

Chautauqua Summer Institute
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Lesson Plan
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Lesson Plan Title: “Eyewitness to History: History through the eyes that lived it – using sound files to create an impression”

Concept / Topic To Teach: World War II – several topics are covered in this lesson relating to the war including D-day, Hiroshima, FDR, FDR’s death, rationing, Pearl Harbor, etc. Teachers could elect to use this lesson as an overall introduction to a unit on World War II, or they could narrow in on any one of those topics.

Grade Level: Middle/High school grades (grades 8-12)

Standards Addressed: Several content standards are addressed in this lesson, including standards for Language Arts and technology. However, some specific standards from the Ohio Social Studies Content Standards that are addressed include:

1. Analyze the impact of U.S. participation in World War II with emphasis on:
 - a. Events on the home front to support the war effort, including industrial mobilization, women and minorities in the workforce;
 - b. The internment of Japanese-Americans.

2. Analyze the causes of World War II including:
 - a. Appeasement;
 - b. Axis expansion;
 - c. The role of the Allies.

3. Analyze the consequences of World War II including:
 - a. Atomic weapons;
 - b. Civilian and military losses;
 - c. The Holocaust and its impact;
 - d. Refugees and poverty;
 - e. The United Nations;
 - f. The establishment of the state of Israel.

Duration: The investigation of the sound files and website should take 1 class period (45-50 minutes); if teachers have students present their findings, another 1-2 class periods may be needed.

General Goal(s): The goal of this lesson is to introduce students to the voices that would be heard during World War II. As radio was one of the primary forms of entertainment and news, most Americans during the war either owned a radio or gathered around a neighborhood radio in order to listen to the latest updates regarding the war. This lesson provides the opportunity for students to hear radio broadcasts from the time period, to analyze that broadcast, and to investigate additional information on that topic addressed during the radio broadcast.

Specific Objectives: Students will utilize technology to investigate various areas of World War II including D-day, Hiroshima, FDR, FDR's death, rationing, Pearl Harbor, etc. Upon completion of this lesson, students should be able to discuss in depth on a topic relating to World War II, using a sound recording to verify their claims.

Required Materials:

1. Computers for student access (class set) – alternate: if a class set of computers is not available, have students work in groups of 2 or 3.
2. "Eyewitness to History: History through the eyes that lived it" worksheet – enough copies for a class set
3. Poster board
4. Markers, crayons, colored pencils

Primary Sources Used:

Several sound recordings from the time period (see step-by-step procedures for a listing of the various recordings) are utilized in this lesson from the website www.eyewitnesstohistory.com.

The sound recording and transcript of FDR's "A Day Which Will Live in Infamy" speech is also utilized in this lesson. A copy of both the sound recording and the transcript of the speech can be found at <http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/day-of-infamy/index.html>.

Warm-up:

Begin the lesson by having students compile a list of ways in which they receive their news (internet, daily news programs, newspapers, magazines, etc.). Have students write about a news item that traveling across all of those media in the list. Discuss with students the importance of the radio as both an entertainment device as well as the primary means by which Americans received word on national and world news items. Continue the warm-up by playing part of a sound recording of FDR's "A Day Which Will Live in Infamy" speech. Review the background of this speech and discuss the impact that this speech had on Americans

who heard this broadcast. Explain that students will be listening to other broadcasts from the time period to learn about other events related to World War II.

Once again, the sound recording and the transcript of FDR's "A Day Which Will Live in Infamy" speech can be found at <http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/day-of-infamy/index.html>.

Step-By-Step Procedures:

1. Prior to class, cut out strips of paper with the following labels (make enough for an entire class set or enough for pairs of students),
 - a. Great Britain declares war on Germany, 1939
 - b. Gas Rationing, 1942
 - c. D-day, 1944
 - d. Franklin Roosevelt, 1944
 - e. Tokyo Rose, 1944
 - f. Iwo Jima, 1945
 - g. Death of FDR, 1945
 - h. Lord Haw Haw, 1945
 - i. Germany surrenders, 1945
 - j. Hiroshima, 1945
2. Conduct the warm-up activity with students.
3. After the warm-up, inform students that they will be investigating some of the radio broadcasts that were issued during the years of the war. Have students randomly select one of the strips of paper to choose their broadcast.
4. Distribute the worksheet, "Eyewitness to History: History through the eyes that lived it" to each student.
5. Read the introduction on the worksheet aloud with students to familiarize them with the assignment. Have students log onto a computer and direct them to the webpage.
6. Allow time for students to complete the worksheet that analyzes the radio broadcast.
7. When students complete the analysis, have students create a poster that details their event and how it impacted the listener of

the broadcast. Requirements should include the incorporation of the vocabulary words, the inclusion of the quote from the sound recording, a minimum of 5 facts relating to their events, a title, color, and neatness.

Homework and Practice: The posters will likely need additional time. If class time is not available, students should be instructed to complete it at home.

Closure (Re-teach): Students should present their posters to their classmates in a large group setting to teach their area of World War II to their peers. Teachers should have a listening guide prepared to allow students who are observing the presentations to take notes and follow along with their classmates' presentations.

Assessment Based On Objectives: Assessment should be based upon the posters submitted by students.

Adaptations (For Students With Learning Disabilities): Students with learning disabilities should have #15, 16, and 17 of the "Eyewitness to History: History through the eyes that lived it" worksheet deleted. They should also have the vocabulary reduced to 3 words instead of 5 words. They should also have the question development reduced to 1 question from 3 questions.

Extensions (For Gifted Students): Gifted students should be directed to investigate one of the questions they developed for question #14 on the "Eyewitness to History: History through the eyes that lived it" worksheet in greater detail. They could prepare a report on that question to satisfy their curiosity.

Additionally, as an extension, a lesson for FDR's "A Day Which Will Live in Infamy" speech can be found at <http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/day-of-infamy/activities.html>.

The following teaching suggestion from the above website is provided below:

"For Further Investigation..."

6. Ask students to compare and contrast Roosevelt's "Day of Infamy" address with Patrick Henry's "Liberty or Death" speech before the Virginia Convention. They should include the following suggestions:

- Describe the setting of each speech.

- Find examples in Henry's speech of allusion, hyperbole, onomatopoeia, rhetorical questioning, metaphor, repetition, and alliteration.
 - Examine Roosevelt's speech for examples of these literary devices.
 - Recognizing that both speeches are outstanding examples of war addresses, consider how they are different and how they are similar.
 - Decide why each of these speeches was effective.
 - Decide which speech you believe is most effective and explain why.
7. Ask students to interview a person who heard President Roosevelt deliver the "Day of Infamy" address and to write an article about the experience. Students should ask the following questions of the interviewee for their articles:
- a. How old were you and where were you at the time of the address?
 - b. What do you recall about your feelings toward U.S. involvement in the war before Pearl Harbor?
 - c. What were you doing when news of Pearl Harbor broke?
 - d. What was your reaction to the news of Pearl Harbor, and what, if anything, did you do upon hearing the news?
 - e. How did President Roosevelt sound making the speech?
 - f. What were your reactions to the speech in feelings and deeds?

The source of the above teaching suggestion is from:

<http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/day-of-infamy/activities.html>

Possible Connections to Other Subjects: This lesson has several correlations to language arts, especially relating to communication skills and listening techniques. Additionally, this lesson incorporates technology objectives and standards.

Name: _____

Eyewitness to History: History through the eyes that lived it

Introduction: This assignment is designed to introduce you to various topics that will be discussed concerning World War II. You will visit a website, where you will access sound files from radio broadcasts that were recorded during the years of World War II. Follow directions carefully and answer the questions after listening to your sound file and reading the accompanying page.

Directions:

1. Open an internet browser using Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, etc. In the address bar, type: **www.eyewitnesstohistory.com**

2. On the top panel, locate the tab labeled, "Voices". Click on that tab.

3. You should now be on a page entitled, "Voices of the 20th century." Scroll down and locate the topic that you were assigned at the beginning of this unit. Click on your topic to find more information and to answer the following questions.

4. What is the title of your radio broadcast? _____

5. On what date (month, day, and year) was this broadcast issued? ____

6. Read the summary surrounding your event. Briefly write about the events that the page describes. Fill all of the following lines. _____

7. Locate 5 words that may to unfamiliar to you or your fellow classmates and define them.

a. Word: _____ Definition: _____

b. Word: _____ Definition: _____

c. Word: _____ Definition: _____

d. Word: _____ Definition: _____

e. Word: _____ Definition: _____

8. What references are cited for the information provided? _____

9. Click on the radio broadcast and listen to the broadcast. Identify the speaker: _____
_____.

10. Click on the broadcast again. This time, as you are listening, write down one quote from the broadcast that moves you emotionally. _

11. Why did you choose this quote? Why was it emotional for you? ____

12. What audience is this broadcast intending to reach? _____

13. If you were listening to this broadcast in this time period, what emotions would it elicit from you? Why? _____

14. With what questions does this broadcast leave you? Come up with 3 questions that you would like to investigate further after listening to this broadcast.

a. Question #1: _____

b. Question #2: _____

c. Question #3: _____

15. What effect would this broadcast have on the military forces of the time period? _____

16. Is this broadcast's intention to convince it's listeners of a certain viewpoint? _____ What is that viewpoint? _____

17. How effective is this broadcast at convincing you of its viewpoint? ____

