



NUCLEAR WEAPONS: YES OR NO?

TRIDENT



TEACHER'S NOTES

INTRODUCTION

Peace Education Scotland's educational resource 'Nuclear Weapons: Yes or No' is aimed at late primary to secondary school pupils. It has 4 units: The Nuclear Weapons Debate, Nuclear Explosions, Trident and Pressure Groups.

This resource is as objective and balanced as possible; with opportunities for pupils to develop their critical thinking and creative skills and with the underlying principle that young people should be encouraged to have knowledgeable debates and opinions about nuclear weapons.

A full list of our educational resources can be found at peaceeducationscotland.org

You can provide us with feedback at info@peaceeducationscotland.org

CURRICULUM LINKS

HIGHER: English: Portfolio Essay: Discursive / persuasive essay or report

NATIONAL 5: History: Historical Study: European and World History (9 - 10)

HIGHER: History: European and World History: The Cold War

HIGHER: History: Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies: Morality and Conflict

NATIONAL 5: Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies: Morality and Belief (E)

NATIONAL 5: Modern Studies: Democracy; Social Issues; International Issues



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HOW TO USE THIS MODULE

These teacher's notes are designed to help you plan your lesson. The power-point and the booklet for this module contain the same information and instructions, and can be used together or individually. The booklet can be printed out to write in, or edited and resaved online.

The module contains 5 themes: CHECK, WATCH, LEARN, THINK, and CHALLENGE. The first four are the core sections of this module and can all be covered in a single lesson. You can take more or less time to complete the sharing and discussion element, depending on which / how many of the Challenges you want to incorporate into the same lesson. Challenges vary in duration and can often be tailored to require more or less time and / or knowledge, so you can modify your Trident lesson for different classes and age groups.

CHECK

We recommend using the 1 - 10 knowledge scale (Slides 2 and 37) at the start and end of the lesson to track the learners' progress!

WATCH

The Trident video is 3 and a half minutes long and gives a visual reference to many of the topics discussed in this module.

LEARN

These slides provide the facts about how Trident operates in the UK, and a balanced view on its logics and those of its opponents.

THINK

These exercises are designed to get the learners thinking critically about forming their own opinions on Trident and nuclear weapons.

CHALLENGE

Challenges are a series of thought-exercises and tasks, designed to stimulate creativity, curiosity and debate.

CHALLENGES

TRIDENT SURVIVAL ISLAND



Tasks 1 and 2 of this challenge can be completed individually or simultaneously. Task 3 can involve sharing lists in groups, or as a whole class. You can also use Task 3 to create a list the whole class can agree with, though this may take longer!

CHALLENGES

TRIDENT RENEWAL DEBATE



The first 2 tasks of this challenge can be completed as part of a single lesson. We recommend that the debate itself (Task 3) is given its own lesson, to offer enough time for preparation, meaningful exchange, active participation, and reflection.

TASK 1 ANSWERS - FOR

- Trident creates more jobs!
- Nuclear Weapons make Britain an important country!
- So much money has been spent, it would be stupid to stop now!
- Other countries are spending money to upgrade their weapons.
- You can't be sure what will happen in the future, so we need nuclear weapons!

TASK 1 ANSWERS - AGAINST

- The Trident submarines are coming to the end of their useful lives.
- Scottish people vote for an anti-nuclear government.
- Having nuclear weapons means there could be an accident or a terrorist attack.
- If we got rid of our nuclear weapons it would encourage other countries to do the same.
- Why waste more money on something we don't want?
- The money saved could be used to create jobs, eg nurses, doctors, builders and engineers
- The money could be spent on more worthwhile things like soldier's equipment.

CHALLENGES

TRIDENT CAPTAIN'S LETTER



This challenge can be completed as part of the core lesson, as the Captain's letters should be brief. You can also use the discussion from Task 2 to create a letter the whole class agrees with, but this may take extra time!

CHALLENGES

TRIDENT ESTATE AGENT



If you want to keep this challenge brief, the information provided in this module should suffice to complete the tasks. You can also employ the research element of the tasks using online or other Peace Education Scotland resources.

CHALLENGES

TRIDENT THE DOCUMENTARY



Creating a plan for the documentary can be completed in groups as part of the core lesson. If you choose to include the video-making element of the challenge (Task 2), we advise either taking a whole lesson to create the videos, or include this element of the task as a piece of group homework. We would love to see the results of this task and publish the video-projects on our website!