

THE BATTLE OF ANTIETAM
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11th grade US History and AP US History

Overview of Lesson: In this lesson, students will research, analyze and put information in a time period accurate newspaper.

TAKS: 1, 3, 4, and 5

Objectives: The learner will...

1. Understand the events that occurred during the battle of Antietam.
2. Analyze *A Report from Antietam* (AP US History).
3. Research and analyze information about the battle and create a newspaper.

Time required: 3 class periods of 50 minutes.

Materials Needed:

The American Spirit volume 1 pages 473-474 document [A Report from Antietam](#).

Picture of stone bridge on Antietam Creek

Computer with Internet or library

The Battle Bugle template

Colored pencils, markers, crayons

Procedure Day 1:

Bell Ringer

Either make a transparency or a computer slide of the Antietam stone bridge. Put the picture up so students can see it. Ask students why it was difficult to cross this bridge/ creek (to cross bridge only two soldiers could cross at a time and they couldn't cross in the water because the creek bank was at a 36 degree upslope and soldiers had a difficult



(Click on Photo icon) [Picture 202.jpg](#)

AP US History:

Have students read the eyewitness account of the battle in the *American Spirit* volume 1 book (pages 473 and 474). Have students create a graphic organizer or do Cornell Notes about the information that they read about in the document. Ask students what details caught their attention about the document (written by a boy their age, describes the shooting of rifles as Strange music etc.); what questions do they have about the document (why is a boy of 16 fighting in the war?); what inferences can they make about the document? (The boy lied about his age etc.). Discuss. Ask students “what were the most diabolical aspects of the Battle of Antietam described in this account?” (Man with both eyes shot out, not being able to do more for the wounded than give them water, etc.) After discussion, pair the students up and explain that they will be researching the Battle of Antietam using the internet or reference materials found in the library to create a newspaper about the battle. They can either use the template provided or create their own template, but the information must be about Antietam and other aspects of the newspaper must be time period accurate.

US History Procedure Day 1:

Have students do the Bell Ringer.

Divide the students into pairs and explain that they will be researching the Battle of Antietam using the Internet or reference materials found in the library to create a newspaper about the Battle of Antietam. Students can either use the template provided or create their own template, but the information must be about Antietam and other aspects of the newspaper must be time period accurate.

Day 2:

Both AP US History and US History will go to the library to research Antietam.

Day 3:

Both AP US History and US History will complete their research on Antietam and complete their newspapers.

Assessment:**AP US History**

Although the Battle of Antietam in September 1862 was a victory for the Army of the Potomac,

- a. It did little to revive northern morale.
- b. It did little to dent southern morale.
- c. General McClellan missed an opportunity to destroy the Army of Virginia.
- d. General Lee missed an opportunity to destroy the Army of the Potomac.
- e. It did nothing to alter the outcome of the war.

Answer: c

US History

Use the information listed below and your knowledge of Social Studies to answer the following question:

- General of Confederate Troops
- His orders and 3 cigars were lost to Union troops
- Took the Civil War out of Virginia

Which of the following is best described in the information above?

- a. General George McClellan
- b. Abraham Lincoln
- c. General Robert E. Lee
- d. General Ulysses S. Grant

