*Upfront* Questions

Mr. Beckett

**Directions**

Turn to page 24. Read the article and answer the following questions.

Which of the following does not characterize North Korea under Kim Jong Il’s rule?

1. Economically poor
2. Socially repressed
3. Militarily weak
4. Politically isolated

The division of Korea along the 38th Parallel

1. Was proposed by the UN after WWII
2. Was supposed to last only until Japanese influence could be removed following the end of WWII
3. First separated North Korea and South Korea when Japan annexed the peninsula in 1910
4. Became irrelevant once victory was declared in the Korean War

President Truman thought that he had no choice but to send troops and equipment support the South Koreans after

1. A surprise attack on American troops in Inchon
2. General MacArthur convinced him that Chinese troops were entering North Korea
3. Several African countries fell to Communist regimes
4. North Korean troops invaded South Korea

When MacArthur \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_without consulting political leaders in Washington first, Truman fired him.

1. Ordered the Chinese to surrender
2. Sent an additional 100,000 Marines to Korea
3. Set up a demilitarized zone around the 38th Parallel
4. Criticized Truman on television

Which is not true of South Korea today?

1. It has a thriving economy
2. About 28,000 troops are stationed there.
3. It refuses all contact with North Korea
4. It is a democracy

**Answer on your own. Continue answers on back if you need more room.**

What was happening in the world and in the US during Truman’s time in office that made Korea such a concern?

List other countries that were divided into Communist and non-Communist sides after WWII

What is the significance of the 38th Parallel in Korea? Who took control of the territory on each side after WWII?

Did President Truman err in firing General MacArthur? Why?

What threat does North Korea pose to the U.S. and the West?

**Answer 1/2 questions in detail on the back of this sheet or on a separate sheet of paper.**

1. **Using this article and the article about North Korean defectors (p. 22), write an essay comparing the lives of teenagers in North Korea and South Korea today.**
2. **Was the Korean War a triumph for the U.S. or a failure of American foreign policy?**