

SKILL BUILDER**IB HISTORY****Seminar #8 – The Korean War**

The war cost America more than 54 000 dead and another 100 000 casualties. More than 2 million Koreans were killed in the fighting. After three years, the situation in Korea was almost exactly what it had been when the North first attacked the South. All the fighting and deaths had changed almost nothing, and it has remained that way to this day. At home, the war produced a massive call for militarization and a buildup of American conventional and nuclear forces, strengthening what President Eisenhower himself would later label “the military-industrial complex.” – Kenneth C. Davis, *Don't Know Much about History*

1. Choices

- i. To what extent was the Korean War a part of the Cold War?
- ii. For what reasons, and with what results for East-West relations, did the superpowers become involved in the affairs Korea? – Nov, 2007
- iii. Analyze the causes of the Korean War. May, 2006
- iv. In what ways, and with what results, did the Korean War bring about social and cultural changes in the countries involved? (May, 2009)
- v. The Korean War was a limited war, a civil war, and an episode in the Cold War. To what extent do you agree with each part of this assertion? (May, 2002)

2. Instructions**Step 1: Research**

Gather resources from the Internet, library, Questia, or Proquest to help answer the question for the seminar. The file card system works well here.

Step 2: Outline

Organizing file cards or research notes into subtopics to back up your thesis.

Step 3: Essay

Create an essay of roughly 1000-1500 words that answers the above question. Be mindful of referencing and avoiding plagiarism.

Step 4: Presentation

Use *PowerPoint* or *SmartBoard Notebook* and create a presentation/workshop to display material in an attractive and meaningful way.

Include the following:

- a) Handout – a one page summary of the essential parts of your paper. This can take the form of the outline you originally made.
- b) Reading – provide an academic article that helps familiarize students to your topic and assist with discussion. Give this to me so that I may put it on the website and make it available.