

**World War II: Total War from Guernica to Nagasaki****Part A**

Directions: Prepare a short oral report of between three and four minutes on your assigned topic. Also create at least FIVE visuals to use during the presentation. If you have one of the first five topics, include places involved, strategies, aims, weaponry, civilian involvement, cities burned, and the use of science and technology. Include a title slide.

A hard-copy of the presentation must be given to SiR on the day of the presentation. It must be typed, double-spaced, with 12pt Ariel or Times New Roman font. A proper heading including all the names and seat numbers of your group must be included. The visuals used in the presentation must be emailed to SiR at steve.rosenberg@abcusd.us BEFORE 6:00 pm on the day BEFORE the presentations. All material sent after 6:00 PM will not be processed and will not get credit. Please send at a PowerPoint or Google Slide format presentation.

Topics

1. Background of warfare in the following earlier war: The Seven Years' War, the Napoleonic Wars, the Crimean War.
2. Warfare in Guernica, Shanghai, and Ethiopia in the 1930s.
3. The Axis blitzkrieg and the Battle of Britain with a focus on London and Warsaw.
4. World War II in the Soviet Union with a focus on Leningrad, Stalingrad, and Moscow.
5. The Allies' revenge with a focus on Dresden, Berlin, Tokyo, Hiroshima, and Nagasaki.
6. A profile of the major countries involved in World War II, the numbers mobilized, overall strategy of each side, and equipment used.
7. A statistical profile of World War II: military and civilian casualties worldwide, cost of war, countries damaged.
8. The Axis war on civilians, with emphasis on the murder of civilians. The Holocaust, Japanese prisoners of war, interment of Homosexuals, the genocide of Slavs and Romani (Gypsies).
9. Government planning during the war with a focus on Germany and the United States.
10. Life on the home front under government guidelines in the United States and Germany, including treatment of dissenters.

Part B.

Directions: Based on your discussion of both the military and civilian aspects of World War II, your group will write two letters on the bombing of Dresden. Write the first letter from the point of view of General Dwight Eisenhower, Supreme Allied Commander in Europe, to his wife Mamie at their home in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Write the second letter from the perspective of Friedrich Schultz, a Dresden baker, to his son serving at the front with the German army. Try to capture the feelings of each on the concept of total war.

It must be typed, double-spaced, with 12pt Ariel or Times New Roman font. A proper heading including all the names and seat numbers of your group must be included. Each letter should be approximately 150 to 250 words.

Part C.

Directions: Write a thesis statement on the concept of total war in World War II. Be prepared to read it to the class and to be questioned about it.

CHECK THE BACK FOR DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Upcoming Discussion Questions

1. Why do governments need civilian support for war?
2. How do governments rally their people to war?
3. What factors make total war possible?
4. Why would civilians enthusiastically support a total war effort against another country?
5. How would a civilian population react as recipients of total war?
6. What are the advantages and disadvantages of total war from a military perspective?
7. What are the advantages and disadvantages of total war from a civilian perspective?
8. What form would total war take today?