

# The Vietnam War

# Vocabulary Builder

## Section 1

Dien Bien Phu	domino theory	enable
Geneva Conference	intervene	Vietcong
Vietminh	Tonkin Gulf Resolution	

**DIRECTIONS** Read each sentence and choose the correct term from the word bank to replace the underlined phrase. Write the term in the space provided and then define the term in your own words.

1. President Johnson misrepresented the facts to get Congress to approve the authority to repel any armed attack on the United States. \_\_\_\_\_

Your definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

2. At the meeting to work out a peace agreement, Vietnam was temporarily divided and a cease-fire was agreed upon. \_\_\_\_\_

Your definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**DIRECTIONS** Look at each set of four terms. On the line provided, write the letter of the term that does not relate to the others.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. a. Vietminh  
 b. Communist  
 c. independence  
 d. Green Berets

- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. a. surplus  
 b. President Eisenhower  
 c. domino theory  
 d. communism

- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. a. Dien Bien Phu  
 b. World War II  
 c. surrender  
 d. France

- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. a. Geneva Conference  
 b. Gulf of Tonkin  
 c. cease-fire  
 d. Indochina

- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. a. Ngo Dinh Diem  
 b. overthrow  
 c. Soviets  
 d. Vietcong

- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. a. President Eisenhower  
 b. war  
 c. Tonkin Gulf Resolution  
 d. authority

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## Section 2

doves	hawks	resource	Ho Chi Minh Trail
instituted	pacification	Operation Rolling Thunder	

**DIRECTIONS** Read each sentence and fill in the blank with the word in the word pair that best completes the sentence.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ was used to weaken the enemy's ability and will to fight. **(Operation Rolling Thunder/Pacification)**
2. Some \_\_\_\_\_ believed more troops and heavier bombing were necessary to achieve victory in Vietnam. **(doves/hawks)**
3. Soldiers moved civilians to safe camps and then burned their villages during \_\_\_\_\_. **(Operation Rolling Thunder/pacification)**
4. Because of its strategic importance in sending weapons, soldiers, and food to South Vietnam, one of the U.S. military's main bombing targets was the \_\_\_\_\_. **(Ho Chi Minh Trail/search-and-destroy missions)**
5. People who did not support the Vietnam War were known as \_\_\_\_\_. **(doves/hawks)**

**DIRECTIONS** Choose five of the vocabulary words from the word list. Use these words to write a summary of what you learned in the section.

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### Section 3

**DIRECTIONS** Look at each set of four terms. On the line provided, write the letter of the term that does not relate to the others.

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|--------------------|------------------|
| _____ 1. a. French | _____ 2. a. NVA  |
| b. attacks         | b. Tet Offensive |
| c. Tet Offensive   | c. New Year      |
| d. coordinated     | d. Christmas     |

**DIRECTIONS** On the line provided before each statement, write **T** if a statement is true and **F** if a statement is false. If the statement is false, write the correct term on the line after each sentence that makes the sentence a true statement.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. General Westmoreland argued that the Khe Sanh had been a devastating defeat for North Vietnamese forces.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Minnesota senator Eugene McCarthy was a vocal critic of the Vietnam War and challenged President Johnson in the 1968 presidential primary elections.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Walter Cronkite was the secretary of defense in the Johnson administration and played a key role in shaping U.S. strategy in Vietnam.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. After President Johnson withdrew from the 1968 presidential election, his vice president, Hubert Humphrey, entered the race.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. In addition to the Democratic and Republican candidates in the 1968 presidential election campaign, the former governor of Alabama, George Wallace, ran as an independent.

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### Section 4

analyze	Khmer Rouge	My Lai massacre
Pentagon Papers	silent majority	Twenty-sixth Amendment
Vietnamization	War Powers Act	

**DIRECTIONS** Answer each question by writing a sentence that contains at least one word from the word bank.

1. What people did President Nixon believe were in support of his policies, and how were they important to his political goals?

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2. What was the collection of secret government documents about the Vietnam War called, and how did it change the course of U.S. involvement?

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3. What legislative action did Congress take to prevent another undeclared war, and what were some of the specific provisions included in the legislation that was passed?

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**DIRECTIONS** Choose five of the vocabulary words from the word list. On a separate sheet of paper use these words to write a newspaper column that relates to the section.