



Brains in Gear



Answer these questions in your book:

- 1) What does this man think about the Vietnam War?
- 2) Why does he have this opinion?
- 3) Do you think his message is effective?



Fundamental British Values: Respect and Tolerance

09/12/2020

Today's Title:

Why did American public support end?

Previous lesson:

Migration within the British Empire

This lesson:

How did Britain lose an empire?

Next lesson:

Should we feel proud of the British Empire?

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this lesson you will:

- **Describe** three reasons Britain lost its Empire
- **Justify** which reason was the most significant

Key Words:

Ideology = a system of ideas or beliefs

Nationalism = Support for and pride in your country above others.

Was it a bad thing that we lost our empire?

Give two things you can infer from Source A about relations between black and white soldiers in Vietnam.

(4 marks)

A SOURCE

A black soldier describing his tour of duty in Vietnam (adapted from *Bloods – An Oral History of the Vietnam War by Black Veterans*, W Terry, 1984).

*There was another guy in our unit who had made it known that he was a card-carrying **Ku Klux Klan** member. That hacked a lot of us off, because the black and white soldiers in our unit had been working really well together. We didn't have racial incidents like what was happening in the rear area, because we had to depend on each other. We were always in the bush.*

Mark scheme:

1-2 marks: Simple statements pointing out things in the source.

3-4 marks: Evidence used to support your points

Need help? Think about how this situation could affect morale (the willingness of soldiers to fight) and also how fragging might cause this.

The times they are a-changing

For most of the early and middle years of the Vietnam War, public support was high.

But in the late 1960s and early 1970s this support gradually changed into widespread opposition to the war.

This was a disaster for the US government, which now had to deal with the fact that it was fighting a massively unpopular war.

The times they are a-changing

Your Task:

Research the different groups and individuals who opposed the war and use the information to fill out your table.

Extension:

Which group do you think had the most significant effect on public opinion towards the Vietnam War?

CHALLENGE:

If journalists had been banned from saying anything negative about the war, would that have made it easier for the US army to win?

Newspaper Article

Imagine you are a 1960s journalist reporting on the public response to the Vietnam War.

Write a report that explains why people are angry and what they would like to see change.

You must include information on why the war started, explain Communism and Capitalism, explain the tactics of the Vietcong, the tactics of the US, details of chemical warfare. Show why people's opinions are changing and refer to photographs and events we learned about in previous lessons.

