

GALLERY 3: THE SECOND WORLD WARS

The Teacher's Answer Key is a tool intended to help teachers correct worksheets or continue the discussion in the classroom.

Students should be able to answer all of the questions by looking closely at artifacts, images or dioramas, and reading the related exhibition text. In some cases, they will be asked to formulate opinions based on what they have learned.

For each question, teachers will find information to help students find the answer in the gallery, as well as contextual information pulled from the exhibitions.

ACTIVITY SHEET ANSWER KEY

1

**How did you react when you saw Hitler's car?
Why do you think you felt that way?**

Student Action:

Students will observe Hitler's car in its display and reflect on their personal reactions. They will examine the context in which the car is displayed (imagery, lighting, information), and consider their own knowledge and experiences to develop their answers.

Answer:

Open-ended.



2

Why might someone call the car a symbol of evil?

Student Action:

Students will examine the artifacts, images and text panels relating to Hitler's car.

Answer:

The car was one of many propaganda tools used by Hitler and the Nazi party in imposing a ruthless dictatorial system on Germany.

Additional Information:

After coming to power in 1933, Adolf Hitler and his National Socialist (Nazi) Party imposed a ruthless dictatorial system on Germany. This black armoured Mercedes Benz limousine, which Hitler used as a parade car, helped to propagate this regime's image of strength, power, and modernity. Captured by American troops in 1945 and brought to Canada a few years later, this car recalls one of history's most brutal and murderous dictatorships.

3

In the Air Training section, find the Class of 41 graduation photo. What does the X mean? Out of the 11 graduates, how many have an X?

Student Action:

Students will look at the image and read the related text.

Answer:

Training prepared students for deadly combat. This photo, taken upon graduation from a school in Mossbank, Saskatchewan, indicates with an X those young men who were killed overseas during the war.

Seven were killed in total.

Additional Information:

Australia, Britain, Canada, and New Zealand agreed to a massive joint training scheme in December 1939 called the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan (BCATP). The plan trained more than 131,500 flying personnel in Canada for the Allied air forces, including bombers, gunners, navigators, wireless operators, and pilots. Canada became, in the words of American President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the 'Aerodrome of Democracy.' Its vast open spaces made it a natural flying school.

4

Look at the "Carley Float" life raft and the painting Passing? then complete these sentences:

Our ship was sunk because

It was so on the water that I

We survived by

Student Action:

To fill in the blanks, students will draw inspiration from the artifacts and the related text.

Answer:

Open-ended.

Additional Information:

Passing?

Painted by Harold Beament around 1944

Beaverbrook Collection of War Art

CWM 19710261-1042

In this painting by Harold Beament, these men, fortunate enough to be on a Carley float, signal hopefully to a distant warship for rescue.

5

What toys can you find in the Home Front section? What do the toys tell you about being a child during the Second World War?

Student Action:

Students will examine the games and read the related text.

Answer:

Comic Books

Comic books were immensely popular. In this example, Johnny Canuck fought Nazi oppression using only his fists and Canadian courage.

Model Airplanes

Children learned about different aspects of the war, in this instance the air war, in school and through their hobbies.

'Carrying the Tools to Britain'

This educational game helped children understand Canada's industries and natural resources, and emphasized the hazards of the war at sea.

Be an Airman

Played like snakes and ladders, this game allowed players to progress from untrained recruits with the BCATP in Canada to Victoria Cross-winning bomber pilots.

Puzzles

These two puzzles demonstrate to children the role of the Canadian Army overseas. They depict a Ram tank, made in Montreal and used mainly for training purposes.

6

Check out what sort of things were recycled more than 60 years ago. Why was recycling important then?

Student Action:

Students will consider the artifacts, images and text relating to recycling on the home front during the Second World War.

Answer:

Canadians of all ages recycled household products and waste. A national campaign encouraged Canadians to save fats, bones, aluminum, tin foil, rags, glass, rubber, metal saucepans, iron fences, and used clothing. These were then recycled into armaments, munitions, and other essential war supplies.

Additional Information:

Canadian children gave money to Victory Loan Campaigns, scavenged for recyclable materials, played with war-related games and toys, and, due to rationing, lived without their favourite foods. As family members and friends enlisted or entered the labour force, children became more independent. At the same time, they bore the loneliness of extended absences of their loved ones. Sometimes, children learned first-hand the painful cost of war.



7

D-Day was the start of the Allied invasion of France. Get in the landing craft and watch the video. What's one thing that stands out about it?

Student Action:

Students will watch the video of Canadian soldiers going ashore during the D-Day invasions.

Answer:

Open-ended.

Additional Information:

On 6 June 1944, Canada participated as a full partner with the United States and the United Kingdom in the greatest amphibious invasion in history, code-named Operation Overlord but generally known as D-Day. Some 14,000 Canadians were among the nearly 150,000 Allied troops who landed or parachuted along the invasion area. Step aboard the next landing craft and accompany Canadian troops as they hit the heavily defended beaches on this historic day.

Allied naval forces that included 110 Canadian warships and 10,000 sailors supported the Normandy landings. Canadian ships and sailors helped protect the invasion fleet, cleared German minefields, bombarded German coastal positions, and ferried Allied troops across the Channel.

On D-Day, Canadian soldiers landed on the beach code-named 'Juno'. They encountered German defences bristling with artillery, machine guns, mines, and booby-traps. For most, it was their first experience of actual combat. Canadians suffered 1,074 casualties on 6 June 1944, including 359 killed.



8

Find these children. How old do you think they were? What do you think happened to them?

Student Action:

Students will locate and examine the images, and read the related texts. Based on what they learn, they can develop their answers.

Answer:

Open-ended.

Additional Information:

Dutch Children

Suffering through an awful “Hunger Winter,” Dutch civilians were the grateful recipients of Operation Manna. Beginning on 29 April, hundreds of American and British bombers dropped 11,000 tons of food over previously occupied Dutch cities. Canadians of the RCAF’s 405 Squadron served as pathfinders on several Manna missions, marking drop zones for the British bombers.

German Boys

In a desperate attempt to augment its declining numbers, the German military conscripted civilians in 1945, many of them boys and old men, into the Deutschen Volkssturm, or German People’s Militia. Poorly trained, inadequately armed, and unpaid unless in combat, the Volkssturm lacked both ability and motivation. Although the relentlessly advancing Allies still faced pockets of fierce resistance, Nazi Germany was clearly finished.



9

How might the Second World War have affected these people?

1. A young Englishwoman who married a Canadian soldier
2. A Canadian factory worker
3. A Dutch child
4. A Canadian prisoner of war in Japan

Possible effects (choose 2 for each person)

- A. Found love
- B. Moved to a new country
- C. Worked in a new industry
- D. Lived with rationing and fundraising for the war effort
- E. Experienced war at home, including starvation
- F. Met Canadians as liberators
- G. Spent years doing hard, forced labour
- H. Endured starvation and sickness

Student Action:

Students will determine their answers by examining the artifacts, images and text in the final sections of Gallery 3.

Answer:

1 = A + B

2 = C + D

3 = E + F

4 = G + H

10

What was your favourite part of this gallery? Give one reason why.

Student Action:

Students will reflect on all they have learned in Gallery 3.

Answer:

Open-ended.