

Year 9: War project

This project will support the work you are doing in class and involves researching war from different perspectives and in different genres. You will do some reading and some writing.

NAME: _____ TEACHER(s): _____

Week One: Research.

What was life like for soldiers in WW1?

Have a go at this trench warfare game:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/worldwarone/hq/trenchwarfare.shtml>

Listen to this podcast. You can also read the transcript:

<http://www.1914.org/podcasts/podcast-20-trench-life/>

Write down some ideas about what it must have been like to fight in the trenches.

Make a word bank of effective vocabulary you could use to describe life in the trenches.

Extension task: Do some more research – there are hundreds of sites. Compile a list of good websites or books that other year 9 students could use in their research about world war one.

Date Completed: _____

Week Two: Diary Entry

Write a diary entry dated November 8th 1914 relating what you did on that day. Try to capture some of your thoughts and feelings, and describe the conditions you are living (and fighting) in.

Use your list of words and thoughts you produced during your research last week. Imagine you are a soldier in this war.

- Use first person
- Focus on your feelings
- Describe what's happening using the 5 senses.

(See worksheet 1 if you require extra help with this task)

Once you have written 3 paragraphs, ask someone else to read what you have written. Ask them to note down 3 things that went well and a target to improve.

Date Completed: _____

Week Three

Redraft your diary entry using the advice you were given. It should be at least a side of A4.

Extension task

Have a go at turning your diary entry into a dramatic monologue for the stage or TV instead. Remember to use stage directions.

Date Completed: _____

Week Four

Watch this animation of a famous war poem:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/worldwarone/hq/flanders_field.shtml

Now choose another war poem (either one you have studied in class or another of your choice) and have a go at animating it. You can **draw** a storyboard or create an animation on the computer if you're feeling creative.

Date Completed: _____

Week Five – War today

Find a newspaper article about a war which is going on somewhere in the world at the moment.

Cut out the article and stick it onto a big sheet of paper.

Annotate the article to show how language has been used to affect the reader. Highlight all the emotive words and phrases. Consider:

- What is the headline? What does this tell us about today's attitudes to war? Which language techniques are used?
- What does the attitude to war seem to be in the rest of the article? War is necessary? Evil? Horrible? Heroic?
- How are soldiers represented?

How have photographs been used? What are the main colours? What are the *connotations* of these colours (what do they make you think about? What ideas do you associate with the colours?)

Create a collage showing how war is reported in the media. Include photos and headlines as well as extracts from articles.

Extension task – Write a PEE paragraph about how this newspaper article shows modern attitudes to war. (see worksheet 2 if you need help with this)

Week Six

Visit this website:

<http://www.throughmyeyes.org.uk/>

Choose one of the accounts of personal experiences of war. Using this as inspiration, have a go at writing your own poem or song lyric about how war affects ordinary people.

If you want to write a lyric you could look at:

Black Eyed Peas *“Where is the Love”*

Metallica *One*

Paul Hardcastle: *Nineteen*

Extension task: make a radio playlist of songs about war (or anti war songs). You could script the links and record this as a podcast. If it is good enough, you may be invited to broadcast on radio FPS!

Worksheet One

November 8th 1914

Dear Diary,

Today has been tough.....

Give an overview of the day: how you feel about everything you have seen and experienced in the trenches today.

First thing this morning I.....

Write about how your day would have begun. What kind of sleep did you get (if any)? Did you get any breakfast? What? Describe (using the 5 senses) what it is like to live in the trenches.

I miss my family.....

Write about who is waiting for you at home, what you miss about your life in England and what you are looking forward to if you make it back.

Worksheet two

Write a PEE paragraph about the newspaper article you have chosen

POINT:

In this article, war is represented as being necessary/evil/heroic/awful/destructive.....

EVIDENCE:

Use a quote from the article or the headline:

EXPLAIN:

The writer uses _____* to suggest that.....

This is further developed by the photograph of

*emotive language/alliteration/pun/simile/metaphor etc..