

**2018 HREC Educator Prize: Holodomor Lesson Plan Development  
Second Prize Winner**

**JEFF KOZAK: Springfield Middle School, Sunrise School Division, Winnipeg, Manitoba.**

*Relevant courses taught that may encompass the Holodomor:*

English Language Arts, Social Studies, Ukrainian Language Arts

**LESSON PLAN: Remembering the Holodomor**

1. **Grade level of submission:** grade 7

2. **Curriculum application(s):**

Grade 7 Social Studies focuses heavily on Human Rights, where the *Holodomor* serves as an example of historical Human Rights violation. It also serves as a tie-in to English Language Arts and in several aspects including expository reading, critical thinking and representation of ideas.

3. **Summary:**

This lesson is intended to help students appreciate the lasting effects of the *Holodomor* in Ukraine as well as its impact worldwide. After studying existing memorials and monuments dedicated to *Holodomor* awareness, students are asked to create their own. Students are asked to incorporate several different aspects into their monument, to describe their choices and explain their intended message.

By creating visual memorials, students' thoughts and ideas are easily displayed. They can be exhibited in common spaces in the school building or presented individually as part of a larger awareness program intended to promote understanding of the *Holodomor* and increase awareness.

**Aim:**

To have students generate a representative memorial to recognize the *Holodomor* through the use of non-verbal or linguistic symbolism.

**Learning Expectations/Outcomes:**

Students will gain an appreciation for sharing their thoughts through non-verbal or written methods, thus gaining proficiency in representing. Students will gain an understanding of internationally accepted symbols of peace and harmony, as well as suffering, death and hunger.

---

### **Strategies:**

1. After an extensive unit of study on the *Holodomor*, students will view the monument *Bitter Memories of Childhood*. The monument's artist will be recognized as will its location and its date of completion. (5 minutes)
2. Students will discuss, in small groups or partners, what they think the monument is intended to portray, citing specific aspects of the monument to support their ideas. (5 minutes)
3. In a large group, students will share their ideas, listing them on a projection to gain a stronger appreciation and expose students to a wider variety of interpretations. (10 minutes)
4. Students will write these notes on a note-taking page (Appendix A).
5. In a large group, students will brainstorm the most important issues/themes that the *Holodomor* teaches and list them on a note-taking frame. (5 minutes)
6. Students will generate ideas on how to best represent each theme generated in the previous step, and how they can be symbolized without the use of words. (15 minutes)
7. In consultation with the teacher, students will generate their own memorial monument to recognize the *Holodomor* noting specifically five of the themes and ideas generated in the previous step.

### **Methodology:**

Lessons will be delivered through several different methods, including:

- Small group/partnering
- Independent research
- Large group instruction
- 1:1 discussion of ideas

These methods will be employed with the intention of reaching students with differentiated learning styles, to maintain student engagement, and ensure optimal content delivery.

### **Resources:**

Material resources required for this lesson include:

- images of existing *Holodomor* monuments with information pertaining to the artist's intended message
- drawing utensils and blank paper for sketching draft and final copies
- materials required to create real monuments (will vary depending on criteria depth, time allotted, size, etc.) which could include paint, clay, wood, fabric

materials, support materials such as wire or frames among other student generated ideas

In addition, informational resources include:

- National Museum “Holodomor Victims Memorial,”  
<http://memorialholodomor.org.ua/eng/about/history/> &  
<http://memorialholodomor.org.ua/eng/>
- Wascana Centre, Regina, Saskatchewan, Holodomor Statue  
<http://wascana.ca/things-to-see-and-do/monuments-and-memorials/holodomor-statue>
- Holodomor Research and Education Consortium, Monuments: Monuments in Canada, <http://education.holodomor.ca/introduction/monuments/>
- Manitoba Historic Society, Historic Sites of Manitoba,  
<http://www.mhs.mb.ca/docs/sites/bittermemoriesofchildhood.shtml>
- Canadian Museum for Human Rights, The Story of the Holodomor in the Canadian Museum for Human Rights, <https://humanrights.ca/blog/story-holodomor-canadian-museum-human-rights>