

Extension Activity and Grading Rubric

Reporting World War II

According to historian Stephen Ambrose, the author of *Band of Brothers*, World War II was the greatest event of the twentieth century because “It changed everything. It was also the best reported war, ever. The men and women who covered the war told Americans who was winning, and why, and who did the fighting, and how.”

Reporting World War II: American Journalism, The Library of America, Penguin Putnam Inc, 2001.

It is your turn to report from war front. In groups of two or three, or as an individual, select one battle and one reporting style from the list below to report back to the home front.

	Battles	Journalistic Style
1	Kristallnacht/Start of the Holocaust	Newspaper Report
2	Blitzkrieg in Poland	Live Radio Report
3	Battle of Britain	Newsreel
4	Siege of Stalingrad	
5	Pearl Harbor	
6	Battle of Midway	
7	Battle of El Alamein	
8	D-DAY Invasion	
9	Battle of the Bulge	
10	Battle of Iwo Jima/Okinawa	

Each report must include the following items:

1. Who was involved?
2. What happened?
3. Why did this event take place?
4. How did it affect the war?
5. Quotes – at least two quotes from soldiers or military leaders about the battle.
6. Bibliography – Keep an accurate MLS formatted bibliography that will be turned in on presentation day.

Research and Presentation: Research the selected battle and design a news report in the style selected to share with the class.

Reporting the War Rubric

Correct interpretation of event	Quote	Bibliography	Journalistic Style	Score
The news report is not complete and does not address the who, what, when, where and how of the battle.	No quote is provided from a soldier or military leader at the battle.	No bibliography is included.	No journalistic style selected.	0
The news report does not provide an accurate interpretation of the who, what, when, where, and how of the battle.	The news report does not include quotes from the soldiers or military leaders at the battle	A MLA style bibliography is not included. Only a limited bibliography is included.	The journalistic style is not well prepared and accurately delivered.	1
The news report provides a mostly accurate interpretation of the who, what, when, where, and how of the battle.	The news report provides one or two quotes from a soldier or military leaders at the battle.	An accurate MLA style bibliography is included with only minor style mistakes.	The journalistic style is prepared and is mostly accurately delivered.	2
The news report provides an accurate interpretation of the who, what, when, where, and how of the battle.	The news report provides two quotes from a soldier or a military leader that provides insight into the battle.	An accurate MLA style bibliography is included.	The journalistic style is well prepared and accurately delivered.	3
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