

The Making of a Leader: Activity Options

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: You have participated in class discussions, viewed the film "Ralph Bunche: An American Odyssey", and conducted your own research to learn about Bunche. It is now time to share what you have learned about him. Choose one project from the list below and complete it. Be prepared to share and explain your work to others.

Option 1: poetry/song

Using all you have learned about Ralph Bunche, write a poem or song that tells the story of his childhood. Be sure to include the obstacles he had to overcome, the influences of his family, the racism Bunche experienced, and the way he met challenges as a positive rather than negative experience.

Your poem/song should be at minimum of 30 lines. You may choose any format for your poetry or song (i.e. It does not have to rhyme, it may or may not include a chorus, etc.)

Prepare your play/song, practice it, and perform it for the class.

Option 2: art

Create a piece of artwork that is representative of Bunche's childhood. This could be a collage, painting, drawing, sculpture, etc. The piece must depict/be representative of Bunche's childhood, people who influenced him, events that impacted him, and challenges that he met successfully.

Prepare your artwork, practice how you will describe it to others, and share it with the class.

Option 3: writing

Ralph Bunche seized the opportunities that were presented to him and used racist attitudes and personal challenges as motivation to be a success. Think about your own life and some of the hardships and struggles you have had to endure or will endure as you

get older. Write an essay discussing how you can/could have adapted an attitude similar to Bunche's to help you overcome problems and achieve your goals. Give specific examples from your life and discuss how you think Bunche would have handled similar situations. Finally, address the idea that by developing the whole person (i.e. using both lifeskills and education) one is more likely to achieve success and why this is true.

Prepare your essay, practice reading it, and share it with the class.

Option 4: technology

Using technology such as Microsoft Power Point or another multimedia format, create a presentation about the life of Ralph Bunche from birth through his college graduation. Include pictures, audio clips, video clips, and text to tell his story. Think of this project as a "mini

movie". When you run it, others should be able to view it independently and get a complete picture of Ralph Bunche as he was during the specified time frame. Topics to address would include:

- Family Life
- Influential People
- Struggles and Hardships
- Racism
- Education
- Achievements

Prepare your presentation, set all timers and effects, run a practice show, and present your work to the class.

Option 5: Speaking

Go back to the Anticipation Guide and look over the questions you responded to before seeing the film "Ralph Bunche: An American Odyssey". Think about how the statements on the guide relate to Ralph Bunche. Think of examples that illustrate each idea on the guide (i.e. If Bunche had "minded his own business" and not been involved in mediating crises throughout the world, how would that have possibly changed history?). Once you have recorded some ideas and examples, create a persuasive speech to share with your classmates. The speech could focus on the importance of students learning about Ralph Bunche and his life or it could focus on the forgotten contributions of Bunche and how he should be remembered more historically.

Prepare your speech, practice it, and perform it for the class.

Option 6: Project of your choice

Write a specific idea in the space below and see your teacher for approval before beginning your work.

5. Bunche is an excellent example of a person who had highly developed lifeskills. For each of the skills listed below, give an example from the film to illustrate it.

Courage:

Perseverance:

Cooperation:

Problem Solving:

Integrity:

Effort:

Self-control:

Flexibility:

Organization:

The Making of a Leader: Research Worksheet

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Using library and internet resources, answer the questions below in as much detail as you can. Be sure to record facts accurately and supply detailed answers.

1. Ralph Bunche grew up in three very different cities. Describe the type of neighborhood and people Bunche was exposed to in these various neighborhoods.

Detroit:

Albuquerque:

Los Angeles:

2. Describe the role Bunche's grandmother played in shaping his personality and values. Give specific examples, quotations, and descriptions of incidents.

3. In what ways was Bunche directly affected by racism? Find at least 3 specific examples of these in your research. Describe the incidents in detail.

4. The following comments were made to Bunche by his family members. How do you think each of these people shaped Bunche as a person?

Bunche's mother said, "My boy, don't ever let anything take away your hope and faith and dreams."

Bunche's grandmother said, " Our family is as fine as any on earth. We are poor in money, all right, but we're all rich in character, spirit, and decency and we believe in God. That's a lot more important than money—or color."

Directions: Consider the second part of the research to be a sort of "scavenger hunt". Find information about the questions below. Again, be as specific as possible with your answers.

5. What were some of the various jobs Bunche had as a youth to help support himself and his family?

6. What was the precious memento that Bunche's father gave to him as a child? Why do you think Bunche cherished it so?

7. Which teacher did Bunche say had the most effect on him growing up. Why?

The Making of a Leader: Anticipation Guide

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Read each statement below carefully. Place an X in either the Agree or Disagree column. You must choose one column or the other. Then write a short explanation for why you chose the answer you did in the Reason box. Be prepared to share your answers and ideas with the class.

Statement	Agree	Disagree	Reason
<p>People who are successful are usually those who grow up with more economic advantages.</p>			
<p>Lifeskills such as courage and perseverance are as important as educational skills like reading and writing.</p>			
<p>How a person acts has more impact on others than what he/she says.</p>			
<p>A person who tries to mediate a dispute between others is only asking for trouble and should mind their own business.</p>			
<p>Enduring hardships helps to build character.</p>			