

The Korean War (korean-war.commemoration.gov.au)

Ceasefire at Panmunjom, 27 July 1953

Lesson: Casualties

Part A

Look at the downloadable photograph and answer these questions.

The photograph shows some of the 1584 Australians wounded in the Korean War. Examine the photograph closely. Think about it, then answer the following questions.

1. Do you think the man without a hat is wounded? Can you see any evidence that he is?
2. Look at the faces. Can you identify any particular emotion on them?
3. What do you think happened immediately after the photograph was taken?
4. Would you feel differently about the photograph if the wounded men were Koreans?
5. How can you tell whether or not the photographer came across the scene by chance or posed it?

Part B

Now read the text and look at the list of casualties then write answers to these questions.

1. The Australians fought in the 1st British Commonwealth Division with British (United Kingdom), Canadians and New Zealanders. What was the total number of casualties (dead, wounded and captured) for the whole division?
2. Which country lost the most dead and which had the most captured?
3. Koreans fought on both sides. What was the total number of Koreans wounded in the war?
4. What kinds of casualties are not on the list?
5. Why are some kinds of casualties only estimates? Why is it we will never know the accurate numbers in some cases?