

VIETNAM WAR

HISTORY:

• controlled by the Chinese for some time, so there are great Chinese cultural influences in their culture

→ **analysis:** it is very interesting that the Chinese had so much influence. This could reveal a lot about the way Vietnam people viewed us as Americans.

Buddhism was the main religion in Vietnam. They believed in karma and held a great respect for nature.

→ **question:** ^{How} Did the Buddhist religion affect Vietnamese civilians and their view on the war with America?

• great amount of rainfall. Americans were aware of the geological problems: jungles, rain, swampy conditions

→ **question:** how did the geographical aspects affect the war? What advantages did the Vietnamese have in the war taking place on their land?

America got involved in 1954 and stayed involved until 1975

→ **response:** I don't understand why we stayed involved for so long if we knew that we were not going to win and if we were aware of the horrific things going on.

"You may kill ten, we will kill one, but in the end you will tire" Ho Chi Minh

→ **connection:** This is the view that Saddam had of America when we entered the war. He felt that we would just get tired and that he could win the war.

(continued)

hawks: pro war
 doves: anti-war (Hippies &
 university students)
 - demonstrations
 - music for peace



Response: I don't feel that protesting does a lot of good. I understand that people were not happy with the decision to go to war, but protesting will only cause unrest. It will not change our nation's position on the war

underground tunnels
 we did not know who the enemy was!



Reaction: How terrifying. This was the reason that the Americans lost the war. The Vietnamese were just waiting for their move.

agent orange-chemical used
 to get rid of foliage



analysis: This was not a good tactic b/c it backfired on the US and caused a lot of horrible repercussions.

war powers act - president
 has the power to declare war w/out the consent of congress.



Reaction: I think there are positive & negative aspects of the war powers act. I feel that some presidents would probably not make the best decision.

58,000 soldiers died
 from America: 2.5 million
 people died from Vietnam,
 they were mostly children
 and common villagers



Response: there were many more Vietnamese civilians affected than American civilians (it makes you wonder who suffered a greater loss!)