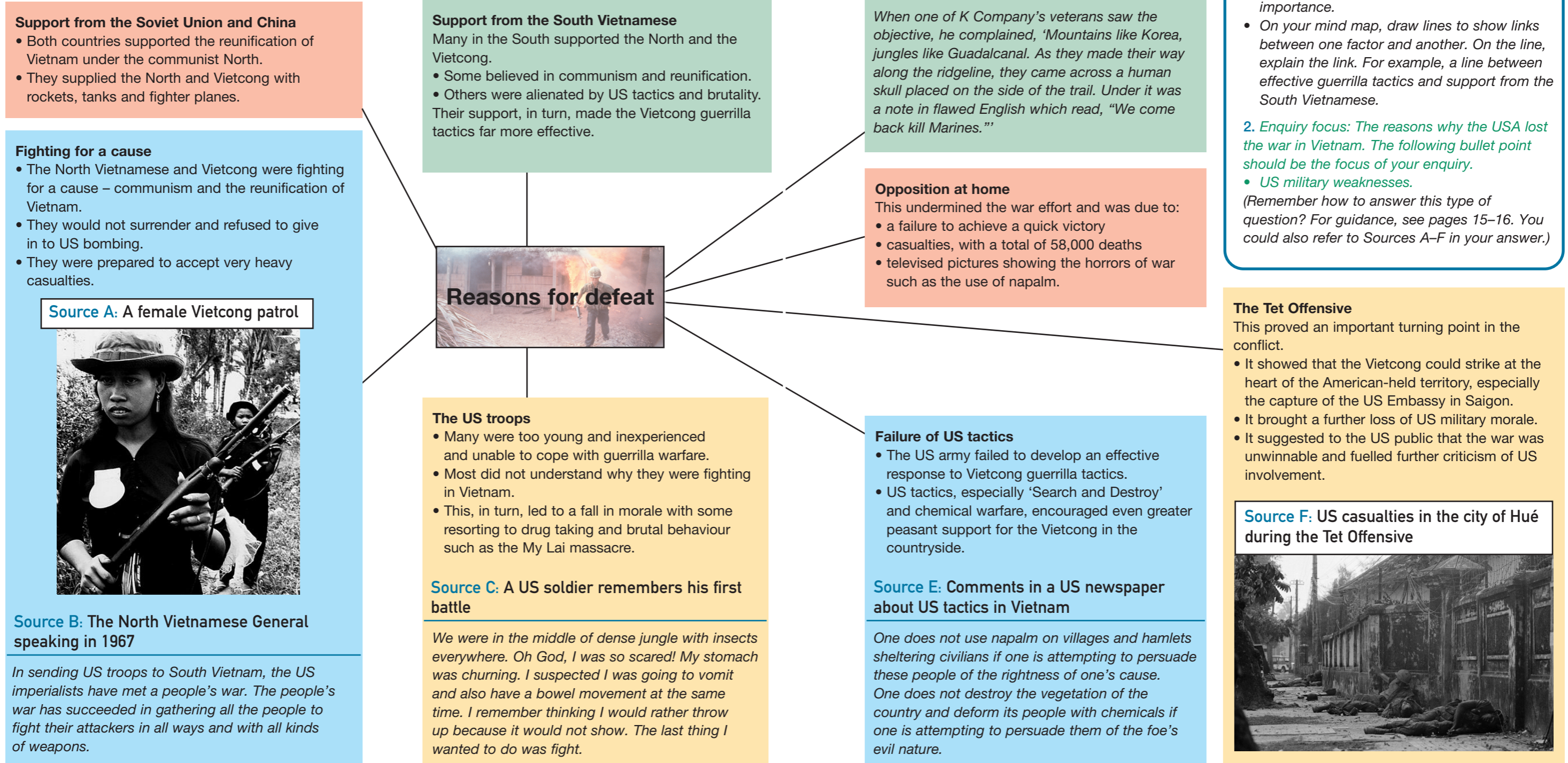


Why was the USA defeated?



Tasks

- Make a copy of the mind map (main headings).
 - Place the headings in order of importance. Begin with the most important at 12 o'clock followed, clockwise, by the next in importance.
 - On your mind map, draw lines to show links between one factor and another. On the line, explain the link. For example, a line between effective guerrilla tactics and support from the South Vietnamese.
- Enquiry focus: The reasons why the USA lost the war in Vietnam. The following bullet point should be the focus of your enquiry.
 - US military weaknesses.

(Remember how to answer this type of question? For guidance, see pages 15–16. You could also refer to Sources A–F in your answer.)

The Tet Offensive

This proved an important turning point in the conflict.

- It showed that the Vietcong could strike at the heart of the American-held territory, especially the capture of the US Embassy in Saigon.
- It brought a further loss of US military morale.
- It suggested to the US public that the war was unwinnable and fuelled further criticism of US involvement.

Source F: US casualties in the city of Hué during the Tet Offensive