

Churchill's Leadership in WWII

(Or.. If Churchill doesn't belong in the Hall of Fame – who does?)

Lesson Outline

Goals/State Standards

- Describe and evaluate the evolution of United States domestic and foreign policy from Reconstruction to the present. SS3 1.8, 2.1
- Examine the wars of the twentieth century pertinent to U.S. history including causes, comparisons, consequences, and peace efforts. SS3 1.2, 1.8
- Develop a research plan and identify appropriate resources for investigating social studies topics. SS7 1.2, 1.4, 4.1

Learning Objectives

- Students will identify key leaders in World War II.
- Students will complete a project that supports Winston Churchill's leadership during World War II by naming him the first inductee into a WWII Hall of Fame.
- Students will compare Churchill's leadership in WWII to other leaders of the War by evaluating the contributions of them and contrasting them with Churchill's.
- Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of World War II and identify the important people of WWII and explain their challenges or accomplishments.

Prerequisites

Students should have begun a study of the causes and early events of World War II either through assigned reading(s) or classroom discussions.

Materials needed

- Textbooks with relevant information to the lesson.
- Resource materials in the way of biographical encyclopedias, resource books, biographies of key people, and/or computers with internet access.
- Assignment sheets for the baseball card project and scoring guides.
- Assignment sheets/scoring guides for the Hall of Fame proposals.

Lesson Description

Students will participate in a classroom review and discussion of key leaders of World War II, and in particular, Churchill's role in World War II. The point is to argue that although there were many leaders during World War II, Winston Churchill's background and political position made him uniquely qualified to be the leader of the Allies during WWII. Students will supplement classroom discussion with their own research.

Lesson Procedure

I. Introduction

- Review with students the events that led to WWII and who some of the leaders were up to that point.
- Discuss the quote by Churchill... *"I felt as if I was walking with destiny, and that all my past life had been but a preparation for this hour and this trial."*
- Ask students why Churchill might say such a thing? What were the events in Churchill's life that prepared him for the "trial?" Challenge them with the idea that Winston Churchill was the right person at the right time to lead the Allies during World War II. How would they prove or disprove this challenge?
- Discuss a "Hall of Fame" and how people get in the Hall of Fame. Suggest that for today's lesson, Winston Churchill will be the first leader of WWII to go into the Hall of Fame. We will show both why he should be the first and we will propose other leaders who may belong as well.

II. Main Activity

- Students will be provided with two assignments:
 1. Create a "baseball card" of Winston Churchill (instructions provided)
 2. Create a proposal of other "Hall of Famers" of World War II listing reasons why they belong with Churchill in the Hall of Fame. (instructions provided)
 3. Students will be given appropriate time for the completion of the tasks with a discussion to follow.

III. Conclusion/Closure

- Students will present their arguments as to why Churchill should go into the Hall of Fame first.
- Students will make a group list (example: on the board) of leaders deserving recognition in one column and their contribution to the War another column.
- The class will summarize their findings and vote to defend Churchill's position as the leader of the Allies during World War II.

Assessment/Evaluation

- Students will be evaluated based on two separate scoring guides
 1. Scoring guide for the baseball card project
 2. Scoring guide for the Hall of Fame proposals.

WINSTON CHURCHILL BASEBALL CARD PROJECT

OBJECTIVE:

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Complete each of the following steps:

THE BASEBALL CARD (200 points) Create a baseball card biography of Winston Churchill. The following are the directions for creating both sides of your baseball card.

FRONT: On the front of your card, include the following information: (60points)

1. His name - printed in a creative way.
2. Freehand drawing/painting of Churchill **OR** a key event from his life. Someone else can create this drawing; however, you must give him or her full credit for their work.
3. A symbol which you feel best represents Churchill. (his life, actions, or beliefs)
4. A motto, which you create, based on Churchill's life or values, reflecting how he contributed to the history of WWII.

BACK: On the back of your card include the following information: (140points)

1. Churchill's name.
2. Date of birth and date of death.
3. A one sentence summary of his career.
4. A life chronology. (list 10 key events in his life – NOT including birth & death)
5. Identify places Churchill lived or was most often associated with during WWII.
6. Identify and explain the primary challenges he faced (during WWII).
7. Based on your research, identify the things Churchill contributed to WWII. What was his role leading up to and/or during WWII?
8. Based on your research, describe his personality or character.
9. Find a well-known quote by Winston Churchill.
10. Was he a success? Why or why not?
11. Make a two or three sentence argument as to why you believe Winston Churchill was "the" leader of the Allies during WWII and why you believe he should be the first inductee into the World War II leaders' Hall of Fame.
12. **BIBLIOGRAPHY: LIST ALL SOURCES USED TO COMPLETE THIS PROJECT!**
13. Neatness and creativity is a part of your grade.

WINSTON CHURCHILL - BASEBALL CARD PROJECT

Scoring Guide

Front:

- | | | |
|---|-----------------|-------|
| 1. Name. | 10 pts possible | _____ |
| 2. Freehand drawing/painting | 20 pts possible | _____ |
| 3. A symbol which you feel best represents him. | 10 pts possible | _____ |
| 4. A motto based on his life or values | 20 pts possible | _____ |

Back:

- | | | |
|--|-----------------|-------|
| 1. Name | 5 pts possible | _____ |
| 2. Date of birth and date of death. | 5 pts possible | _____ |
| 3. A one sentence summary of his career. | 10pts possible | _____ |
| 4. 10 key events or turning points | 20pts possible | _____ |
| 5. places he lived or was associated | 10pts possible | _____ |
| 6. challenges he faced | 10pts possible | _____ |
| 7. Contribution to or role in World War II | 10pts possible | _____ |
| 8. personality or character | 10pts possible | _____ |
| 9. a well-known quote | 10pts possible | _____ |
| 10. Was he a success? Why or why not? | 10pts possible | _____ |
| 11. Your argument about his leadership | 20 pts possible | _____ |
| 12. BIBLIOGRAPHY | 10pts possible | _____ |
| 13. Neatness and creativity | 10pts possible | _____ |

(Project: 200 pts possible) **TOTAL POINTS:** _____

Proposal for: WWII Allies "Hall of Fame"

Instructions: From the list of Allied leaders below, select ten to write an imaginary "proposal" listing reason why you believe this person should be selected as the first inductee into the "Hall of Fame" of World War II leaders.

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Franklin D. Roosevelt | Neville Chamberlain |
| Charles de Gaulle | Harry S. Truman |
| George C. Marshall | George Patton |
| Dwight D. Eisenhower | Douglas Mac Arthur |
| Bernard L. Montgomery | Omar N. Bradley |
| Henry Stinson | Cordell Hull |
| Joseph Stalin | Anthony C. McAuliffe |
| Henry J. Kaiser | Bob Hope |

Your "proposal" should include the following – for each of the 10 you select:

1. The name of the person, where they were from, and their role in World War II. 5 pts
2. Two or three sentences describing their contribution to the War effort. 10 pts
3. Why you believe they should be the first inductee into the Hall of Fame. 10 pts

(25 pts for each person) TOTAL POINTS 250 pts