

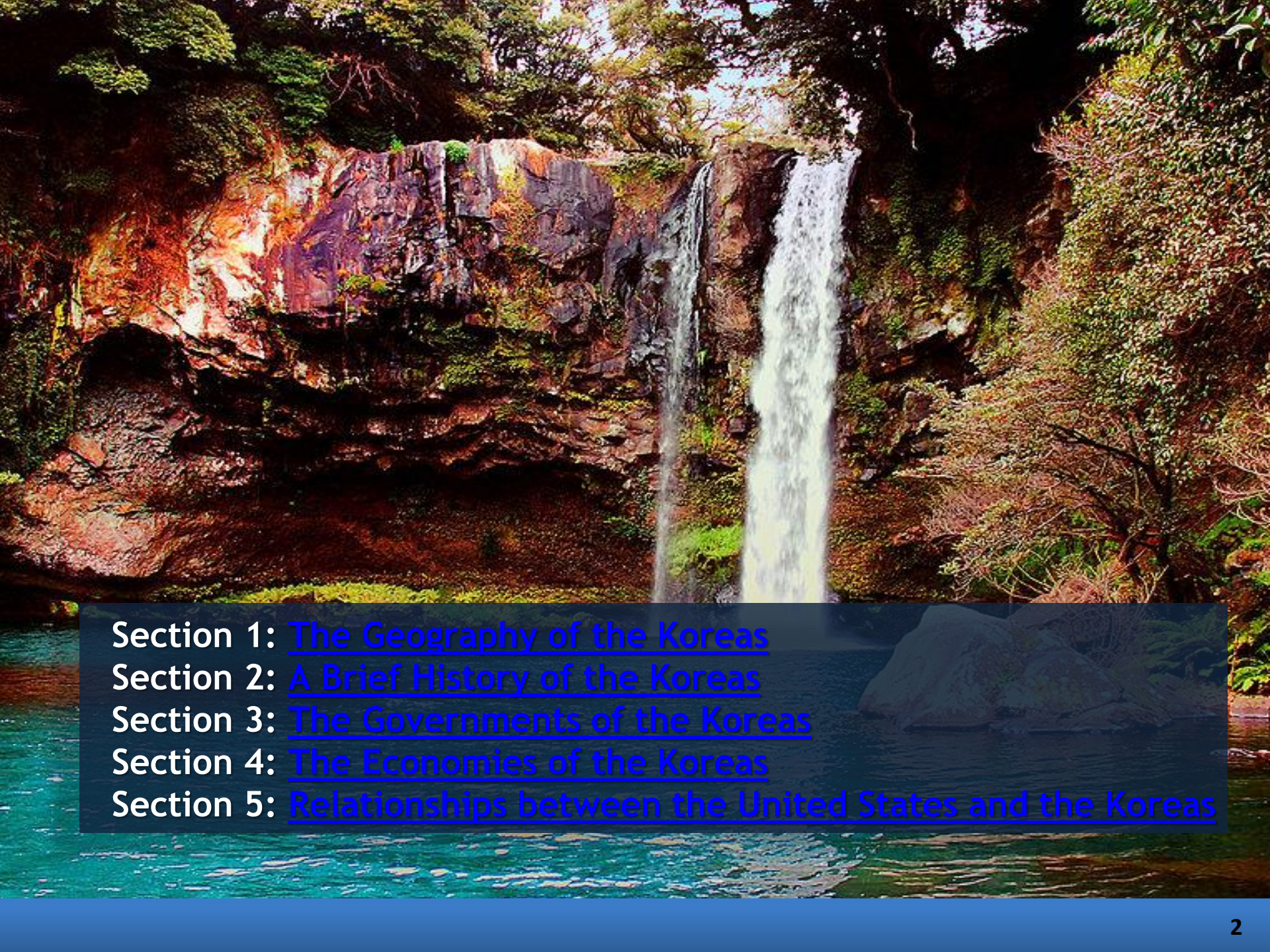
WORLD STUDIES

for Georgia Students

7



Chapter 16:
Democratic People's Republic of Korea and
Republic of Korea
STUDY PRESENTATION



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Section 1: The Geography of the Koreas

○ Essential Question:

- How do the geographies of North Korea and South Korea relate to one another?

Section 1: The Geography of the Koreas

- What terms do I need to know?
 - homogenous

Location and Size of the Koreas

- Located in eastern Asia, in the eastern and northern hemispheres, North Korea and South Korea make up the Korean Peninsula.
- North Korea is bordered by the Korea Bay of the Yellow Sea on the west and the Sea of Japan on the east.
 - To the north are China and Russia and to the south is South Korea.
- South Korea borders the Sea of Japan to the east, the Yellow Sea to the west, and North Korea to the north.
- Japan lies to the east of the Korean Peninsula.

Physical Features of the Koreas

- Although North Korea and South Korea are located on the same peninsula, their geography is very different.
- Mountains in North Korea make it mostly unsuitable for agriculture, but the land that is arable provides most of the food needed for the country.
- Fast-flowing rivers in North Korea provide hydroelectric power.
- North Korea also benefits from mining coal and other minerals like iron and copper.

Physical Features of the Koreas

- South Korea has far fewer mountains than North Korea, so farming comes more easily to this region where there are large coastal plains.
- Like North Korea, South Korea takes advantage of fast-flowing rivers for hydroelectric power.

Climate

- The location of North Korea and South Korea on the Korean Peninsula is one of the main reasons for the difference in their climates.
- Because of its mountainous location, North Korea experiences short summers and long, bitter cold winters.
- South Korea's climate is milder than North Korea's, because it is further removed from mountains.
- South Korea's proximity to warm winds from the ocean also makes it a milder region, which North Korea does not get.

Natural Resources in the Koreas

- A variety of natural resources are found on the Korean Peninsula in both North Korea and South Korea including coal, lead, tungsten, graphite, and hydropower.
- Although arable land, or land well-suited to agriculture, is not a common resource, land that can be farmed is prized.
- Additionally, North Korea has zinc, iron ore, magnesite, copper, gold, pyrites, salt, and fluorspar.
- South Korea has very few natural resources compared to many countries in the world.

Environmental Issues of the Koreas

- A shortage of clean water is one of the biggest environmental issues in North Korea, even though there are rivers present.
 - Sometimes the water is contaminated with waterborne diseases, and the water polluted other times by mining operations.
- An additional challenge North Korea faces includes soil erosion, which could threaten the production of food if it continues.
- As a more industrialized country, South Korea faces problems with air pollution - caused by both car emissions and factories.
- Water pollution is an issue for South Korea as well, but it is caused by industrial waste, as well as sewage that is dumped into the waterways.

Impact of Geography

- Because North Korea is very mountainous, most of the people in North Korea live in urban areas along the western half of the country where the mountains slope down to the sea and farming is more successful.
- A higher percentage of people in South Korea live in urban areas compared to North Korea, however.
- About 20 percent of South Koreans live in the capital city of Seoul.
- In Seoul and other cities, opportunities for jobs and education are greater than in rural areas.

People of Korea

- Even though the Korean Peninsula has been divided since the end of World War II, the populations of both countries still share many similar qualities.
 - The populations are **homogenous**, which means they are similar and are not diverse, in both Koreas.
- Korean is spoken by those in both North Korea and South Korea, and English is common as a second language.
- South Korea has over twice the total population of North Korea.
- There is a significant difference in religions practiced between the two countries.

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Section 2: A Brief History of the Koreas

- Essential Question:
 - How do the histories of North Korea and South Korea relate to one another?

Section 2: A Brief History of the Koreas

- What terms do I need to know?
 - Kingdom of Joseon (or Chosŏn)
 - annex
 - Yalta Agreement
 - Cold War
 - coalition
 - stalemate
 - Demilitarized Zone (DMZ)
 - self-reliance
 - provocation
 - armistice
 - civilian

An Ancient and Distinct Culture

- Despite changes in rule over the Korean Peninsula over thousands of years, Korean culture has maintained stability in several ways, such as language and the existence of ancient palaces and temples.
- Korean rulers united most of the peninsula into a single kingdom around the year 668.
- In 1392, a new ruling family came to power. The **Kingdom of Joseon (or Chosŏn)** adopted the teachings of Confucius as the official philosophy of the country, and the dynasty ruled Korea until the Japanese invasion in 1910.
- Korea was under Europe's radar until the mid-1660s, at which time missionaries entered the peninsula.
- In the early twentieth century, Japan took full control of the Korean Peninsula by **annexing** it, or taking over another country's land.
- Korea would not become independent again until Japan surrendered to the United States in 1945.

World War II and Korea

- When World War II was coming to an end in 1945, leaders in the United States, the Soviet Union, and Great Britain got together at Yalta to discuss repairs to the damage caused by Germany and Japan during the war.
- This plan would become known as the **Yalta Agreement**.
- The countries would work to restore peace in the areas they controlled and would hold free elections so the people of each country could decide what type of government they wanted.
- Additionally, the countries agreed they would join the United Nations and work together to restore and create peace in the world.

The Cold War and Korea

- It appeared as though the United States and Soviet Union were in agreement about how things would be handled at the end of World War II, but each country had very different goals following the war.
- In the Soviet Union's effort to ensure that they were never again invaded by Western Europe, the United States felt as though they had violated the Yalta Agreement.
 - As a result, the **Cold War** began, which is the period of distrust and misunderstanding between the Soviet Union and its former wartime allies in the West.
 - Korea was one of the countries where the superpowers competed for control during the Cold War.

The Cold War and Korea

- The Korean War happened when North Korea invaded South Korea in 1950, and the Koreans have had a complicated and often bitter relationship since.
- Led by the United States, a United Nations **coalition**, which is a temporary alliance between countries, of sixteen countries came to help defend South Korea.
- China entered the war as an ally of North Korea, which led to a **stalemate**, which is a “deadlock” where no action can be taken or progress made, that lasted for two years and ended with an armistice on July 27, 1953.
- The two countries are separated by a **Demilitarized Zone (DMZ)**, an area where it is forbidden to have any kind of military presence.

Brief History of North Korea

- After Korea's division following World War II, the northern half was under Soviet-sponsored communist control, while the southern half was supported by the United States.
- President Kim Il-sung was North Korea's first leader, and he emphasized a policy of “**self-reliance**” in an effort to protect the country from outsiders.
 - The government of North Korea portrayed the United States as a threat to the country, and this continues even still.
 - The aim of North Korea is to unite both Koreas under communist control. This is the focus of all political, economic, and military policies in North Korea.
 - North Korea is a cause of concern for the international community. There is a long history of military **provocations**, or things that anger others, that include long-range missile development, weapons of mass destruction programs that include testing nuclear devices in 2006, 2009, 2013, and 2015, and a massive buildup of armed forces.

The DMZ

- When the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) was established as a solution to the Korean War, it was not intended as a permanent fix for conflict between the countries. However, it still exists sixty years later.
- The DMZ between North Korea and South Korea is the most heavily fortified border in the world.
- Many precautions have been taken at the DMZ to ensure that the area is fortified.
- Land mines, barbed-wire fences, and guard posts dot the border of the DMZ on each side, but the middle section of the DMZ is until nature's control.

Brief History of South Korea

- South Korea, formally called the Republic of Korea, was created at the end of World War II with a democratic-based government.
- The 1953 Korean War **armistice**, or cease-fire, divided the Korean Peninsula and created the 160-mile long Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) between the two countries.
- However, the first democracy in South Korea did not last very long after Park Chung-hee took control.
- In 1993, Kim Youngsam became the first **civilian**, or nonmilitary, president of South Korea, which began a new democratic era for South Korea.
- Provocations by North Korea over the last decade, like attacks on a South Korean ship and island in 2010, multiple nuclear and missile tests, and the exchange of artillery fire across the demilitarized zone, have stopped most relations between the two countries.

Reunions between Korean Relatives Separated since the Korean War

- When the Korean War armistice was signed in 1953, the Korean Peninsula was quickly split into two parts along a Demilitarized Zone (DMZ).
- When the border closed between North Korea and South Korea, many Koreans were separated from their families and loved ones.
- They had no chance of seeing or even communicating with each other until a meeting between leaders of North and South Korea in 2000, after which a series of reunions between relatives from the north and south was proposed.
- Since 2000, an estimated 19,000 Koreans have been reunited in face-to-face monitored meetings, and 3,750 others have been reunited through video conversations.

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Section 3: The Governments of the Koreas

- Essential Question:
 - How do the rights of citizens in North Korea and South Korea differ?

Section 3: The Governments of the Koreas

- What terms do I need to know?
 - domino theory
 - autocratic rule
 - Supreme People's Assembly
 - Central Court
 - presidential republic
 - National Assembly
 - Supreme Court
 - Constitutional Court

Type of Government

- At the end of World War II, North Korea became a communist country allied with the Soviet Union, which caused concern for the United States.
- The United States believed that, if any additional countries in Southeast Asia became communist, others would quickly follow.
- This idea is referred to as the **domino theory**, which means that if one country fell to communism the neighboring countries would fall as well.
- Today, North Korea's Government is still a communist country under the **autocratic rule**, a system of government where supreme power is concentrated in the hands of one person, of the supreme leader.
- Even though North Korea is an autocracy, there is a legislative branch. It is a unicameral parliament called the **Supreme People's Assembly**.
- There is also a judicial branch in North Korea's government. It has a Supreme Court, which is also called the **Central Court**, made up of a chief justice and two People's Ambassadors

Life in North Korea

- The people of North Korea live in a state of fear concerning their government, and nearly all aspects of their lives are organized according to communist control.
- North Koreans must show complete submission to dictator Kim Jong-un and other leaders from the Workers' Party of Korea or suffer the consequences, which often include death and other harsh punishments.
- Among the worst-kept secrets of North Korea are their political prisoner camps.
 - Prisoners face punishments that include starvation, beatings, forced labor, torture, and execution.

Type of Government

- South Korea's Government is a stark contrast to North Korea's communist government.
- With free elections and a democratic constitution, South Korea has been more prosperous than its northern neighbor, because it has had trade and foreign aid from the United States and other wealthy Western countries.
- South Korea has a **presidential republic**.
 - Citizens age nineteen and over are able to vote in presidential and legislative elections.
 - The executive branch is made up of the president, prime minister, and cabinet.
 - The legislative branch is made up of the **National Assembly**, which is also called the Kuk Hoe.
 - The judicial branch of South Korea's government is made up of the **Supreme Court** of South Korea and the **Constitutional Court**.

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Section 4: The Economies of the Koreas

- Essential question:
 - How do the economies of North Korea and South Korea differ from one another?

Section 4: The Economies of the Koreas

- What terms do I need to know?
 - command economy
 - cooperative farm
 - famine
 - won
 - black market

Type of Economy: North Korea

- The Democratic People's Republic of North Korea has one of the least open and most government-controlled economies in the world.
- North Korea's economy is a **command economy**, meaning that the government owns all the land and the factories, and the government decides what jobs will be done and who will do them.
- Agriculture in North Korea does not provide enough food to sustain its population.
 - Farms are organized into cooperatives that are owned by the government. A **cooperative farm** is organized as a unit and worked by a community under state supervision.
- In the 1990s, a combination of poor harvests in North Korea and limited food supplies from its main trading partner, the Soviet Union, caused the country to experience a drastic **famine**, which is an extreme scarcity of food.
- Many of the economic problems persist in North Korea because the government has spent millions on the military rather than investing the money in other aspects of the North Korean economy.

Type of Economy: South Korea

- South Korea has experienced economic growth that led to the development of a high-tech industrialized economy since the late 1970s.
- The government's emphasis on importing raw materials and technology, instead of consumer goods, and support of personal saving and investing instead of spending has contributed to the country's recent economic success.
- A few long-term challenges facing South Korea include a rapidly aging population, an inflexible labor market, the dominance of large business, and the heavy reliance on exports.

Trade in the Koreas

- North Korea has very few trade partners due to ongoing embargos.
- The only country that exports goods to North Korea is China, and exchanging currency for North Korea's won is a complicated process.
- South Korea has benefited significantly from free trade, on the other hand.
 - Their top exports include semiconductors, automobiles and auto parts, wireless communication equipment, flat display screens, computers, electronics, and plastics.
 - To make up for their lack of natural resources, South Korea must import crude oil and petroleum products, as well as coal and natural gas.

Natural Resources in the Koreas

- The Korean Peninsula does not have large amounts of natural resources.
- The few resources available in North Korea and South Korea include coal, lead, tungsten, graphite, and hydropower.
- South Korea has similar natural resources to North Korea, however, it is able to benefit from trade with countries around the world to make up for their lack of natural resources.

Human Capital in the Koreas

- Because of North Korea's isolation, strict policies, and attempts to remain private, it is difficult to know what strides are made to invest in human capital.
- North Korea's government controls everything inside the country including information from the outside world, which means that whatever education the people are receiving is very biased and limited.
- By contrast, South Korea has invested in human capital.
- South Korea has invested in the education of its people, and as a result, the literacy rate in the country is nearly 100 percent.

Capital Goods in the Koreas

- Although North Korea strives to have economic growth, government spending is heavily skewed.
 - Spending is focused on the military and industry that will support the military, which limits the country's economic potential.
- South Korea, on the other hand, has invested in capital goods as an effort to help its economy grow.
 - Because the economy of South Korea is based on high-tech industries, it is important to have up-to-date technology.
 - South Korea has one of the most stable and growing economies in Asia because of its wise investment.

Entrepreneurship in the Koreas

- Since North Korea is an autocratic, communist country, entrepreneurship is illegal.
 - Regardless, a black market has grown in North Korea in recent years. A **black market** is one where goods are illegally traded or sold.
 - Severe punishments are issued to anyone trading on the black market.
- South Korea's government wants to create an economy that relies on the people's creative ideas, and so entrepreneurship is an attractive idea to the country's government.
 - A main challenge for South Korea's entrepreneurs involves diversifying their ideas.

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Section 5: Relationships between the United States and the Koreas

- Essential question:
 - How does the relationship between the United States and the Koreas differ?

Section 5: Relationships between the United States and the Koreas

- What terms do I need to know?
 - reunification
 - denuclearization
 - multilateral
 - Six-Party Talks
 - Mutual Defense Treaty
 - Korea-US Free Trade Agreement

US-North Korea Relations

- The United States supports the peaceful **reunification** of Korea on terms acceptable to the Korean people. It believes that the future of the Korean Peninsula is primarily a matter for them to sort out.
- In 1994, the United States and North Korea reached an agreement on a roadmap for the **denuclearization**, or the removal of nuclear weapons, of the Korean Peninsula.
- In 2003, the United States proposed **multilateral** talks on the North Korean nuclear issue, which includes many countries.
- Several rounds of **Six-Party Talks** have been held since then, with the last round occurring in 2009.
- The United States and North Korea do not have diplomatic relations.

US-South Korea Relations

- At the conclusion of the Korean War, the United States and the Republic of Korea signed a **Mutual Defense Treaty**.
- The United States has maintained Army, Air Force, Navy, and Marine personnel in South Korea in support of its commitment to help South Korea defend itself.
- The United States and South Korea share a long history of friendship and cooperation based on common values and interests.

Bilateral Economic Relations

- South Korea has experienced successful economic growth and is a leading trade partner with the United States.
- Manufactured goods, agricultural products, services, and technology are all exchanged between the two countries.
- **The Korea-US Free Trade Agreement of 2012** shows a high level of connections in trade, and the agreement is expected to increase exports by billions of dollars annually for both sides.

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