**Who Started the Korean War**

**Textbook A**

Upset by the fast and astonishing growth of the power of the Republic, the American invaders hastened the preparation of an aggressive war in order to destroy it in its infancy....The American imperialists furiously carried out the war project in 1950....The American invaders who had been preparing the war for a long time, alongside their puppets, finally initiated the war on June 25th of the 39th year of the Juche calendar. That dawn, the enemies unexpectedly attacked the North half of the Republic, and the war clouds hung over the once peaceful country, accompanied by the echoing roar of cannons. Having passed the 38th parallel, the enemies crawled deeper and deeper into the North half of the Republic...the invading forces of the enemies had to be eliminated and the threatened fate of our country and our people had to be saved.

**Source: History of the Revolution of our Great Leader Kim Il-sun: High School. (Pongyang, North Korea: Textbook Publishing Co., 1999), 125-127.**

**Textbook B**

When the overthrow of the South Korean government through social confusion became too difficult, the North Korean communists switched to a stick-and-carrot strategy: seeming to offer peaceful negotiations, they were instead analyzing the right moment of attack and preparing themselves for it. The North Korean communists prepared themselves for war. Kim Il-sung secretly visited the Soviet Union and was promised the alliance of the Soviets and China in case of war. Finally, at dawn on June 25th, 1950 the North began mtheir southward aggression along the 38th parallel. Taken by surprise at these unexpected attacks, the army of the Republic of Korea (South Korea) fought courageously to defend the liberty of the country....The armed provocation of the North Korean communists brought the UN Security Council around the table. A decree denounced the North Korean military action as illegal and as a threat to peace, and a decision was made to help the South. The UN army constituted the armies of 16 countries—among them, the United States, Great Britain and France—joined the South Korean forces in the battle against the North.

**Source: Doojin Kim, Korean History: Senior High. (Seoul, South Korea: Dae Han Textbook Co., 2001), 199.**

**Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Hour \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Who Started the Korean War**

**Directions:** Read and review the primary source documents (Textbook A and Textbook B) and answer the following questions below.

1. Using the information contained in the primary source and the chart below please describe how each document (Textbook A and Textbook B) attributes blame for the start of the Korean War?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Textbook A** | **Textbook B** |
|  |  |

1. Based on the information and narrative perspective contained in Textbook A and Textbook B, please share your opinion as to which of the two primary sources you believe is closer to the truth and most accurate? **\*Please cite examples from the text to support your writing**
2. Explain the way in which the facts presented in these documents demonstrate the use of government generated propaganda? **\*Please cite examples from the text to support your writing**