

# SECOND WORLD WAR

no.203.078

Commemorative Issue

September 1945

## Students To Write Newspaper for Main Unit Assignment



### The War Has Just Ended...

You and your partner are editors of a newspaper tasked with putting together a special commemorative issue on the Second World War. This assignment should be completed on poster paper, which I will gladly provide.

The assignment has three main parts. The first part is a description of a major battle or turning point in the war.

The second section is an exposé on Canada's contributions to the war, both military and non-military. (Hint: this second section will come in handy when you study for the test because one of the essay questions will definitely be about Canada's contributions!)

The third part of the assignment is an Op-Ed on the following topic: "Is the use of weapons of mass destruction ever justified?"

Descriptions of each of these three parts are on the following pages.

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## Part I: Major Event or Turning Point

### Some Suggestions:

This section should contain interesting details about the event you are describing. Topics to cover in your article include who, where, what, when, casualties, what technologies were used during this event, etc. An important part of this article is telling your reader why this event was such a significant event of the war. And be sure to provide pictures that will really grab your reader's attention.

- Germany's blitzkrieg through Western Europe in 1940
- The Battle of Britain
- German invasion of the Soviet Union
- Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor
- Battle of Stalingrad
- The Italian Campaign
- D-Day
- Battle of the Bulge
- Battle of Berlin
- Or another event of your choice...



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## Part II: Canada's Contributions



This section is a commemoration of Canada's contributions to the war. Be sure to describe both military and non-military contributions. You will not be able to cover every contribution, so think **BIG PICTURE** and then choose a few examples to highlight your article.

In this article, you should consider how significant you think Canada's contributions were to the war. This is your chance to put in your own opinion, but be sure to back it up with examples!

Do not focus only on contributions made by members of the armed forces. Many Canadians, both at home and abroad, made valuable contributions to Canada's war effort.

And don't worry...I know that so far in class we have only discussed Canada's military contribution, but next week I will be sure to discuss other ways in which Canada contributed to the Allied victory.



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## Part III: Is the Use of Weapons of Mass Destruction Ever Justified?



This is an op-ed, which means “opposite editorial.” Op-eds are opinion pieces written by writers who are often not directly affiliated with the newspaper in which the article appears. For example, anyone can write an op-ed on a given topic and have it printed in the *Prince George Citizen*.

Essentially you are writing a persuasive article on whether or not weapons of mass destruction, such as nuclear bombs, should ever be used. There is no right or wrong answer as long as you can back up your position.

**REMEMBER!!!** You are writing in September 1945, so your article must make specific reference to the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. But you should not be talking about weapons of mass destruction that had not yet been invented in 1945.

Again, I know that we have not yet covered this topic, but we will in class on Friday. In the meantime, read **p. 150-151** of your textbook. This should help give you some ideas.

**Minimum word count for you op-ed is 300 words.**

**WIKIPEDIA HAS A GREAT ARTICLE ON THIS DEBATE. THE ARTICLE IS CALLED: “Debate over the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.”**

**IT HAS BOTH PRO AND CON ARGUMENTS. CHECK IT OUT!**

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## General Assignment Criteria

1. I have described the 3 parts that this assignment must have. However, you can choose to organize your newspaper however you want. In other words, the Canada's contribution section can make up your front page if you prefer.
2. You may work with a partner on this assignment or you can do it on your own. Choose your partner carefully, though, as you will both receive the same grade for the assignment.
3. The only section with a minimum word count is the op-ed (300 words). For the other two sections, the final word count will depend entirely on how many words it takes for you to provide the required information.
4. The final due date for this assignment is Tuesday 12 November. Unless you make prior arrangements with me, late assignments will be deducted 10% per every day late, up to a maximum of 50%.

