relates to the main topic. It provides 1-2 supporting details and/or examples.  **21-13pts.** | Information clearly relates to the main topic. No details and/or examples are given.  **12-4pts.** | Information has little or nothing to do with the main topic.  **3-0pts.** |
| **Presentation** | The individual clearly understood their issues in-depth and presented their information forcefully, logically, and convincingly.  **50-40pts.** | The individual clearly understood the issues in-depth and presented their information with ease.  **39-30pts.** | The individual seemed to understand the main points of the issues and presented those with ease.  **29-20pts.** | The individual did not show an adequate understanding of the issues.  **19-0pts.** |
| **Defense of your Issues** | All arguments in defense of your issues were clearly tied to an idea (premise) and organized in a tight, logical fashion.  **10-8pts.** | Most arguments in defense of your issues were clearly tied to an idea (premise) and organized in a tight, logical fashion.  **7-5pts.** | All arguments in defense of your issues were clearly tied to an idea (premise) but the organization was sometimes not clear or logical.  **4-2pts.** | Arguments in defense of your issues were not clearly tied to an idea (premise).  **1-0pts.** |
| ***Comments:*** | | | | ***Overall score:*** |

**Brainstorming Ideas**