



THE PRESIDENT AND CRISIS MANAGEMENT: NORTH KOREA
A Simulation Role Play
AP Gov/ Ms. Strong



SIMULATION DIRECTIONS

OVERVIEW

Often, it is a President's response to crises that determines his legacy as president. In this activity, you will simulate a president and his/her administration's decision-making process during a foreign policy crisis. Each student will be assigned a role to be played throughout the course of the simulation. The objective of the National Security Team is to investigate the current crisis, and make recommendations to the President as to a course of action. Each team will be given the President's political ideology, party affiliation, and foreign policy world view (including the president's vision of America's place in the world as a global superpower).

SCENARIO

The 2018 Winter Olympic Games in Pyeongchang, South Korea begin on February 9 amid security concerns over hostilities with North Korea. Tensions between North Korea and the United States and its allies have been escalating for some months. North Korean leader Kim Jung Un initiated a number of provocations including nuclear weapons tests, and the launch of an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM). In response, the world community including South Korea, the United States, China and the United Nations have condemned these activities, and increased economic sanctions against North Korea. On February 13 in the midst of the Olympic games, Kim Jung Un orders a hydrogen bomb test in the Sea of Japan, putting South Korea and its allies on high alert. Of immediate concern is the safety of the tens of thousands of athletes and visitors attending the Winter Olympic Games, and more than 3.2 million residents of Pyeongchang. Pyeongchang County is only 50 miles from South Korea's DMZ (38th parallel) frontier with the North, and 373 miles from the Sea of Japan.

KEY ISSUES THE PRESIDENT MUST ADDRESS: 1) Devise an effective strategic plan (including diplomatic, economic and military options) to deal with the North Korea crisis, and 2) Formulate a political strategy that will enable the President to involve and build consensus with the important stakeholders such as Congress, NATO allies, United Nations, foreign governments, and the American people.

SIMULATION: THE PRESIDENT AND CRISIS MANAGEMENT

- I. **Stage 1: Team Organization** – Your national security team must develop an Action Plan to resolve the foreign policy crisis addressing each of the two key issues above.
 - A. *Presidential Profile Review* - Each team will be given the President's political ideology, party affiliation, and foreign policy world-view (i.e. president's vision of America's place in the world as a global superpower, the use of diplomacy versus military force, and foreign policy priorities). The President's profile must shape your team's decision-making and Action Plan.
 - B. *Role Selection* – Each member selects a role and writes the role on a sign or name tag (students must stay "in character" the entire simulation).
 - C. *Research* – Go to the "President and Crisis Management" simulation webpage, and conduct research and gather information relevant to the North Korea crisis: <http://bit.ly/2C9Wn2A>
 - D. *Action Plan on Google Docs* – Create a common Google Doc so that all members may edit it.
 - 1) Invite all group members AND Ms. Strong to Google Docs: jstrong@k12albemarle.org
 - 2) Name the Doc: Period_PresSim_Group#_ (example: 1st Per_PresSim_Group#2)
 - 3) Include the names and roles of all group members in the doc.

- II. **Stage 2: Action Plan Formulation** – Your team must develop an Action Plan to resolve the foreign policy crisis. Each team member will play her/his assigned role based upon the president’s profile. All of the elements below must be included in the written Action Plan. Each team will receive a grade for the Action Plan shared in GoogleDocs. Refer to the rubric for specific details. Be sure to thoroughly address the key issues in the Action Plan. **PROVIDE SPECIFIC DETAILS!!!**

Outline an Action Plan to address the problem/crisis:

- A. *North Korea Threat Strategic Plan* - Describe the necessary tasks required to effectively address the current crisis with North Korea in the backdrop of the Winter Olympic Games. Identify specific government assets and resources needed and explain how they will be utilized to deal with the crisis, and provide rationale for each of your choices. **BE SPECIFIC!!!** (Examples: Special Forces, Air Force jets, covert intelligence agents, diplomatic channels, international organizations like NATO, the United Nations and the International Olympic Committee (IOC).
- B. *Political Strategy* – Explain the political strategy of how the President will involve and build consensus with the important stakeholders such as Congress, NATO allies, United Nations, foreign governments, and the American people.

- III. **Stage 3: Presidential Briefing (time permitting)** – You will briefly present your Action Plan to the President and rest of the class in the form of a presidential briefing or press conference (stay in character!).

PRESIDENTIAL PROFILES

- 1) *Party*: Republican | *Political Ideology*: Traditional Conservative
- 2) *Party*: Democrat | *Political Ideology*: Moderate Liberal
- 3) *Party*: Republican | *Political Ideology*: Cautious Conservative
- 4) *Party*: Democrat | *Political Ideology*: Traditional Liberal

SIMULATION ROLES

- ★ *Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff* – senior ranking member of the Armed Forces; the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs is the principle military adviser to the President.
- ★ *Secretary of State* – most senior U.S. Diplomat who advises the president on foreign policy matters, participates with high-level negotiations with other countries and international organizations like the United Nations and NATO.
- ★ *Secretary of Defense* – civilian executive who oversees the Pentagon and all branches of the U.S. military
- ★ *National Security Advisor* – member of the Executive Office of the President who serves as the President’s chief national security advisor.
- ★ *Director of the Central Intelligence Agency* – oversees the CIA and responsible for intelligence assessment; supervises covert activities by CIA operatives in other countries.
- ★ *U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations* – heads the U.S. delegation to the UN and works to build international consensus on foreign policy matters.
- ★ *White House Chief of Staff (optional)* – the primary political advisor in the White House with strong personal loyalty to the President; also serves as the primary White House liaison to Congress.