

EQ: To what extent did the game of Ping Pong encourage the opening up of China to the United States?

Nixon & Detente



Directions:

Step 1: Go to the following webpage: <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/china/index.html>

Step 2: Biographies and Events: Upon arriving at the site choose the option People and Events. There you will review the following short biographies and stories:

People:

- Richard Nixon
- Henry Kissinger
- Mao Tse-Tung
- Chou En-lai

Events:

- Founding of the People's Republic of China
- Sino-Soviet Border Disputes
- Ping-Pong Diplomacy
- Shanghai Communique Issued

Click on each of these above listed under People and Events. Reach each of the short biographies and event descriptions.

Step 3: Complete the Worksheet. Answer the questions on the accompanying worksheets using the information provided in the readings.



Richard Nixon

1. Prior to becoming President, what was Nixon's reputation on Communism?
2. How did Nixon and Kissinger initiate diplomatic relations with China?
3. Did secrecy help or hinder his ultimate goals? Was it harmful to anyone?

Henry Kissinger

1. What was Henry Kissinger's role in diplomatic relations with China during the first Nixon Administration?
2. What policy approach did Kissinger use during his dealings with China?
3. What type of communication did Kissinger prefer in foreign relations?

People's Republic of China

1. What is the People's Republic of China? When did it form?
2. What was the United States' attitude towards the People's Republic of China? Explain.

Mao Tse-Tung

1. What political party did Mao Tse-Tung lead? And what was his role in that political party?
2. What state did he establish and what was his role in that state?
3. List two campaigns that Mao Tse-Tung led that had unsuccessful results and explain why.
4. What was Mao Tse-Tung's role in opening China?

Chou En-Lai

1. Who was Chou En-Lai? What was his role in opening China?
2. Explain how Chou En-Lai impressed Henry Kissinger during their first meeting in 1971.

Ping-Pong Diplomacy

1. Who was invited to China and ushered in the name Ping-Pong Diplomacy?
2. Why was this visit so significant?
3. Explain why this event was just the beginning of warming relations with China.

The Media's Influence on Public Perception:

Give an example of how the Nixon Administration or the Chinese government used the media to influence public perception on openness. Use examples from the readings.