

UNIT FOUR - The Modern Middle East and the Creation of the State of Israel (19th and 20th Centuries)



Project Assessment Options

Lesson Plan 10: November 29, 1947 - A Vote That Changed History

1. Journal Response

Prompt:

The UN Partition Plan was both a bold attempt at compromise and the beginning of a deepening conflict. In your journal today, reflect on this question:
Can one decision be both just and unjust, depending on perspective?

Consider the UN Partition Plan in your answer:

- What made it feel like justice to some?
- What made it feel like injustice to others?
- How do you personally decide whether a decision is fair or not?

Suggested length: 2–3 paragraphs. Students are encouraged to include their own reasoning, historical evidence, and personal reactions.

2. Short Essay

Essay Prompt:

Do you believe the UN Partition Plan of 1947 was a fair solution to the conflict in Palestine?

In your response (2–3 paragraphs), include:

- Key details from UN Resolution 181 (land division, Jerusalem's status, etc.)
- The reactions of at least two groups (e.g., Jews, Arabs, British, global powers)
- Your own evaluation of the fairness and long-term impact of the plan

Encourage use of specific examples from the simulation or speed dating discussion.

3. Visual Representation

Students may create **one** of the following, with a short caption (3–4 sentences):

a) *Partition Map Redesign*

Draw your own version of how you would have divided the land, using color-coded regions. Include a key showing Jewish, Arab, and international zones.

Caption: Explain the values or priorities behind your map (e.g., fairness, historical claims, demographics).

b) *Historical Newspaper Front Page*

Create a newspaper front page for Nov 30, 1947 (the day after the vote).

Include:

- a) A headline (e.g., “UN Votes to Divide Palestine—History is Made!”)
- b) A short news article summarizing what happened and why it matters
- c) A photo or sketch (e.g., people celebrating, voting scene, map)
- d) One quote from a historical figure or fictional local witness

c) *Partition Perspectives Infographic*

Create a graphic comparing how 3 different groups viewed the plan:

- a) What they wanted
- b) How they voted (or reacted)
- c) What they predicted would happen next

Include visuals, flags, or quotes for each group (e.g., Zionist leadership, Arab League, British government)