

## Vietnam War

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School Name \_\_\_\_\_ Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/20\_\_\_\_ Per. \_\_\_\_

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## Vietnam War

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*Fill in the blanks with the following words:*

1967                                  civil unrest                                  Southeast Asia

58,000                                  Memorial

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The Vietnam War was a major conflict of the Cold War, ranging in dates from about 1955 to 1975.

Even though Vietnam was a country in \_\_\_\_\_, very far from the United States, this war was the source of more political strife at home than any previous American military involvement abroad. Opinion was seriously divided over whether America had any business fighting in Vietnam. America experienced unprecedented \_\_\_\_\_. Men burned their draft cards in public and some left the country to avoid having to go fight. Others were equally firm in supporting the government's decision and told resisters to “love America or leave it.”

Nevertheless, by 1966, 500,000 American troops had been deployed there, even though Secretary of Defense McNamara, when he resigned in \_\_\_\_\_, declared that it was not possible to win the war. So, after years of brutal combat with no clear victories in a war that was never officially declared, troops were evacuated in 1975; Communist forces of North Vietnam immediately took over Saigon (the capital of South Vietnam) where the United States were on the defensive, until they were graphically defeated.

At home most Americans felt that it was a war best forgotten, and the returning soldiers got no hero's welcome. But, however, their response to their country's call to service gained recognition at the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The Vietnam Veteran's War \_\_\_\_\_ in Washington DC was built, following Maya Lin's design, to honor the \_\_\_\_\_ Americans who died between 1959 and 1975. This monument receives nearly as many visitors as the Washington Monument.