Name:

Social Studies 10

***Over the Top: An interactive look at WWI Trenches***

1. Define the following terms:

Western front: the area of military operations during the First World War which ran from Belgium, through northern France, and to the Swiss border.

Duck-boards: floor sections made of wooden slats which can be laid on wet, muddy or cold surfaces

Webbing: a type of military back-pack, made of sturdy canvas and containing numerous pouches for carrying the ammunition, water bottle, bayonet, food, clothing and personal belongings of a soldier.

Parapet: the inner wall of a trench, made of earth and wood and topped with sandbags, to protect soldiers.

Platoon: a unit of soldiers, normally consisting of 50 men.

Dugout: shelter dug on the side of a trench, in the ground, used as living quarters, for storage of supplies or for protection.

1. Describe how the simulation illustrates the trenches? What did you learn about that we have not yet discussed in class?

The simulation is a good way of learning how the trenches were like for soldiers from world war 1. I learned that when you just a little of yourself or if you grab your hand out to pick up a box of cigarette, you will get shot at especially from the deadly German snipers. Something I have learned from this stimulation that have not been discussed is that when allies came back from a raid, they always had a special word that let them through back to the trench.,

1. How many times did you die? What decisions kept you safe in the trenches? What decisions could put your life in jeopardy?

I died once in the simulation because instead of playing safe. I decided to reach for the cigarette box and got shoot by a deadly German snipe. I went for the box because the cigarette box could’ve been traded for better things since cigarettes were valuable in the trenches. Safest decisions were the best to do especially following your leader. In the raid there was a part where you could find a new way or just go through the barb wires. Going another route was the safest decision because it felt right and safer to find a secret route. I felt like if I go through the barbed wires the Germans will detect us.

1. Earlier in the unit we discussed how many soldiers saw the war as an adventure and opportunity. Was this the case in the simulation? Describe how a soldier understanding of war may have changed.

Many soldiers went to war because they thought it was an opportunity to fix their financial problems, come back as a hero, or go on an adventure. However, I think their thought about was changed after experiencing the early stages of the war. Many soldiers were treated poorly and got diseases and bacteria especially on their foot. Many soldiers weren’t fed very well, and they barely got sleep (maximum 4 hours). Reading the letters of soldier writing back to their families. I have learned that the soldiers didn’t write anything positive but all negatives.