

JOHN F KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

LESSON 1

THE 1960 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

<p>Objectives/learning outcomes</p> <p>Pupils will:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about Kennedy’s early life. • Understand the reasons why Kennedy won the 1960 presidential election. • Analyse Kennedy’s inaugural speech. 	<p>Starter</p> <p>Ask students what they know about President John F Kennedy. If students need help getting started, suggest the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The youngest president ever elected • The first Roman Catholic president • A charismatic leader who inspired the people • Initiated the space program • Presided over difficult times with Cuba and the Soviet Union during the Cold War • Assassinated in 1963
<p>Activities and homework</p> <p><u>Activity 1</u></p> <p>KENNEDY: The Early Years</p> <p><u>Activity 2</u></p> <p>The Presidential Election [<i>Download a copy of the Nixon/Kennedy debates</i>]</p> <p><u>Activity 3</u></p> <p>John F Kennedy's Inaugural Address</p> <p><u>Homework</u></p> <p>Homework 1 Did you understand Kennedy’s Inaugural Address? [Advanced]</p> <p>Homework 2 J F Kennedy Biography [Standard]</p>	<p>Plenary</p> <p>Discuss with pupils the importance of the inaugural address. Historically, the address is important. It refers to optimism and hope. It shows Kennedy's awareness of the international situation with the Cold War and fear of communism. He was aware of the threat of nuclear weapons. However, he may have over-committed the U.S.A.</p> <p>Explain the tension with the USSR.</p> <p>Having won the election by one of the smallest popular vote margins in history, Kennedy captured the mood of the nation. People who heard the speech were enthused by it. Even school children wrote to him with their reactions to his ideas. Following his inaugural address, 70% of Americans expressed approval of President Kennedy.</p>