



By the spring of 1970, anti-war protests had spread to college campuses across the country. One of the protests that ended in tragedy occurred at Kent State University in Ohio. To show disapproval of President Nixon's Vietnam policies, students had burned a military building on campus. In response, the Ohio Governor sent 3,000 National Guard troops to the campus to break up the students. At noon on May 4th, the students gathered for another protest on the campus lawn. As National Guard troops told the protestors to leave, some students threw rocks and pieces of concrete at the Guard members. In the chaos that followed, the National Guard members fired 16 shots into the crowd, killing four students and wounding nine. Pictures and news reports like the one above circulated immediately leading to even more protests and clashes around the country.

1. Describe what you see the upper left hand photo?
2. How do you think the photo of National Guard troops in the upper right was received by the public when it was published after the shooting?
3. Why were the students protesting?
4. Why were National Guard troops called to the campus of Kent State University?
5. What did the students do right before the shooting started?
6. What were the effects of the shooting?
7. Video: Whom does the musician blame for the events at Kent State University?
8. Video: What types of things do you see the police/national guard doing?
9. Video: What were some of the words and phrases used on the signs and banners being held by the students?

Warm-Up
9.12