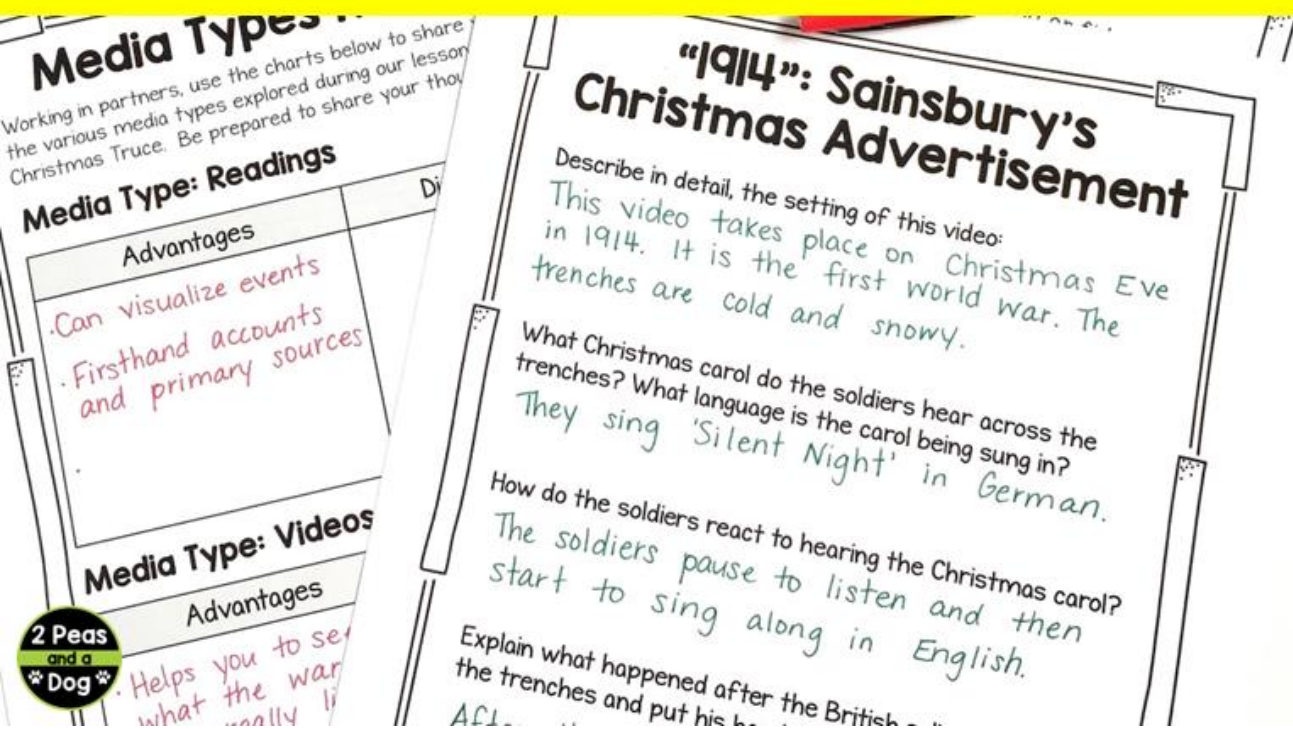


CHRISTMAS TRUCE OF 1914 MEDIA ANALYSIS

PDF & DIGITAL FORMATS




2 Peas and a Dog

Middle School Teaching Resources

RESOURCE INCLUDES

- ✓ 5 Lessons
- ✓ Teacher Instructions
- ✓ Reader's Theatre Script
- ✓ Analysis Tasks
- ✓ Answer Keys
- ✓ Assessment Options
- ✓ Print & Digital Formats

WHAT'S INSIDE?



LESSON #1



Christmas Truce

Lesson Overview:

Students will gather background knowledge on the Christmas Truce event to help them analyze the material in future lessons.

Materials Needed:

- Website, YouTube Channel, or
- Printout of a copy of 'The Christmas Truce' graphic organizer.

Teacher Instructions:

1. Read the article 'The Christmas Truce' from the [Veterans Affairs](#) website.
2. Watch the short documentary about this event from the [History Channel](#) or [YouTube](#).
3. Have students complete 'The Christmas Truce' graphic organizer.

IEP Accommodations:

- Allow students with an IEP to have the website content read to them using a screen reading tool. Students can also watch the videos more than once.

SAMPLE ANSWERS

Who was involved in this event?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ German and British soldiers
What happened during this event?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Soldiers on both sides put down their weapons and celebrated Christmas together.
Where did this event happen?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Western Front (France and Belgium)▪ This was the main area of fighting during World War I.
When did this event happen?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ December 25, 1914
Why did this event happen?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Soldiers were tired of fighting and wanted a break.
How did this event happen?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Men called out from both sides and they asked each other not to fire. The men gathered in no man's land to exchange gifts and hang out.
Had you heard of this event before today? What did you think as you were reading the text?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Student responses will vary depending on their personal knowledge about World War I.

LESSON PLANS

ANSWER KEYS

WHAT'S INSIDE?



THE CHRISTMAS TRUCE OF 1914

Readers' Theatre

Characters:

1. Narrator
2. British Soldier 1
3. British Soldier 2
4. German Soldier 1
5. German Soldier 2

Narrator: It was the Christmas of 1914, in the midst of World War I, and four British soldiers were trying to keep warm by a small fire on the Western Front. British and German soldiers were fighting in the trenches and had been for almost half a year now. It was Christmas Eve, and everyone was missing their families back home.

(Soldiers from both sides are shown in their trenches, looking sad and lonely.)

READER'S THEATRE

British Soldier 2: I know we are fighting for our country, but I wish there were a way to celebrate Christmas together.

Narrator: Suddenly, a beautiful sound filled the air.

(The sound of people singing the German song "Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht" can be heard in the background.)

British Soldier 1: What's that sound?

British Soldier 2: It sounds like the Germans.

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The Christmas Truce

Who was involved in this event?

What happened during this event?

Where did this event happen?

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

How did this event happen?

Had you heard of this event before today? What did you think as you were reading the text?

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WHAT'S INSIDE?



"1914": Sainsbury's Christmas Advertisement

Describe the setting of this video:

What Christmas carol do the soldiers sing in the trenches? What language is the carol in?

How do you think the soldiers felt?

Explain what happened after the truce and put his hands up.

Media Types Reflections

Working in partners, use the charts below to share your thoughts on the various media types explored during our lessons on The Christmas Truce. Be prepared to share your thoughts with the class.

Media Type: Readings

Advantages	Disadvantages

Media Type: Videos

Advantages	Disadvantages

GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS

Assessment	Below Expectations	Meets Expectations	Above Expectations
	✓-	✓	✓+

What does the phrase "Christmas is for sharing" mean to you? Explain in detail below using examples or connections.

Oral Presentation Success Criteria

Level 4

- Level 3 criteria fulfilled
- Audience interest and attention

ASSESSMENT OPTIONS

- Presentation not prepared
- Lack of interest and/or enthusiasm

Level 1

- Additional teacher support required to achieve success

Feedback:

WHAT'S INSIDE?



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Media Type: Readings

Advantages	Disadvantages

Assessment	Below Expectations	Meets Expectations	Above Expectations
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What does the phrase "Christmas is for sharing" mean to you? Explain in detail below using examples or connections.

REFLECTION & ANALYSIS ACTIVITIES

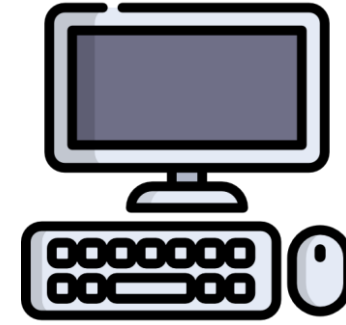
Advantages	Disadvantages

LESSON FORMATS



PDF

✓ Individual & Whole Unit



DIGITAL

✓ Google Slides

RESOURCE CAN BE USED IN-PERSON OR ONLINE