

Elements of a totalitarian regime – communism



Lesson Plan

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Title of Activity: Elements of a totalitarian regime - communism	Subject area: History
Grade Level(s): 9th grade/ 14 years old	Duration: 90 minutes (two lessons)

Learning objectives:

By the end of the activity, the students will

- become familiar with the concepts of a totalitarian regime – communism.
- take a position on life in a democratic state.

Teaching Method:

inquiry method

Teaching Techniques:

Discussion, brainstorming, group working

Materials / Resources / Technology use:

- stories of persecuted people, secret police documents
- learning aid- flashcards

Activity Description

Introduction:

Step 1: Concept map for the word totalitarianism (the teacher writes the word totalitarianism on the board, the students write everything that comes to mind about the word).

Step 2: Discussion of the concept map (the teacher reads out the individual words written down and, together with the students, looks for connections with the concept of totalitarianism).

Step 3: Stories of persecuted people. (The teacher presents individual stories of persecuted people in the totalitarian regime - communism, the people are from the region).

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Step 4: Working with stories of persecuted people. Deducing elements of totalitarianism. (students analyze individual stories, look for elements of limitation, elements of totalitarianism)

Step 5: Working with the flashcards. Pupils place and connect individual concepts to the communist era. (the learning aid is cut into pictures with a concept and an explanation of the concept, pupils try to find pairs that belong together, one set is not cut, it serves as a control)

Step 6: Brainstorming – comparing life in totalitarianism and democracy (freedom) – jointly searching for and deducing the advantages of life in a free democratic country

Step 7: Final phase – students take positions on life in totalitarianism and life in democracy

Closure: The student understands the differences between life under totalitarianism and life in a democratic, free state.

Assessment

Providing feedback throughout the project.