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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?

That it was cramped inside the dugouts, bodies unburied,

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

5 times, just taking no major risks, not trying to fire the machine gun and not digging

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 soldiers understanding of war may have changed: from a happy and think having a chance of travelling overseas instead of marching gloriously in to Germany, they were stuck in a muddy trench ever since they came to France, There were no dashing cavalry charges, no cheers from grateful citizens and no prizes to be won.

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