



Western Front Association Explore | Learn | Share

Session Plan: 2 Year: 8 Unit: World War One
Subject/Title: How was the Great War fought?

Learning Objective(s)

All students will understand why soldiers went to war, how they were recruited and what propaganda is.
Most students will understand how the war was fought and be able to explain whether propaganda was effective as a weapon of war.
To understand the brutality of war and be able to explain why the Somme went wrong.

Min 5	<p><u>Starter Re-cap: What factors triggered off WWI?</u> Students are to complete their HI-5 template. This is aimed to remind students of the 5 key reasons for the outbreak of war discussed last session.</p>
10	<p><u>What is needed to fight a war?</u> World War One was not just fought by the army- it was fought by the entire nation. It was a total war. What type of things would a country need to fight a total war? Using the SMB encourage pupils to put their ideas on the board. They may come up with things like, lots of men, well equipped, big guns, clever leaders, good battle plans, motivated people, plentiful supply of ammo, food, uniforms, equipment, courage, determination etc.</p>
20	<p><u>PPT- What is Propaganda? Do in own areas</u> What is propaganda? Propaganda shows us ways in which the government tried to fight the war and also the way in which it encouraged the whole nation to become involved. Using slides from the PPT discuss with students the questions around the spider diagram, students write down ideas as the group discusses. Using slide 2- analyse the poster as a class as an introduction to task 1.</p>
20	<p><u>Task 1 – Why was propaganda used in the Great War and was it effective? (Play war time songs as background music whilst students work on task)</u> Students will be given a propaganda poster to analyse. They will stick their poster into their books and annotate around the poster. They will work in pairs. If pupils finish early they will explain their poster to another pair. Using the random name generator pupils will come to the front and present their findings. All posters are on the PPT depending upon which pupils are picked.</p>
10	<p><u>PPT – Somme – shared area</u></p>
20	<p><u>Task 2 – What happened at the Battle of the Somme? (Play war time songs as background music whilst on task)</u> Using their knowledge from the PowerPoint and their diagrams of the plan for the Battle of the Somme, students will highlight at least 3 tactics used by the allies to create a successful attack on the Germans. With these 3 tactics pupils will complete the table in their books in pairs. Pupils must identify strengths and weaknesses of the plan and crucially they must comment on any improvements they might make.</p>
5	<p><u>What happened at the Somme?:</u> On PPT in own areas pupils will be shown that the Somme was a disaster. Many men were killed and the Allies tactics were useless against the Germans.</p>
25	<p><u>Task 3 how would you fight at the Somme?-</u>Using their tables pupils must now create their own battle plan for the Somme to prevent these mistakes from happening again. Pupils will work in pairs and may present their ideas in any way as long as their intentions are clear. If there is time pupils will present their work to the class.</p>
15	<p><u>Task 4: Slide show: What was life like in the trenches on the Western Front (PPT Trenches Starter found in resources)</u> See smart board. What impression did the slideshow give of life in the trenches of the Western Front? What type of problems do you think soldiers would have faced? Complete mind map on board of some of the problems e.g. mud, rain, rats, cold, lice, fear, boredom, hunger, disease associated with conditions such as trench foot and trench fever, shell shock, psychological problems (post traumatic stress disorder) and obviously being shot or blown up!!</p>
20+	<p>Students watch video in own teaching area – Life in the trenches. Students should make notes on the sheet provided. Forward to section on ‘Trench Routine’. Need to collect remote from shop.!</p>
5	<p><u>Plenary</u> - Play clip on SMB on Anniversary of Somme commemoration services. Why do you think we are commemorating this particular battle 90 years on?</p>

PLEASE ENSURE THIS SIDE IS NOT ACCESSIBLE BY STUDENTS

HOMEWORK: NONE

Resources:

PPT on propaganda and Somme in shared area
Propaganda posters for pair analysis
War time songs – background music during tasks

Assessment

Teacher: Lead/Q&A

Self: Mark and annotate own work

Peer Group: Working in pairs/small groups/practical

Students needing support:

They will have access by:

Students to be stretched and challenged:

They will have access by:

Session Evaluation - What needs to be changed? What went well?

Students - Causing Concern

Students - Outstanding