

A Century of War:

Past and Present Hostilities



Reflective Questions and Issues

1. What were the causes and effects of this war at home and abroad? (How was it fought? How was it different from/How was it the same as other wars?)
2. How was Canadian society changed by this war (for better and for worse— e.g., women won the right to vote in WWI, loss of young men, etc.)?
3. Who fought this war? In what ways were men and women affected by their participation?
4. Should people be forced to fight for Canada? What are some of the implications of conscription? How should a democracy treat conscientious objectors and deserters?
5. What moral dilemmas does a democracy face when it goes to war (e.g., censorship, conscription, use of animals, bombing of cities, internment of Canadian citizens and landed immigrants, treatment of POWs)?
6. What are some of the injustices that arise from modern mass warfare? How are the rights of the individual to be considered versus the right of the state to defend itself against an enemy?
7. Has this war changed the civil rights of the Canadians who have served?
8. Is protest against war permissible during wartime? Are there limits?
9. Is there such a thing as a “just war”? What war aims are justified?

A Century of War:

Past and Present Hostilities



Reflective Questions and Issues

- 10.** What role should men, women and children play in a war?
- 11.** What can Canada or individual citizens do to stop wars? Should we prevent weapons of mass destruction from being built or used?
- 12.** How do we treat war criminals? Should we prosecute them?
- 13.** How should we remember this war (e.g., monuments, days of remembrance, parades)?
- 14.** How did wars change over this “century of war”?