

*September 11*

**Webquest Activity**



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### **September 11th, 2001 Webquest**

To learn about, or review, the tragic events of September 11, 2001, you will visit the provided website individually or with a partner and answer the following questions. If possible, you will also be able to listen to audio recordings from that day and will be asked to reflect upon what you heard.

#### Websites

<http://www.history.com/topics/9-11-attacks>

#### **Questions**

1. Where was America attacked on 9/11?

a.

b.

c.

2. Who was president when the attacks happened?

3. Drawing from the text AND making inferences, how did these attacks change America from that day through the present?

4. Explain the alleged reasons the attacks were planned.

5. How were the passengers on United Flight 93 able to organize and fight back against the terrorists?

6. Describe the kind of people you think those passengers were.

7. In Bush's address to the American people he said, "*Terrorist attacks can shake the foundations of our biggest buildings, but they cannot touch the foundation of America. These acts shatter steel, but they cannot dent the steel of American resolve.*" Explain what that means/implies in your own words.

8. What was Operation Enduring Freedom? Why do you think that was the code name chosen for the operation?

9. Do you think America has recovered from the events of 9/11, why or why not? If not, what will it take to recover?

10. There are a variety of points of view on having rebuilt at ground zero. What are YOUR pros and cons for building a new tower? Describe the message the rebuilding could send to the following groups of people:

- a) survivors
- c) NYC
- e) Al Qaeda

- b) the families of those lost
- d) America
- f) another country/group of people around the world of your choosing

11. When people think of the attacks at Pearl Harbor, they tend to refer to it as “Pearl Harbor” or “the day of infamy” rather than the date on which the attacks occurred, however, the terrorist attacks of September 11th are typically referred to simply as “9/11” rather than “New York/DC/Pennsylvania” or “3,000+ casualties” or something similar. Why do you think there is a difference in how each is remembered/referred to?

12. Explain the the role played by 24/7 news on the impact/effect of 9/11. How did continuous access to images, videos, and reports affect the American people? Should this have been covered in such a manner, why or why not? Discuss any similarities and differences between the American people’s reaction to Pearl Harbor and 9/11 (without and with constant news and information).

13. You have never known an America (or a life) without the War on Terror, without soldiers coming and going from the Middle East, without being aware that the potential for more attacks could be a possibility again, without adults and the government being “on guard.” Would you rather have been born in the early 90s and earlier and have a plethora of pre and post 9/11 memories, or have been so young when 9/11 happened (or born after it) that you can not mourn a life that no longer exists? Fully explain your answer.

### **Audio Portion**

Time and technology permitting, you will visit the following website and select some of the audio clips to listen to.

<http://www.history.com/topics/9-11-attacks/speeches> (scroll to the bottom for a variety of clips)

[http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2011/09/08/nyregion/911-tapes.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2011/09/08/nyregion/911-tapes.html?_r=0) (this allows you to both listen to the audio clips or read transcripts of them)

On the back or on a separate piece of paper, respond to the following prompts after listening to a selection of clips from the above websites:

1. Do the audio clips provide new insight on the knowledge you have of 9/11, why and how or why not?
2. What emotions do you feel listen to the variety of clips (flight attendants, air traffic controllers, those who were hijacked, etc)?
3. Describe what you think the air traffic controllers went through that day based on what you heard/read.
4. Should these clips and transcripts remain available to the general public, why or why not?
5. Do you think there are lessons to be learned from these events, if so what are they and if not why not?