

Christopher Cox

Belmont High School

Dayton, Ohio

Ottomans and Modern Turks Cooperative Research Project

Goal: Students will learn about Ottoman history and compare it to modern Turkey

Essential Question: Does modern Turkey uphold Ottoman ideals?

Objectives: (3 to 5) Students will

- Read and analyze writings on economy, politics, and societies of historic and modern Turkey.
- Compare and contrast in what ways Turkey upholds Ottoman culture. Read and analyze writings on how Ottomans lived and how modern Turks live.
- Write a well-developed compare-contrast essay on traditional and modern Turkey.
- Discern differences and similarities between Turkish and American societies.

Subject: World Civilization

Grade Level: 9th – 12th

Time Frame: Two class periods of 45 minutes

Standards:

- Comparing and contrasting different sets of ideas
- Identifying enduring issues
- Drawing comparisons across eras and regions
- Hypothesizing about the influence of the past

Materials:

1. Group Readings (See links and short descriptions below)
2. Compare-Contrast Rubric (See below)
3. Class Chart (See below)
4. Writing utensils (pens, pencils)

Procedures:

Step 1: Ask students to create a concept map on a piece of paper what they know about Turkey. Share as class and discuss a few. Tell students to save the concept map.

Step 2: Divide students into six groups. Each group should read together and take note on their assigned reading, using Penn Literacy techniques. Each group will share and determine the five most important points about their topic. Teacher should walk around the class to answer any questions and monitor student progress. Remind students that each person in the group is responsible for becoming an expert on their given topic.

Step 3: On the next day, one traveler from each group will rotate around the class to give information on their assigned topic. Those who are not traveling are responsible for taking notes and asking any clarifying questions to the “expert”.

Step 4: As a class, complete a compare/contrast chart between the societies of Ottoman and modern Turkey.

Step 5: Students should return to the concept map they drew in the beginning of the activity on Day One. Students should add or adjust any words, ideas, or concepts that they wrote based on their learning.

Step 6: Discuss to what extent Turkish societies have changed or remained the same since the Ottoman Empire. How does their society compare to ours in the United States?

Extension Activities/ Assessments:

1. Have students write an essay that compares and contrasts Ottomans and modern Turks.
2. Have students discuss the elements of a good leader. What qualities are required in effective leadership? Students should provide historical examples from Ottoman sultans.
3. Have the students draft a list of relevant interview questions they may ask each historical and modern personality in this lesson.
4. Have students create a travel brochure on Turkey. Students should introduce the land, people, attractions, and cultures in their projects.
5. Have students conduct a current events research on Turk-American relations in the news regarding the Syria and the refugee crisis. Students should analyze the perspectives of the news sources.

Study Topics for Each Group:

Group 1: Ottoman Politics

- What was the government like in the Ottoman Empire?
- What powers did the Sultan have?
- What rights did citizens have?

Group 2: Ottoman Economy

- What was the Ottoman Economy like?
- What was their main source of income? What were their imports and exports?

- Who did they trade with?

Group 3: Ottoman Society

- How was Ottoman society structured?
- What were the roles of men and women in Ottoman society?
- What is the role of women in Turkish society?
- What was the role of religion in Ottoman society?
- What was education like?

Group 4: Turkish Politics:

- Describe the modern day state of politics in Turkey.
- Who is the President of Turkey?
- What freedoms and rights do citizens have?
- What challenges are they facing concerning Syria and the refugee crisis?
- What is the current source of tensions between Turkey and Russia over?
- Explain Turkey's role in NATO.

Group 5: Turkish Economy:

- Study a news article on Islam and its role in Turk trade.
- Research the CIA fact book on Turkey. What did you learn?
- What are Turkey's main imports, exports and trading partners?
- How does Turkey's economy compare to other nations?

Group 6: Turkish Society

- How is Turkish society structured?
- What are the roles of men and women in modern Turkish society?
- What is the role of religion in Turkish society?
- How does Turkey's education system work?

Compare-Contrast Essay Rubric:

(Credited to http://readwritethink.org/lesson_images/lesson275/comcon_rubric.pdf)

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
Purpose & Supporting Details	The paper compares and contrasts items clearly. The paper points to specific examples to illustrate the comparison. The paper includes only the information relevant to the comparison.	The paper compares and contrasts items clearly, but the supporting information is general. The paper includes only the information relevant to the comparison.	The paper compares and contrasts items clearly, but the supporting information is incomplete. The paper may include information that is not relevant to the comparison.	The paper compares or contrasts, but does not include both. There is no supporting information or support is incomplete.
Organization & Structure	The paper breaks the information into whole-to-whole, similarities -to- differences, or point-by-point structure. It follows a consistent order when discussing the comparison.	The paper breaks the information into whole-to-whole, similarities -to- differences, or point-by-point structure but does not follow a consistent order when discussing the comparison.	The paper breaks the information into whole-to-whole, similarities -to- differences, or point-by-point structure, but some information is in the wrong section. Some details are not in a logical or expected order, and this distracts the reader.	Many details are not in a logical or expected order. There is little sense that the writing is organized.
Transitions	The paper moves smoothly from one idea to the next. The paper uses comparison and contrast transition words to show relationships between ideas. The paper uses a variety of sentence structures and	The paper moves from one idea to the next, but there is little variety. The paper uses comparison and contrast transition words to show relationships between ideas.	Some transitions work well; but connections between other ideas are fuzzy.	The transitions between ideas are unclear or nonexistent.

transitions.

**Grammar &
Spelling
(Conventions)**

Writer makes no errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content.

Writer makes 1-2 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content.

Writer makes 3-4 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content.

Writer makes more than 4 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content.

(Class Chart)World Civilizations

OTTOMAN AND MODERN TURKEY

	Politics	Economy	Society
OTTOMAN EMPIRE			

MODERN TURKEY			
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