



LESSON PLAN

TURNING POINT NOTES

Series: Turning Points in History

Objective

To help students practice taking notes to answer who, what, when, where, and why questions about an important event in American history.

Supplies

- One or more books in the Turning Points in History series
- Whiteboard
- Paper and pencils

Before the Activity

Write the following phrases on the whiteboard:

- WHO: the people or groups that were involved
- WHAT: the key details and moments that tell the event's story
- WHEN: the date the event started and how long it lasted
- WHERE: the places this event happened or affected
- WHY: the reasons the event is important

Activity

Each book in the Turning Points in History series covers an important moment from the past. It describes where and when the event took place, who it involved, and the changes or results that it created. Have each student choose one book from the series. Then, give each student a piece of paper. Students should copy the five phrases from the whiteboard onto their paper, leaving several lines of space between each phrase.

Next, students should read their books and use their papers to take notes. They should write facts that relate to each phrase on the lines below it. Students should write at least two facts for each phrase.

Evaluation

Collect the papers at the end of class and give students 2 points for each category where they wrote accurate, relevant information, for up to 10 points total.