

Lesson Title: History: 9/11 What Happened that Day?

Grade Level: High School

Estimated time: Two Class Periods of 55 minutes each

Lesson Description: An overview of the events of 9/11 to provide context for the event as a turning point in U.S. history

Standards Met: Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for High School

113.41 United States History Studies Since 1877

(C)(2-D)

(2) History. The student understands traditional **historical points of reference in U.S. history** from 1877 to the present. The student is expected to:

(D) **Explain the significance of the following years as turning points:** 1898 (Spanish-American War), 1914-1918 (World War I), 1929 (the Great Depression begins), 1939-1945 (World War II), 1957 (Sputnik launch ignites U.S.-Soviet space race), 1968-1969 (Martin Luther King Jr. assassination and U.S. lands on the moon), 1991 (Cold War ends), **2001 (terrorist attacks on World Trade Center and the Pentagon)**, and 2008 (election of first black president, Barack Obama)

Lesson Objective:

- The students will demonstrate their knowledge of the events of 9/11 by creating a timeline

Materials:

- ASL Lecture Videos:
 - **"9/11 Unit Introduction" [2 min 22 sec]**
 - **"History of 9/11" [58 sec]**
 - **"Introduction to 'We Will Not Forget September 11, 2001'" [1 min 24 sec]**
- PowerPoint and Links:
 - **"History of 9/11"**
 - PPT comes with embedded link for the videos:
 - **"We Will Not Forget September 11, 2001" documentary by TSD [15 min 12 sec]**
 - 9/11 Timeline and Interactive 9/11 Timeline
- Worksheet: **Web Investigation - Events of 9/11**
- Computer access to web based pictures and accounts from 9/11

Lesson Procedure:

A. Introduction Activities – (46 minutes TOTAL)

**1. View Lecture Video “9/11 Unit Introduction”[2 min 22 sec] followed by:
*What do you know about 9/11? (10 minutes)**

- i. To give students a chance to share what they know about September 11, write September 11 in the middle of a piece of chart paper and ask students to free associate, sharing any words, thoughts, images that come to mind when they think of September 11. There are no wrong answers. Your aim is to provide a safe place for students to share their current understandings, so accept what students have to say. Chart their responses, eventually drawing lines from "September 11" in the middle to students' free associations, forming a web, as illustrated below:



- ii. Continue as long as interest remains high. When you come to a stopping place, ask students to look at the web. What are their observations, comments, or thoughts?
- iii. If students have shared some associations you don't understand or want to know more about, ask for clarification. After clarifying, correct in a matter-of-fact way any factual misinformation that the web activity has revealed.
- iv. Ask the students if, in thinking about September 11, feelings have come up that they would like to share.

2. Ask questions (10 minutes)

- i. Explain that a good way to deepen one's understanding of a topic is to think of good questions and then try to find the answers.

Online Unit Plan 9/11: Lesson Plan One

- ii. Ask the students to talk in pairs for a minute or two and come up with at least one question about 9/11. What would they like to know more about? Ask each pair to share their question. Capture the questions for students to review.

3. View and discuss (~16 minutes for viewing, 10 minutes for discussion)

- i. View the "**Introduction to 'We Will Not Forget September 11, 2001'**" and "We Will Not Forget September 11, 2001" video. Did the movie add to students' knowledge of what happened on 9/11? Did it raise more questions? Chart new questions.

*Activity adapted from <http://bit.ly/MorningSideCenter>

B. Main Activity: Ordering the events of 9/11 on a Timeline (55 minutes TOTAL)

1. Show students the 9/11 Timeline on slide #7 of 9/11 History ppt. Explain there are many timelines to be found on the Internet and the class will focus on the following one at www.911memorial.org. Have students review the Interactive 9/11 Timeline on the Museum's Teach/Learn pages.
2. Assign students to one of the following topics:
 - American Airlines Flight 11
 - United Airlines Flight 175
 - American Airlines Flight 77
 - United Airlines Flight 93
 - World Trade Center: North Tower
 - World Trade Center: South Tower
 - First Responders
3. Have students log on to www.911memorial.org/911-events-day and research their event, finding two images and one testimony that relate to their assigned story. These should either be:
 - Made into a short PowerPoint that can be presented to the class
 - or
 - Used to create a timeline in the classroom that would include times and pictures or testimonies that help illustrate what occurred.
4. When students are finished, the class can view the timeline using a gallery walk or by a presentation of the PowerPoints.

*Activity from <http://bit.ly/911memorialTimeline>

Assessment/Evaluation:

"Web Investigation - Events of 9/11"

Additional Resources and Links:

<http://bit.ly/MorningSideCenter>
www.911memorial.org

<http://bit.ly/Timeline911>
<http://bit.ly/InteractiveTimeline>