

If Only _____ Had a Cell Phone

TOPIC: ONLINE SAFETY AND SECURITY

GRADES: 6- 8, 9-12

SOFT SKILLS: CREATIVITY, RESEARCH, COMMUNICATION

Introduction:

- This lesson plan is a common lesson found in middle and high school social studies classrooms. It allows students to research in a creative and fun way in order to bring historical figures to life. This lesson asks students to consider security and safety risks while using a device.

Learning Outcomes:

- Students will complete a creative unplugged activity involving technology and historical figures.
- Students will understand basic safety precautions with the use of apps.

Materials:

- [Graphic organizer](#) (found through a simple google search)
- [Instruction sheet](#)
- Background information on personalities in history

Activities:

1. Explain that today students are going to be creative and explore how technology has changed over the course of time. This lesson can be inserted into any unit in a US or world history course. Common time periods include: ancient wars, Civil War, world wars, the Cold War, any of the civil rights movements, the Enlightenment, etc.
2. The teacher should hand out the graphic organizer to each student.
3. Students should then submit 2 names of 2 different historical figures alive at the same time and in conflict with each other (i.e General Erwin Rommel v General George Patton, Abraham Lincoln v Stephen A. Douglas, etc).
4. Students will need two copies of the graphic organizer. Once the students have the two people, they should fill in a graphic organizer for each person. Allow them to be creative but appropriate. Encourage online research of trustworthy websites. Requiring students to complete a separate work cited page in MLA format could reinforce the idea of valid sources.
5. Questions they should answer:
 - A. If we looked at each person's phone log, who would he/she have been talking with? Who would he/she have screened out?
 - B. What sort of security precautions would this person need to have taken with his/her iPhone?
 - C. Which apps would he/she have used the most?

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- D. Are there any new apps you can think of/develop that this person would need?
 - E. What generals, leaders, or family would he/she text? What would those conversations look like?
 - F. How would this person's life been different with modern day technology?
 - G. What did his/her contact list look like?
 - H. Would this person be a responsible user of technology? Explain.
6. Students could then be required to further develop the graphic organizer into a poster, visual presentation, or short skit.

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