

US Vietnam mark end of war (Mon 2 May, 2005)

WARM-UPS

CHAT: Talk in pairs or groups about: Vietnam / The Vietnam War / Ho Chi Minh City / Saigon / Washington DC / parades / war / remembering the past / moving on... For more conversation, change topics and partners frequently.

VIETNAM: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with Vietnam. Share your words with your partner / group and talk about them.

THE WAR: In pairs / groups, interview each other about what you know (remember) of the Vietnam War. Where did you learn about the war? How much of your information is from movies? What do you know about the feelings of Vietnamese and Americans since the war? What lessons can we learn from the war?

WAR: Write down three sentences that begin with the word "war". Read one sentence to your partner / group and have a quick discussion about it. Read another sentence and have another quick discussion. Change partners and try to listen to as many sentences from other people as you can. Go back to your original partner / group and make one conclusion about what you heard. Share / Discuss this with the rest of the class.

WARS: Wars are horrific and brutal events in our history and present day. Somehow countries move on, become friends and live in peace. Circle the names of the wars below that you know the names of in English. Talk about them and how they changed the world. Are the countries friends today?

- World War II (1939-45)
- Korean War (1950-53)
- Indo-Pakistan War (1965)
- The Six-Day War (1967)
- The Vietnam War (1965-75)
- Cambodia (1975-79)
- Soviet-Afghan War (1979-89)
- Iran-Iraq War (1980-89)
- El Salvador (1980-92)
- Nicaragua (1980s)
- Gulf War (1991)
- Rwandan Genocide (1994)
- Balkan Wars (1992-95)
- Afghanistan (2001)

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PRE-READING

WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionaries / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... of the words 'anniversary' and 'end'.

TRUE / FALSE: Look at the article's headline and guess whether these sentences are true or false:

- a. The Vietnam War ended 40 years ago. T / F
- b. In Washington DC, veterans paid tribute to soldiers who died in the war. T / F
- c. The Vietnam War is known as The American War in Vietnam. T / F
- d. There are very few Vietnamese people living in America. T / F
- e. There were lots of heavy speeches in Ho Chi Minh City. T / F
- f. America is now Vietnam's largest trading partner. T / F

SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article:

- | | | |
|----|------------|------------|
| a. | mark | respect |
| b. | veterans | serious |
| c. | tribute | wealth |
| d. | memorial | monument |
| e. | held | remember |
| f. | heavy | indication |
| g. | prosperity | vets |
| h. | sign | staged |

PHRASE MATCH: Match the following phrases from the article (sometimes more than one combination is possible):

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| a. | Vietnam and the USA held | ceremony |
| b. | remembrance | known as the American War |
| c. | paid | sight |
| d. | In Vietnam, the war is | events yesterday |
| e. | Both countries have moved | speeches |
| f. | political | prosperity |
| g. | economic | on |
| h. | a common | tribute to |

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READING:

PHRASE FILL: Write the number of the phrase that belongs in each space.

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BNE: Vietnam and the USA held events yesterday to _____ of the end of the Vietnam War. In Washington DC, war veterans wore their old uniforms at a remembrance ceremony. They _____ or are still missing in Vietnam. They also laid wreaths at the Vietnam War Memorial and listened to a military band. In Ho Chi Minh City, formerly Saigon, _____ to celebrate Liberation Day. In Vietnam, the war is known as the American War.

_____ since the war and are now friends. One million Vietnamese Americans across America held various events _____: "Remembering the past, shaping the future". Heavy political speeches in Ho Chi Minh City were replaced by talks on the future economic prosperity of Vietnam. In a sign of _____, logos of American companies were a common sight along the route of the pageant. America is now Vietnam's largest trading partner.

1. both countries have moved on
2. colourful parades were held
3. mark the 30th anniversary
4. how much things have changed
5. using the slogan
6. paid tribute to the soldiers who died

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DISCUSSION

- a. What was the most interesting thing in this article?
- b. Did you learn anything new from reading this article?
- c. Did an American or Vietnamese reporter write it?
- d. What do you feel about the Vietnam War?
- e. Was it a war that should never have happened?
- f. The media often speak of “another Vietnam”. What does this mean?
- g. Do you like watching movies about the Vietnam War?
- h. Do you think the Vietnam War changed history?
- i. The American Government of that time feared communism would spread around the world. What do you think of this?
- j. Is communism dangerous?
- k. What lessons can we learn from the Vietnam War?
- l. Would you like to go to Vietnam?
- m. If you went to Vietnam, what would you like to do and see?
- n. How does your country commemorate the winning or ending of wars?
- o. How does your country deal with wars that were lost?
- p. When will countries stop going to war?
- q. Did you like this discussion?
- r. Teacher / Student additional questions.

HOMEWORK

- 1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google’s search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.
- 2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find information on the Vietnam War. Share your findings with your class in the next lesson.
- 3. NO MORE WAR:** Write a poem and read it to your class in your next lesson. Call the poem “No More War”.
- 4. GOOD FRIENDS NOW:** There are many countries that have been at war but are now good friends. Write a short article describing two such countries. Write about the history between these countries and focus on their future. Present your article to the class in your next lesson.

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SPEAKING:

GOODBYE WAR: Your task is to end a war by the finish of this lesson. You have all the power in the world you need to do this. Everything you decide will happen when you leave class. Choose one war in the world. Discuss what needs to be done to end that war. Some of the following may need to be changed:

Changes	My decisions
leaders	
borders	
armies	
weapons	
P.O.W.s	
economic aid	
promises	
refugees	
flags	
capital cities	
elections	
rebuilding	
money and stamps	
statues of past leaders	

After you have ended the war, tell another partner / group what you decided. Your partner(s) will give you feedback on your decisions.

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TEXT:

PHRASE FILL:

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BNE: Vietnam and the USA held events yesterday to **mark the 30th anniversary** of the end of the Vietnam War. In Washington DC, war veterans wore their old uniforms at a remembrance ceremony. They **paid tribute to the soldiers who died** or are still missing in Vietnam. They also laid wreaths at the Vietnam War Memorial and listened to a military band. In Ho Chi Minh City, formerly Saigon, **colourful parades were held** to celebrate Liberation Day. The war in Vietnam is known as the American War.

Both countries have moved on since the war and are now friends. One million Vietnamese Americans across America held various events **using the slogan:** “Remembering the past, shaping the future”. Heavy political speeches in Ho Chi Minh City were replaced by talks on the future economic prosperity of Vietnam. In a sign of **how much things have changed**, logos of American companies were a common sight along the route of the pageants. America is now Vietnam’s largest trading partner.