The Korean War

1950-1953

1. Kim Il Sung had aspirations of uniting Korea. Who would he look to for help to accomplish this?
2. What was Kim Il Sung’s secret reason for going to Moscow, Russia in 1949?
3. What was Stalin’s response? Why?
4. What 2 major events occurred in 1949, shifting the balance of power in the Cold War?
5. Why did the Soviet Union boycott the United Nations in 1950?
6. What did Truman warn the American people of when addressing the nation shortly after the North Korean invasion into South Korea?
7. Where were the nearest American forces in Asia when the Korean War began?
8. What was the North Korean army’s initial objective in it’s invasion? How long did it take?
9. Why did the American defense line collapse early on in the Korean War?
10. Who was the New British Prime Minster during the Korean War/Early years of the Cold War?
11. What did the South Koreans think after the Inchon landing, re-capture of Soeul, and the invasion of North Korea?
12. What is the boundary between North Korea and China?
13. Explain the Chinese fears as the Americans and UN soldiers advanced deep into North Korea.
14. What happened on October, 19th, 1950?
15. What did MacArthur Guarantee to President Truman when they met?
16. At the same time, what did Mao order his military to do?
17. When did MacArthur and the American soldiers believe the war would be won by?
18. At the Truman Press Conference, November 1950, what did the American press continue to ask Truman about?
19. According to the Russians, why didn’t the US use the atomic bomb on China?
20. Who became the new field commander for the US and the UN, as appointed by President Truman?
21. What did the presence of Russian pilots put at risk?
22. Why did Truman want to limit the war to just Korea instead of expanding into China?
23. Eventually, it became clear to American soldiers that winning wasn’t a priority. What was the war being fought for then?
24. What happened to 1 in 3 American POWs at the hands of the North Koreans during the first year of the Korean War?
25. Describe the American media coverage of the Korean War.
26. What marked the beginning of the Japanese electronics industry?
27. Roughly how many North Korean civilians were killed as a result of American and UN bombings during the Korean War?
28. 1952: Election year in the US. Who became president?
29. What happened in March, 1953, in the Soviet Union?
30. Why did the Soviet Union and China feel the war against South Korea was eventually winnable?