

Teaching Notes for Picture Post Reporter of 1945

An historical simulation based in May 1945

Age Range: 13 to Adult (some of the visual and written content is very graphic).

Duration: 3 to 6 hours

Resources: PC with internet connection, printer, Microsoft Word.

Students require headphones to listen to a sound file.

Aims:

- Students learn about the causes, key features and results of the Holocaust.
- Learning takes place through the directed discovery of information and this is more likely to be internalised and remembered because it is earned, rather than being passively absorbed.
- Students are encouraged to question how and why these shocking events could occur. In this way they honour the memory of those that perished and their sacrifice should contribute to a future where events of this type can never be allowed to happen again.

History Skills:

- Find, evaluate and select information from a variety of sources, including the internet.
- Use the internet and other resources to research and select information.
- Carry out a depth study through directed research.
- Development of historical empathy and the ability to view past situations from contemporary perspectives.

Picture Post Reporter of 1945 is an historical simulation that places the user into the role of a reporter for Picture Post magazine in May 1945.

It is recommended that students use the simulation prior to any detailed teaching about the Holocaust.

VE Day is being celebrated in Britain, but dark stories are emerging about the discovery of Nazi death camps.

The user is taken on a journey of self-discovery as they piece together the story of the Holocaust. For this reason, it is advised that users are NOT taught anything about the events of the Holocaust prior to using this simulation. Knowledge of the persecution of the Jews in Germany before 1939, would however, be historically consistent with the aims of this simulation.

Using the Simulation

The simulation is divided into three main sections, designed to be undertaken in a specific order.

Lublin and Belzec Camp.

Warsaw, the Warsaw Ghetto and Uprising, Treblinka Camp.

The Romany and Bergen-Belsen Camp.

Each section provides a Word documents that can be used as a template to write up the users report for their Editor.

The simulation begins with a brief **introduction to VE Day** and the end of the war in Europe.

There is a **Main Menu** that introduces the task and that provides access to the three parts of the simulation. From here users can research Lublin, Warsaw or the Romany.

Detailed written information is provided in the form of hyper-links to carefully selected websites, which open within the simulation. Please note that some of the content has the potential to be shocking and upsetting, such as the burial of children whilst they were still alive.

It is recommended that students spend one lesson researching one of the three sections, followed by a lesson preparing their article for the editor of Picture Post magazine.

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