

Handout

The Nanjing Atrocities: The Range of Human Behavior

Directions:

1. Read the text out loud together, pausing at the end of each one- to two-paragraph section to annotate choices, consequences, and questions. There will be sections of the text with no choices or consequences, so every paragraph won't necessarily have an annotation.
 - Write *choice* in the margin alongside any moments where the individual, group, or nation faced a decision and made a significant choice.
 - Underline information in the text that helps you understand what might have led the individual, group, or nation to make those choices.
 - Write *consequence* in the margin alongside any moments where the text discusses the possible or actual consequences for the individual, group, or nation's choices.
2. Discuss the questions below and record your group's answers on this handout. The information you gather today will help you prepare your presentation in the next lesson.

Reading Title: _____

1. Where does your reading take place?

2. What are the significant choices discussed in your reading? Who made them?

3. What reasons or explanations did each individual, group, or nation give for their choices?

4. What were the possible (or actual) consequences of these choices for the individual, group, or nation? In other words, what did the individual(s) know could happen if they made this choice, and/or what actually did happen to them as a consequence of making the choice?

5. What were the impacts of the choices?

6. In this unit, you have learned about the range of human behavior in times of crisis, and you've learned the definitions of the terms *survivor*, *resister*, *perpetrator*, *bystander*, *upstander*, and *rescuer*. It is important to understand that individuals and groups don't fit neatly into one category, even when talking about a single event, and that during the Nanjing atrocities, there was a range of choices available to individuals, groups, and nations. Where on the range of behavioral categories (see list above) does your reading's individual, group, or nation fall, and why? (Remember that they could fall into more than one category.) What makes you say that?