



Cold War Slang

Become familiar with Navy jargon and procedures, and learn about the Cold War through the eyes of a sailor. Practice creative writing utilizing Cold War events and the experiences of sailors.

Grades: 7, 8
Disciplines: Social Studies, Reading

Background

The Cold War refers to the post World War II confrontation between the United States and its allies and the Soviet Union and its allies. From 1945 to 1991 international policies were shaped by intense rivalries between these two groups – noncommunist and communists. This led to military coalitions, weapons development, space race, espionage, and propaganda. It included the “hot” wars of the Cold War: Korea and Vietnam. The Cold War ended with the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991.

Background Video

View "The U.S. Navy in the Cold War" for a 10 minute summary of the U.S. Navy's role across 5 decades after World War II, from the Cold War Gallery theater in the National Museum of the U.S. Navy in Washington DC at: http://usnavymuseum.org/Education_LP0018.asp or on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dVAtVFnu-Rk#t=71>.

Materials

Student journal/diary, and internet in for accessing the following:

Navy website listing popular Navy jargon and lingo

<https://www.history.navy.mil/research/library/online-reading-room/title-listAlphabetically/t/terminology-and-nomenclature.html>

Navy website listing popular Navy jargon and lingo

<http://www.navy.mil/navydata/traditions/html/navyterm.html>

Navy website listing popular Navy jargon and lingo

<https://www.history.navy.mil/research/library/online-reading-room/title-listAlphabetically/h/how-the-navy-talks.html>

Flashcards of Cold War terminology

<http://www.studystack.com/flashcard-206604>

Navy lingo live, from Navy's U-tube channel

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XI2To7I_zG0&list=UUjdWZTMt_7O6Jue7gFbxj7w&index

=12&feature=plcp

Dozens of videos from the Cold War Gallery

<http://www.youtube.com/user/coldwargallery>

About life on a Battleship during the Cold War

http://usnavymuseum.org/Ex2_LifeOnBoard.asp

Video of life on a Destroyer during the Cold War

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Rek4Anfrao>

Video of crew's mess in the Cold War Gallery, where *chow* is served

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0lWxs652Pfo&feature=plcp>

Review the timeline of The Korean Conflict and the USS Iowa

<https://pacificbattleship.com/learn-the-history/the-korean-conflict/>

Instructions

Surf the websites listed above to learn more about the Navy, life on a submarine and the Cold War.

Record terms and their use.

Imagine you are on the USS Iowa during the Cold War and write a journal entry detailing a day in your life. Use as many slang words from the websites as you can.

Or, use your imagination and pretend you are serving on the USS Iowa during the Korean War and write about it using Navy jargon and terms from other than a sailor's perspective.

You may want to include drawings and doodles in addition to your written journal entry.

Adapted from "Cold War Slang Can Be Your 'Thang'; Using Navy Terminology to Learn About the Cold War" by Cindy Woolston, Brunswick High School, Brunswick, MO