FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT: REWRITE THE TEXTBOOK

Directions: You are to rewrite the textbook selection about the My Lai incident and its impact on America. You should use your "Voices from My Lai" capture sheet help you give voice to any or all of the following "silenced voices": the My Lai villagers, Lt. Calley, other soldiers present at My Lai, and the American public. Use the conclusions you have drawn from these people to better inform students of history about the impact of the My Lai massacre.

While Nixon was maneuvering to bring about "peace with honor" the chilling crimes of war had already begun to haunt Americans. In 1971 the army court-martialed a young lieutenant William L. Calley Jr. for the murder of "at least" twenty two Vietnamese civilians during a 1968 search and destroy mission subsequently known as the My Lai Massacre. Calley's platoon had destroyed a village and slaughtered more than 350 unarmed South Vietnamese raping and beating many of the women before killing them. "My Lai was not an isolated incident" one veteran attested but "only a minor step beyond the standard official United States policy in Indochina." Commander of the platoon at My Lai, Calley was first sentenced to life imprisonment before being given a reduced term of ten years. The secretary of the army paroled Calley after he served three years under house arrest in his apartment.

SOURCE: Faragher, John M., Buhle, Mary J., Czitrom, Daniel, and Armitage, Susan H. *Out of Many: A History of the American People*. 3rd ed. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Prentice Hall, 2002. p. 905.

REWRITE: