



Year 8

Second World War Independent Project



What is the project?

This project is your homework for the entire term. It will also act as your History assessment for the term and will be both teacher and peer assessed. It will be graded at Pass, Merit or Distinction level. The project can be a topic of your choice related to the Second World War. However, should you wish to choose any aspect of The Holocaust, or the life of an individual you must speak to your class teacher first.

Past topics have included:

- Use of Animals during the War
- The Women's Land Army
- Changes in entertainment
- Rationing
- Evacuation of Dunkirk
- Home Front
- Alan Turing and Bletchley Park
- Developments in weaponry
- The Blitz
- The impact of the War in Malta
- The Battle of Britain
- The Pacific War
- How did music change during World War Two?
- Evacuation
- The Enigma Code
- The influence of the War on Japan (examined through political cartoons)
- Family History

Think carefully about the topic you are going to do as you will be spending the next six weeks studying it.

All projects must be handed in on Tuesday 23rd April. Please hand them in to your teacher at either break or lunchtime in L11.

How to do your project

One of the most important things in doing this project is to plan your time well. To help you do this, you can fill in a log to record your progress, which you could show your teacher. You can find an example log on page 4 of this booklet.

Where to find information and resources

Go to the school or local library to get books and/or search the Internet for information. The BBC History website is a good starting point for many topics. You will have a lesson in the Library with Mrs Fenton who will show you how to make the best use of books and the Internet. If you find books which you would like to recommend to the Cheney Library, please let Mrs Fenton know – you will be entered into a recommenders' prize draw.

Take notes and put the information into your own words. **Strictly no cutting and pasting of words please – you are of course welcome to cut and paste images.** You don't need to copy down information word for word but should write down key words, dates, facts and quotations for later use.

Organise what you have found out into factual information and explanation of why things happened. Make a formal plan, saying what you plan to put into each paragraph. Decide what the key points are which you want to get across.

My Chosen Topic:

Why I have chosen this topic:

How to plan your time

Now you have chosen your topic, you need to plan how to use your time. Below, is an example of a project log.

Date	What I have done this week (including books I have read)	Questions raised	Next steps
Week 1	I have started to look at evacuation as my topic and picked up a few books from the library which seem to have some interesting information. I particularly enjoyed the section in one book that gave real life stories.	How many places and people were affected by evacuation? What role did Oxford have?	Interview family members – ask them about experiences of evacuation. Find information on Oxford during the war.

How to structure and organise your project

You need to include:

- **A cover page**
- **An Introduction** (around one hundred words). What are the most important reasons why you have chosen to write about this topic?
- **Description** (minimum of five hundred words). What are the most important facts which I need to describe about my topic? How can I make them interesting? How can I back up what I say with illustrations, maps and diagrams?
- **Explanation** (minimum of two hundred and fifty words). Why did things work out in the way they did? What made the difference between victory and defeat? Explain and analyse the significance of your event.
- **Reflection** (around one hundred words): What do you think about this topic now that you have researched it? How did it change your understanding of the war? What more would you like to know?
- **A complete copy of your log**

- **A bibliography** this is a list of the sources (books, websites, videos etc) that you have used when researching this project. There will be prizes for the best bibliographies.

You may also like to include maps, photographs, illustrations, artefacts. You can be as creative as you like with the additions to the project.

How do I organise my project?

An example of how to organise a distinction level project is:

1. A front cover with pictures or quotation.
2. A short explanation of the reasons why you chose this topic.
3. A description of at least 500 words of the event you are describing, accompanied by pictures or cartoons.
4. An explanation of at least 250 words showing why this event was significant or important. You have to show why it matters and what it led to.
5. Your personal comments.
6. A list of books and websites which you have used.

Checklist

Tick off each item that you have completed and make sure it is handed in.

Cover Page	<input type="checkbox"/>
Introduction	<input type="checkbox"/>
Description	<input type="checkbox"/>
Explanation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reflection	<input type="checkbox"/>
Log	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bibliography	<input type="checkbox"/>