

EU Lesson Plan Template

Title of Lesson Plan: Ten Historic Steps in the European Union

Grades: 6

In this lesson, students will research ten historic steps in the formation and enlargement of the European Union. Students will then use their research to create a graphic timeline detailing their findings.

Time: Two 90 minute blocks

Objectives:

1. The students will be able to identify ten major events in the fifty year history of the European Union.
2. The students will understand the connections between the World Wars and the development of the European Union.

Materials Needed:

1. Computers with internet access
2. http://europa.eu/index_en.htm
3. http://europa.eu/abc/12lessons/lesson_1/index_en.htm
4. Ten Steps Notes document (attached)
5. Construction paper for final timeline.
6. Art materials for final timeline.

Directions:

1. This lesson would fit in directly after a study of the World Wars. Start by reviewing the Peace and Stability section under the 'Why the European Union' (http://europa.eu/abc/12lessons/lesson_1/index_en.htm) section of the Europa website. This section talks about why the European Union was necessary in the aftermath of World War I and World War II. Emphasize that after WWII the people of Western Europe wanted make sure that another violent war would not destroy their contries again.
2. Give students access to computers with internet capabilities. Students can do this activity in small groups or as individuals. Guide students to the Europa website http://europa.eu/abc/12lessons/lesson_1/index_en.htm and then to **Ten Historic Steps** http://europa.eu/abc/12lessons/lesson_2/index_en.htm under the section called **Europe in 12 Lessons**. This webpage shares ten important steps in the development and enlargement of the EU.
3. Pass out the **Ten Historic Steps Notes** sheet and allow students time to research and take notes on each of the ten steps.
4. Some students may need some help with the vocabulary on the website, but the site does do a good job linking new and difficult ideas and bolding key words and phrases.
5. When student have finished their research they will create a "graphic timeline." The timeline should include individual frames for each of the ten events. Frames should include the date of the event, an image representing the event and a two or three word student-generated title for the event.
6. On the back of each frame, students should put a 2 or 3 sentence description of the

- individual event.
7. Using construction paper allow students to begin to finalize their graphic timelines. Students may draw in graphic representation or find images to represent each of the ten historic steps in the development and enlargement of the EU.

Assessment: Ask students to select what they believe were the three most important events in the development and enlargement of the EU and to explain their selections.

Extension: Ask students to consider the future growth and development of the European Union and to predict the next ten events that will be added to this list. Emphasize the addition of Muslim countries, the continued addition of Eastern Bloc countries and the possibility of the Union growing to be too large to be manageable.

Educational Content Standards

This lesson addresses the following objectives from the North Carolina social studies curriculum for sixth graders:

1. 7.01 Identify historical events such as invasions, conquests, and migrations and evaluate their relationship to current issues.
2. 7.02 Examine the causes of key historical events in selected areas of South America and Europe and analyze the short- and long-range effects on political, economic, and social institutions.

Michael Hutchinson
Salem Middle School

Ten Historic Steps Notes

Use this document to take notes on the major events in the development and enlargement of the European Union. In the notes section you will also want to make sketches to show how you will visualize this event on your final graphic timeline.

Date and Event	Notes
<p>1951: The European Coal and Steel Community is established by the six founding members</p>	
<p>1957: The Treaty of Rome establishes a common market</p>	
<p>1973: The Community expands to nine member states and develops its common policies</p>	

1981: The first Mediterranean enlargement	
1993: Completion of the single market	
1993: The Treaty of Maastricht establishes the European Union	
1995: The EU expands to 15 members	

2002: Euro notes and coins are introduced

2004: Ten more countries join the Union