



Don't Just Escape A Problem, Shape A Solution: An NBA Star's Efforts to Fight Ethnic Hatred

Students write their opinions on how to fight ethnic hatred after reading about Vlade Divac.

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| Author | Barbara Martin |
| Grade Level | 7-8 and High School |
| Duration | 1-2 class periods |

National Geography Standards

ELEMENT FOUR: HUMAN SYSTEMS

13. How the forces of cooperation and conflict among people influence the division and control of Earth's surface

Arizona Geography Strand

Grade 7 Concept 2 Places and Regions

PO 3 Compare the historical and contemporary interactions among people in different places and regions.

Concept 4 Human Systems

PO 8 Explain how cooperation and conflict contribute to political, economic and social activities.

Grade 8 Concept 4 Human Systems

PO 5 Explain how cooperation and conflict contribute to political, economic, and social divisions (e.g., United Nations, European Union, NAFTA).

High School Concept 2: Places and Regions

PO 3. Examine geographic issues (e.g., drought in Sahel, migration patterns, desertification of Aral Sea, spread of religions such as Islam, conflicts in Northern

Other Arizona Standards

Grades 7 and 8 Strand 2 World History Concept 9 Contemporary World

PO 2 Identify the connection between current and historical events and issues studied at this grade level using information from class discussions and various resources (e.g., newspapers, magazines, television, Internet, books, maps).

Grade 8 Strand 2 World History Concept 8 World at War

PO 9. Describe the spread of Communism after World War II:

- China – Mao Tse-tung and Chinese Revolution
- Korea – 38th parallel and division of country
- Cuba – Fidel Castro and Cuban Missile Crisis
- Vietnam – Ho Chi Minh

PO 16. Examine human rights issues during the 20th century (e.g., Apartheid, genocide, famine, disease).

High School Strand 2 World History Concept 8 World at War

PO 6. Examine genocide as a manifestation of extreme nationalism in the 20th century (e.g., Armenia, Holocaust, Cambodia, Bosnia, Rwanda, Kosovo and Sudan).

ELA Common Core Standards Reading Standards for 6-8 for Literacy in History/Social Studies

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Ireland/Ireland, Jerusalem, Tibet) in places and world regions.

PO 4. Analyze the differing political, religious, economic, demographic, and historical ways of viewing places and regions.

Key Ideas and Details

6-8.RH.1 Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources.

6-8 Writing Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects

Text Types and Purposes

6-8.WHST.1 Write arguments focused on *discipline-specific content*.

- Introduce claim(s) about a topic or issue, acknowledge and distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically.
- Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant, accurate data and evidence that demonstrate an understanding of the topic or text, using credible sources.
- Use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.
- Establish and maintain a formal style.
- Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.

Production and Distribution of Writing

6-8.WHST.9 Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis reflection, and research.

High School

9-10 Reading Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies

Key Ideas and Details

9-10.RH.1 Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources, attending to such features as the date and origin of the information.

High School

9-10 Writing Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies

Production and Distribution of Writing

9-10.WHST.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

Overview

Students will read and react to an article about Vlade Divac, an NBA star with the Sacramento King's. Mr. Divac's homeland is Yugoslavia, which has a long history of ethnic hatred and war. This article profiles his efforts to aid children who have been victimized by war.

Purpose

Students will determine the events that led to the formation of Group 7, Vlade Divac's organization to aid child victim's of war. Students will recognize how one person is able to identify a problem and make a positive impact on the world.

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Materials

- Article: "Mission Possible" by Roland Lazenby
- CIA Map of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- History of the Former Yugoslavia Timeline
- Just Don't Escape a Problem Worksheet
- Just Don't Escape a Problem Writing Prompt

Objectives

- The student will be able to:
- determine events which led to the creation of Group 7.
- write a reaction response to a quote from the article.
- write how ethnic hatred can be stopped.

Procedures

SESSION ONE

1. Distribute the timeline of events concerning the ethnic conflict in the Balkans and discuss.
2. Distribute The CIA map of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
3. Discuss the various ethnic groups in the Balkans. (See Balkan Basics lesson on the GeoLiteracy CD ROM for background information.)
4. Have students read the article "Mission Possible" by Roland Lazenby.

SESSION TWO

1. Students should complete the worksheet to determine what Vlade Divac had identified as a problem and his possible solution.

2. Students should choose a quote from the article and write a reaction to it.

Assessment

Check the student worksheet. Mastery is 6 correct out of the 8 questions.

Check student reactions to quote for accuracy and appropriateness. The student writing can be graded for organization using the 6 Traits of Writing Rubric. Their writing should have an introduction including the quote from the material, several sentences stating their response to the quote, how they would stop ethnic hatred, and an appropriate conclusion. Mastery will be considered 4 or higher out of 6.

Extensions

Student may identify a problem in the world today and formulate possible solutions including necessary resources and obstacles.

Sources

"Mission Possible" by Roland Lazenby. Used and distributed for educational purposes with permission from [NBA Hoops](#).