

Empire, Republic, Democracy: Turkey's Past and Future

Second edition. September 2016.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

- Begins with the Ottoman Empire and the Tanzimat Reforms.
- Includes the Young Turks, World War I, the Armenian Genocide, War of Independence, Ataturk's reforms, and political instability during the 20th century.
- Concludes with an overview of the political, economic, and social issues Turkey faces under President Erdroğan.

STUDENT TEXT

- Uses the metaphor of crossroads to show connections among geography, trade, politics, and foreign policy.
- Details the multi-ethnic and multi-religious nature of Turkish society.
- Describes the themes of nationalism, democracy, and autocracy within Turkish politics.
- Presents the political, economic, and social issues facing Turkey as it leads its region into the future.

CENTRAL ROLE PLAY ACTIVITY

Question: What should the future of Turkey be? (Note: The role play looks at competing viewpoints of Turkey's future from a Turkish perspective. It does *not* ask students to consider U.S. policy towards Turkey.)

Setting: A gathering of Turkish citizens

SKILL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH LESSONS

A short description of each lesson can be found on the unit webpage [here](#).

Students will:

- **Read maps;** identify physical and human characteristics of Turkey.
- **Analyze** a painting to understand Turkish perspectives about Ataturk's reforms.
- **Analyze** the viewpoints of Turkish youth and assess the value of oral sources.
- **Interpret** photographs as sources about contemporary life in Turkey.
- **Collaborate** with classmates to synthesize readings, lessons, and position profiles into class presentations.
- **Listen** actively and deliberate with peers on the complex viewpoints expressed.
- **Assess** the legacy of Ataturk through a DBQ.

LINKS FOR FURTHER CURRICULUM EVALUATION

Videos - A free online [video collection](#) accompanies this unit, and the videos are incorporated throughout the Digital Editions.

Print Format - This unit [preview](#) includes the table of contents, a reading excerpt, and a sample lesson plan.

Digital Editions Format - Interested in what the Digital Editions format looks like? Check out our web-based curriculum [here](#).