

Half Term 3

Y9 Home Learning Booklet

WWII – Oral History

Name _____

Class _____

Teacher _____



What do people say about World War II?

This half term we are learning about when America dropped the Atomic Bombs on Japan, alongside some local history on the Second World War. This Home Learning project allows you to investigate what people around you know of WWII and the importance of oral (spoken) history.

Weeks	Date	Suggested Tasks
1-2	3 rd January – 13 th January	P2 – Oral History & WWII
3-4	16 th January – 27 th January	P3 & 4 – Research and interviews
5	30 th January – 3 rd February	P5 & 6 – Write up/completion
5	WC 30 th January	Hand In

The importance of oral history

What is oral history?	
Why is oral history important for historians?	
What might some problems with oral history be?	

World War Two

When did WWII begin and end?	
What was the Blitz?	
What was evacuation and why was it used in WWII?	
What did the British government do in response to the Blitz?	
How did the Blitz impact different people across England?	

Helpful Websites

<https://le.ac.uk/history/outreach/besh/oral-history/what-is>

<https://www.baylor.edu/content/services/document.php/66420.pdf>

<https://www.britannica.com/event/the->

[Blitz#:~:text=The%20Blitz%2C%20%28September%201940%E2%80%93May%201941%29%2C%20nighttime%20bombing%20raids,Force%20in%20the%20Battle%20of%20Britain%20%28July%E2%80%93September%201940%29.](#)

Oral History – Interview 1

We would love for you to interview individuals about their experiences of World War Two. It may be that you don't have anyone in your family who has memory of living through it but they may remember their parents or relatives talking about their experiences. If you can't find anyone, there are many recorded interviews on Youtube – try the WW2: I was there channel for lots of existing interviews. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4t-ttNCkbqY>
We would like you to write as many questions yourself but we have given you a couple to get you started.

1. What is your name and what is your connection to WWII?	
2. What was life like in Britain, during the Blitz?	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	

Oral History – Interview 2

We would love for you to interview individuals about their experiences of World War Two. It may be that you don't have anyone in your family who has memory of living through it but they may remember their parents or relatives talking about their experiences. If you can't find anyone, there are many recorded interviews on Youtube – try the WW2: I was there channel for lots of existing interviews. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4t-ttNCkbqY>
We would like you to write as many questions yourself but we have given you a couple to get you started.

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2. What was life like in Britain, during the Blitz?	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	

What do people say about WWII?

You have completed at least two interviews about people's experiences of WWII.

You can present this information however you would best like to but your job is to summarise 'what to people say about WWII?'

If you have recorded your interviews, you might like to create a podcast or recording of your own comments, mixed with the people you've interviewed. You may have videoed your interviews and could create a 'chat show' style video. You may just like to write up your findings.

Use the guidelines below to help you structure your answers.

Context: What was The Blitz?

Interview 1: Who did you interview? Why did you want to speak to them? What did they say?

Interview 2: Who did you interview? Why did you want to speak to them? What did they say?

Are there any problems you can see with the evidence your interviewees have given you?

What are the strengths of your interviews and how have they helped you to understand more about The Blitz?

Think Hard Bonus: What could you cross-reference your interviews with, to check their validity?

Summary: What have you learned about WWII from your interviews?



