

Grade 9 History

World War II Movie Task

World War II has definitely made a mark in history, and the events that occurred before, during and after the war have left a lasting impression on historians. But it is not only historians who find the subject interesting. Hollywood has made various movies about the events and there have been countless books, songs and poems written about it.

Unfortunately, not all movies, songs and books are based on facts or truth. And, often times, they 'romanticise' history to sell their art or film, and the information in their work is not always correct. As history students you must always be aware of what is true, and what is not.

During the March holidays you need to watch a movie related to World War II. Please check the age restriction first to make sure you are entitled to watch it. The movie can be from any perspective about the war, based on any time during, before or after the war, and about any country. It must be related to World War II (and the main theme must be about World War II). Below is a list of possible suggestions for movies. You are welcome to watch a movie not listed here, but it must be about World War II.

As you watch it, do it with the perspective that you are studying the subject in school, and that movies are not always factual. Even historical documentaries are not always accurate, or they just hide information in order to influence the viewers.

Please answer the questions which follow below, and submit them when you return to school.

Movie Suggestions:

Pearl Harbour	Stalingrad (1933	Schindler's List
The Book Thief	version or 2013 version)	The Monuments Men
Flags of our Fathers	Enemy at the Gates	Land of Mine
The Longest Day	Darkest Hour	Defiance
Battle of Britain	The Pianist	Alone in Berlin
Battle of Sevastopol	The Counterfeiters	Downfall
Midway	The Boy in the Striped	Valkyrie
T-34	Pyjamas	Fury
A Bridge too far	Black Book	Dunkirk
Sophie Scholl – The	The Imitation Game	
Final Days	Das Boot	

Questions to answer:

1. What is the name of the movie? 1
2. Provide an outline of the plot (about 3 sentences). 3
3. From which perspective was the movie created? Take note of which countries were portrayed as heroes and villains. 4
4. There are many aspects of war (such as the actual fighting, the politics at home, the logistics behind the war, or even the citizens having to cope with things in the cities). Which aspect of the war was the focus in the movie? 2
5. What year/date/time was the movie portrayed in? Where in the WWII timeline does this fit in (the beginning of the war, during the war etc)? 2
6. Was this movie based on a true story/event, or is it just a fictional film about WWII? 1
7. Was there something in the film that sounded/seemed inaccurate compared to the real events (such as technology being too advanced at the time, or an event that was wrongly portrayed)? 2
8. Do some of your own research, and see if the movie portrayed events correctly, and if all the facts were correct. If the facts were correct, elaborate on this. If some aspects were incorrect, state what was wrong and correct the information. Report this information in a paragraph. 5

TOTAL: 20 MARKS