



**THE
AMAZING
RACE**

Agenda for 60 minute session

5 minutes, Introduction:

One of the important goals of our DID partnership has been to give teachers a deeper understanding of how democracy has developed in our partnership nations. The strategy we're going to use, we hope, will do just that.

Drawing on the knowledge of everyone in the room we are going to learn about the evolution of democracy in the nations represented within this session. The content focus of the "Amazing Race" lesson is on events of the 20th and 21st centuries.

So, we'll bring our experiences with democracy in our own nations — both the gains and setbacks in the 20th and 21st centuries. Then we'll reflect on the principles of democracy embedded in these experiences.

In this lesson, adapted from the popular TV show, we'll develop a list of events depicting significant steps (forward and backward) toward fulfillment of democratic principles in the nations represented in this session.

Looking back at selected "snapshots" in each nation will provide us an opportunity to discuss the underlying principles of democracy.

Please sit in site groups.

- 1. (5 minutes) Pass out principles of democracy.** Take a look. In your experience with democracy in your nation, which of these principles stand out? Why these?
- 2. (10 minutes) As a "warm up/practice"** to the Amazing Race, we will look at some pictures of turning points in the development of democracy in nations around the world in the 20th century. Distribute pictures to small groups.
- 3. (10 minutes) Our next step** is to develop and agree upon a list of 5 events from your own nation that you think represent gains and setbacks in the development of democracy in each nation. Pass out Handout #1. In the second column, identify the principle of democracy for each event.
- 4. (20 minutes) Race is on**—Stand up. Your goal is to interact with as many people/nations in the room that you can in the next 20 minutes to learn about the experiences of democracy and the underlying principles of democracy reflected in these

experiences. Pass out Handout #2. Fill in the chart as you interact with others. Before you move on to another nation, come to the ‘Race Desk’ for your next assignment.

5. We have a prize for the team that learns about the experiences and principles of democracy in the most nations.

6. (10 minutes) Final debrief:

Were some principles highlighted more than others in this activity? Which ones? How do you explain this?

Are there some events and principles that are more prominent in the evolution of democracy? If so, which ones?

We think it’s important that students have some depth of understanding about the development of democracy in their partner nations. This lesson was designed as a springboard for that. Does this strategy get us there? How would you adapt it?



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