

## **Another Holocaust? What should we do? Responding to Genocide PBL**

**Genocide** is a term created during the Holocaust and declared an international crime in the 1948 United Nations Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. The Convention defines genocide as any of the following acts committed with the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such:

- a. Killing members of the group;
- b. Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;
- c. Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;
- d. Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group;
- e. Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.

The specific "intent to destroy" particular groups is unique to genocide. A closely related category of international law, **crimes against humanity**, is defined as widespread or systematic attacks against civilians.

**The Problem:** The Holocaust is not the only genocide to happen in history. Unfortunately, there are atrocities occurring around the world today. Are they genocides? What role should the USA as a political entity, or should we, as global citizens, take in preventing another Holocaust? You and your group will present an action plan that answers these questions in this PBL.

You and your group will choose from one of the following humanitarian crises occurring now:

- Uighurs (China)
- Rohingya (Myanmar)
- Syria (Yazidis and other non-Muslim groups)
- South Sudan (the Nuer and other ethnic groups)
- Central African Republic (Christians and Muslims)
- Sudan (Darfuris and other ethnic groups)
- Iraq (Yazidis, Kurds, and other ethnic groups)

You may choose your group. Your group should be between 2 and 4 students. No more than 4 student in a group.

**Lenses:** You will examine the humanitarian crisis through the following lenses

**Analyst:** Warning signs/ causes of the genocide/ crime against humanity.

**Reporter:** What happened during the genocide or crime against humanity? Acts of violence/ events during the genocide (how it meets the definition above) or is it an example of crimes against humanity?

**Responder:** Individuals, organizations, countries, and international coalitions have responded to genocide and crimes against humanity in a range of ways. Some actions were helpful; others were not. Understanding when and how different responses were tried, what they achieved, and where they failed can improve response in the future.

### **Products:**

A brief presentation of your research about your selected crisis using Google Slides, Prezi, or some other collaborative web-based tool. Information from all lenses should be reflected in your presentation. [Google Presentation template \(feel free to change template\)](#)

- A written plan of action with either the US government or everyday citizens could implement in response to the crisis. Be creative and think big. Your action plan can be focused on adults, or kids, or both. It can be implemented at the national or local level.
- A works cited page in MLA format.
- You will present your presentation and action plan to an authentic panel. You should be prepared to answer questions about your topic and defend your action plan.

## Action Plan Product elements to choose from (pick one from the grid below):

<p>Letter to Companies <a href="#">Use the letter template</a></p>	<p>School Curriculum Create a lesson to teacher young people about this conflict and the possibility of it being a genocide</p>	<p>Panel Discussion Create a script (and be prepared to model it for panelists) that models different sides in this conflict.</p>	<p>Legislation Suggestions  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foreign Policy suggestions</li> <li>• Hate crimes</li> </ul>  Create recommendations (that don't already exist) to help with informing or</p>
<p>Cultural Understanding Suggestions  Create a information for the public on the cultural differences that exist surrounding this conflict and help people understand what's going on</p>	<p>Conflict Resolution Strategies  <a href="#">What is it?</a> How do we deal with it? You will offer specific strategies for the parties involved on how to deal with the issues surrounding this conflict</p>	<p><a href="#">Mix it Up Lunch</a>  Devise a plan to host a lunch during school to educate students about the issues surrounding your conflict</p>	<p>Public Service Campaign (PSA and other elements)  Create a PSA video (along with separate elements)  <a href="#">Check out the guidelines</a></p>
<p>Culture Box  Create a collection of artifacts about the conflict that show the issues in a creative, professional way</p>	<p>Role Play (Truth and Reconciliation)  Create a skit that helps educate the public about the topic and how we can help solve the problem  <a href="#">A great example of one</a></p>	<p>Common Ground Action Plan  <a href="#">How to do it</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Infographic/Piktochart</a>  Create a graphic that will be displayed for the panelists that give a quick and easy visual to understand the issues that are being presented</p>

### Project Timeline:

- Presentations and Action Plans submitted to me by Tuesday 3/5
- Rehearsal/Practice in front of the class Thursday 3/7
- Presentation to Panel Friday 3/8

**Research Requirements:**

1. You must have a minimum of (6) sources
2. Use only credible sources (.org, .gov, .edu, some .com—but be careful with these!)

**Grading Rubrics:****Works Cited Rubric**

<b>Works Cited</b>	<b>Points Possible</b>	<b>Points Received</b>	
MLA format	5		
ABC order	5		
Entries are in correct form and have the necessary punctuation	5		
Correct # of sources	5		

**Presentation and Action Plan Rubric**

<b>Presentation</b>	<b>Points Possible</b>	<b>Points Received</b>
Includes all key points of research and includes specific factual information.	20	
Is engaging and draws audience interest	10	
Includes all lenses	10	
Includes valuable information related to our study of the Holocaust	10	
Uses visuals effectively	5	
Keeps your audience in mind: is large, easy to understand and engaging to view.	5	
<b>Action Plan</b>		
Has a clear and thoughtful action plan.	20	
Contains specific factual information.	10	
No “no-nos” and is edited for spelling, grammar, punctuation	10	
WOW Factor: Goes above and beyond what was asked for	My discretion	
<b>Total Score for Presentation, Works Cited, and Action Plan</b>		
Comments on presentation and Action Plan		