 Assessment task – The Nuclear Age 1945-2011

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**Purpose of task:** Magazine Feature Article

Outcomes

Students:

* MH12-4 analyses the different perspectives of individuals and groups in their historical context
* MH12-5 assesses the significance of historical features, people, ideas, movements, events and developments of the modern world
* MH12-6 analyses and interprets different types of sources for evidence to support an historical account or argument
* MH12-7 discusses and evaluates differing interpretations and representations of the past
* MH12-8 plans and conducts historical investigations and presents reasoned conclusions, using relevant evidence from a range of sources
* MH12-9 communicates historical understanding, using historical knowledge, concepts and terms, in appropriate and well-structured forms

Objectives

Knowledge and understanding

Students:

* KU-1 Develop knowledge and understanding of a range of features, people, ideas, movements, events and developments of the modern world in their historical context.

Skills:

Students:

* SK-1 undertake the process of historical inquiry.
* SK-2 use historical concepts and skills to examine the modern past.
* SK-3 communicate their understanding of history, sources and evidence, and historical interpretations.

Values and Attitudes:

Students:

* VA-1 appreciate the influence of the past on the present and the future.

Learning across the curriculum

Cross-curriculum priorities

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures

Sustainability

General capabilities

Critical and creative thinking

Ethical understanding

Intercultural understanding

Literacy

Numeracy

Other areas of learning

Civics and citizenship

Task Description

You have been asked to contribute to History Magazine’s ‘Nuclear: The good, the bad and the ugly’ special edition. Your task is to create a 1500-word feature article that addresses **one** of the following topics:

* Compare the human and environmental impact of the nuclear testing programs of at least **two** of the following countries from 1945-2011:
  + Britain
  + Unites States of America
  + Soviet Union/USSR/Russia
  + France
* A case study of **one** of the major testing programs in detail, either:
  + Britain
  + Unites States of America
  + Soviet Union/USSR/Russia
  + France
* A comparison of the impact of the Chernobyl and Fukushima critical incidents
* Benefits and risk of using nuclear energy
* Issues of nuclear proliferation relating to Israel, India, Pakistan, Iran and North Korea
* The legacy of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki nuclear strikes

Your article should feature the standard elements of a feature article, including:

* Headline and subheadings
* Images relating to the article
* A range of sources as evidence
* Pull-quotes (highlighted excerpts from the text to draw attention)
* Sidebar (section for statistics, related info etc…)
* Argumentative tone – the aim is to persuade the reader of your thesis.
* Footnotes/Endnotes, formatted using correct academic style.
* Correct bibliography.

Articles will be collated at the end of the unit into a class magazine.

Marking Criteria

| Criteria | Marks |
| --- | --- |
| * presents a clear and considered thesis based on a sophisticated, sustained and logical response to the chosen issue * demonstrates detailed and accurate historical knowledge relevant to the chosen issue * presents their ideas in a sophisticated manner, using appropriate elements of a feature article * carefully selects a range of relevant sources and incorporates them into the article with sophistication * includes a thoroughly detailed and well formatted bibliography | 21-25 |
| * presents a clear thesis based on a sustained and logical response to the chosen issue * demonstrates a range of accurate historical knowledge relevant to the chosen issue * presents their ideas in a high level manner, using appropriate elements of a feature article * selects relevant sources and incorporates them into the article effectively * includes a detailed and well formatted bibliography | 16-20 |
| * presents a relevant thesis based on a logical response to the chosen issue * demonstrates accurate historical knowledge relevant to the chosen issue * presents their ideas in an adequate manner, using appropriate elements of a feature article * selects relevant sources and incorporates them into the article adequately * includes an appropriately formatted bibliography | 11-15 |
| * presents a simple thesis that is relevant to the chosen issue * demonstrates some accurate historical knowledge relevant to the chosen issue * presents their ideas in a basic manner, using some appropriate elements of a feature article * selects some sources and incorporates them into the article * includes a bibliography | 6-10 |
| * presents a response to the chosen issue * demonstrates some basic historical knowledge relevant to the chosen issue * presents their ideas in a basic manner, attempting to create an article * includes few or no relevant sources * does not include a bibliography | 1-5 |
| * Not submitted or not submitted on time | 0 |