**Year 10 History: The Cold War/Vietnam War**

**Syllabus Dot Points**

**Historical context of the overview**

Despite attempts to create a lasting peace at the end of World War I, the world was engaged in another global conflict within 20 years. Not only did this conflict cause greater loss of life, it witnessed the Holocaust and the first use of nuclear weapons. In the aftermath of this war decolonisation saw the end of the great European empires and the emergence of new nations, particularly in Asia and Africa. At the same time, the United States and the Soviet Union emerged from World War II as hostile superpowers armed with nuclear weapons in a tense confrontation known as the Cold War. Despite a peaceful end to the Cold War in 1991, the emergence of global terrorism and a shift in economic power to Asia have contributed to ongoing uncertainty. The period since the end of the twentieth century has also been characterised by rising concerns about issues such as globalisation, the environment and sustainability. In spite of these uncertainties, there have been significant advances in technology, especially in communications, public health and living conditions across the world.

Students briefly outline:

* continuing efforts post-World War II to achieve lasting peace and security in the world, including Australia's involvement in UN peacekeeping
* the major movements for rights and freedoms in the world and the achievement of independence by former colonies
* the nature of the Cold War and Australia's involvement in Cold War and post-Cold War conflicts (Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf Wars and Afghanistan), including the rising influence of Asian nations since the end of the Cold War
* developments in technology, public health, longevity and standard of living during the twentieth century, and concern for the environment and sustainability

**Metalanguage List**

38th parallel Agent Orange ANZUS arms race Boat people

capitalist Censor Censorship Chasing Charlie China

Communist Conscription Cuban Missile Crisis Defection Defoliation

Democracy Didi Mow domino theory Dr Evatt Eastern Bloc

Elephant Grass escalate Grunt Guerrilla Warfare Guerrillas

Ho Chi Min Hueys ideology Ideology iron curtain

K.I.A Korean War Mao Zedong Moratorium Multiculturalism

mutually assured destruction N.V.A. Napalm North Vietnam nuclear Pacifist political asylum R &R red menace

reds under the beds Referendum Robert Menzies SEATO

South Vietnam soviets

**Kick start questions**

1. Discuss the causes of the Cold War.
2. Describe the main events of the Cold war.
3. Discuss the possibility of MAD during the Cold War.
4. Why was the Korean War was often referred to as a “Police action”?
5. Why did the Prime Minister call a referendum in 1951 and what was its outcome?
6. Discuss the Australian Government responses to the threat of communism.
7. When did the Cold War end? What ended it?
8. Explain the reasons for Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War.
9. Discuss the responses of Australians to Australia's involvement in Vietnam.
10. Explain the reasons why different groups within Australia supported or opposed Australia’s involvement in the Vietnam War
11. Describe the experiences of the soldiers.
12. Assess the impact of the war.