

World War One (10.5)

WebQuest Description:

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Curriculum: 0

Keywords:

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Introduction

The period from August 1914 to November 1918 represents one of the most destructive periods in human history. The events of this conflict changed the face of Europe and set in motion a course of events that shaped the twentieth century. Your responsibility in this exercise will be to assume one of four possible roles and produce the described article to demonstrate your understanding of the issues. You will work in groups of nine to develop a presentation for the class using Wordle, Glogster, and MyFakeWall. However, each student must submit a written product. Roles will be assigned. Your research should be based on a combination of the provided links as well as personal investigations of the topic from Dogpile.

Tasks

You have four possible identities for this web quest.

- Battle Reporter.** The year is 1914. You are a reporter for a prominent American Newspaper. You have traveled to England to write as a war battle correspondent, observing what is being called "The War to End All Wars" and you are putting together an expositional story to bring the United States public up to speed on the key battles of the war.
- Spy.** The year is 1917. You are Dr. Constantin T. Dumba, a respected doctor from Austria-Hungary. You are the ambassador to the United States and reside there for much of the year. You are welcome in Washington D.C., the capitol of the United States. The U.S. has recently joined up with the enemy and it looks like they might prove to be a commanding force in the effort to destroy your family's allies. Little do they realize that you are a spy! You plan to use your access to the United States to gauge their ability to pose a threat against your side in "The Great War" and the opinions of the Americans towards the war. Send correspondence home to Austria to feed information about America's war effort and capabilities.
- Assassin.** The year is 1914. You are Gavrilo Princip. You are a member of the Black Hand in Serbia. You have been apprehended for the assassination of Archduke Francis Ferdinand. With a gun to your head, you are being forced out your confession of guilt. In your confession, explain why you felt the assassination was necessary. Explain about the political tensions of the past few years and why there were tensions to begin with. You feel that it is necessary to expose the Black Hand, so explain who they are about.
- Weapons Reporter.** The year is 1914. You are a reporter for a prominent American Newspaper. You have traveled to England to write as a war correspondent, observing the weapons in what is being called "The War to End All Wars" and you are putting together an expositional story to bring the United States. Describe the weapons and landscape that you see on your way home and make insights into the destruction caused by technology.

Process

- Read the identity you have been assigned.
- Divide into groups based on the identity assigned and decide which job in the group you will take. Jobs: Biographer 1 & 2: id key persons related to your identity. Geographer: research the area pertaining to your chosen character. Propagandist: examine the roles of print, visual, and audio media influences in your life. Photographer: collect photos relevant to your topic. Timeline Tech: research key dates and events relevant to your topic to create a timeline. Fakebook Editor: create a fakebook page for your role, work with the other group members in collecting and editing their items for upload. Thinglink Editor: sign up for and create a Thinglink for your role, work with the other group members in collecting and editing their items for upload. Wordle Editor: research written primary sources to find one to examine the key points using Wordle.
- Outline the research portion of the project, identifying key words, dates, and individuals.
- Gain access to the web and research your topic as completely as possible.
- Design a group presentation to be presented before the entire class.
- Present before the entire class- all members must speak a minimum of 2-3 minutes.
- In class, write the required paper, assuming the identity of the character you have been assigned.

Hints for the roles:

- Reporter:** The purpose of this assignment is to report on the early phase of the war from the Allies point of view. For this reason, your research should focus primarily on the British. The oral history links from the BBC gives the story from the soldiers point of view. Trenches On The Web and The Imperial War Museum will be major sources of information. Your news report should reflect the close Anglo-American relationship. Battles to be included: Schlieffen Plan, Marne, western fronts, eastern fronts, Ypres, Verdun, Somme, Cambrai, and Gallipoli.
- Spy:** The role here is to provide information home to Austria. The country information link will be a prime resource for this assignment. Keep in mind that the U.S. was held in very low regard by the Great Powers and your intelligence report should reflect this attitude. The Brigham Young and Zimmerman links will also help to describe U.S. attitudes toward the war. Also, include examples of propaganda, laws passed at home, and how total war impacted the citizens at home.
- Assassin:** The role of a terrorist is not something new to the world. The Black Hand link will give you a starting point for your research into terrorism in the early twentieth century. Keep in mind that you are in fear for your life. Give as much detail as possible in your confession. Who are key people involved, why was the Black Hand formed, what was their objective (goal), and what activities were they involved in.
- Weapons Reporter/Soldier:** Your responsibility here will be to report on what you see and the weapons you used. For this reason, photos will be a major part of your research. Trenches On The

