

## **General Knowledge: Rank Structure**

PO.2, EO.2d

### **Introduction**

Begin by introducing the idea of rank structure. Explain its purpose in the Marine Corps and how it is used in the Young Marines. Also explain how Young Marines can move up through the ranks, introduce the promotion system and promotion requirements, and explain the importance of working to move up through the ranks. Here is a good place to explain how your unit conducts sign-offs and promotion boards and how often Young Marines could potentially be promoted if they maintain their records and a good pace in the program. End by explaining the objectives and procedure for the day, to learn the rank structure and insignia for the Young Marines program.

### **Direct Instruction**

The direct instruction portion of this lesson will be very short as it is more beneficial for recruits to begin practicing with the insignia. Display a chart or the PowerPoint slide showing all of the YM ranks and their coinciding insignia. You may want to display the higher ranks individually to show the smaller details in the insignia that is difficult to distinguish. Once you've pointed out each rank, have the recruits break into teams for the independent/group practice session.

### **Independent/Group Practice**

Once the Recruits are in their teams, give each recruit a set of index cards, a packet with the ranks and their insignias, scissors, and glue. Recruits will begin this activity by creating flashcards for each rank with the insignia, rank name, and rank abbreviation on three separate cards. Once each team has three sets of cards, give the instructions for the matching game.

### **Matching Game**

Using the cards they created, the recruits are to spread out two sets of their cards to match up. For example, they'll choose the insignia pictures with the full rank name or the full rank name with the rank abbreviations to match up. Allow the recruits ten to fifteen minutes to play the matching game so that each member of the team has a chance to play.

### **Optional Activity: Kahoot! Quiz**

This activity will require a computer, projector, and cell phones for the recruits to use to participate in the activity. Use the link in the lesson plan to navigate to the correct Kahoot! activity. The recruits will need to go to the website kahoot.it (link provided in PowerPoint along with instructions) and type in the game PIN that the game gives them. It will prompt them to type in a name for themselves. It is up to you how silly or serious you'd like them to keep their names. Please let them know that anyone who chooses an inappropriate name will not be allowed to participate. The game will show them pictures of rank insignia or rank abbreviations. Recruits will get points for choosing the correct answer the fastest. A winner is named at the end. You can have the recruits play individually or in teams/groups if you do not have enough devices. Cellphones, tablets, and computers can all be used for the game.

### **Evaluation**

For the evaluation, have the recruits partner up and quiz each other using the cards they created. They should go through all of the insignias and all of the abbreviations to be sure they can identify both. This information will also be included on Quiz #1, so it is important they can write out the rank name, write the correct abbreviation, and match both to the insignia pictures.

### **Reflection**

Have the recruits identify which rank they are having trouble remembering. Ask them why they think some ranks are harder than others to remember and if they can think of any way that they can help themselves or each other remember the more difficult ranks.

After the discussion, allow each recruit to turn a set of the cards into flashcards by writing the rank name or abbreviation on the backs or adding insignia pictures if needed. These flashcards will be theirs to keep and study from. If there are enough materials, have each recruit complete all three sets of cards to take home. If not, have them choose the cards that they struggled with the most and complete those to take home.

Also, make sure the recruits have the link to the Quizlet which has online flashcards for them to use at home if they prefer or if they lose their flashcards.