



Korean War (11.9.3)

Background:

As World War II began to wind down, the idea was put forth that the Soviet army would accept the surrender of Japanese forces north of the 38th parallel and US forces would accept the surrender of Japanese forces south of that line. This act would lead to the division of not just the nation of Korea but also families who would be separated by that line. This division was intended to be temporary, however with the deepening of the Cold War Korea would become a flashpoint for that conflict.

Prompt:

Who started the Korean War?

Task:

In a well thought out essay:

- Write a claim in response to the prompt.
- Support your claim by using at least five pieces of evidence from the documents, background reading, and additional research on the impact of the division of Korea at the end of World War II.
- Be sure to explain how the evidence you have chosen supports your claim
- Incorporate at least two additional pieces of evidence from the documents and/or your research that argues against your claim and use your evidence to counter that opposing claim.