



1914—1918

EXPLORING THE
IRISH EXPERIENCE



NLI WWI LEARNING RESOURCES

Junior Cert worksheet

A series of Learning Objectives has been developed for all visitors to the exhibition. These include specific objectives designed to link to the Leaving Cert History Syllabus:

EXHIBITION OBJECTIVE

Realise that WWI involved, and had a huge impact on, millions of Irish people

Realise that the war had a profound impact on the lives of women, in an equal variety of ways to that which it had on men

Be challenged to think about what your response would have been to WWI

Learn that the NLI collection contains material that can help us understand the Irish Experience in WWI

Throughout the exhibition you and your students will find sources, text, images, objects and interactive elements which have selected to help achieve the objectives.

CURRICULUM LINKS INCLUDE

Topic: Social change in the 20th century (changing lifestyles in Ireland)

Topic: Political developments in Ireland in the late 19th century and the 20th century

The job of the historian – methods, evidence - reading original source material (Topic: Introduction)



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NAME:

SCHOOL:

WHEN YOU VISIT THE NATIONAL LIBRARY

Welcome to World War I – Exploring the Irish Experience. In this exhibition you’ll find out about how the War affected Ireland and what it was like for Irish people with different backgrounds and beliefs.

You can complete the questions in any order, so if it’s a bit busy at one part of the exhibition, you might like to try a different question and come back when its quieter.

A GLOBAL WAR

Irish people faced conflicting messages about what to do in response to World War I.

The government produced posters and articles to encourage Irish people to join the army and support the war effort. Republicans, some Trade Unionists and others tried to persuade people to do the opposite, and stay out of the war.

1 List reasons why you think the British Army wanted to recruit soldiers from Ireland:

2 List reasons why you think others opposed Irish people getting involved in the war:



FRONT LINE LIVES & A MODERN WAR

New technologies made World War I different from previous conflicts.

3 Watch some of the images in the 'A Modern War' slideshow and read 'Front line lives'. Think about the following inventions and write down what effect you think they had on the conflict.



MACHINE GUNS

POISON GAS

RAILWAYS

4 Are there any other technologies you can see in the exhibition which were important in the war, but which aren't listed above? Write them here:

LIFE AT HOME

The war had different impacts for people in cities and in the countryside. Explore the 'Life at Home' touchscreen and read 'The War at home' and 'The War and Everyday Life'.

5 List some of the different impacts the war had in each:

CITY _____



COUNTRYSIDE _____

6 Why do you think these differences occurred between cities and the countryside?

MUSIC AND WORDS

7 Every year, the National Library organises a poetry speaking competition called Poetry Aloud. We asked some past winners to read poems written during World War One.

Find the listening post and listen to the poems. Which do you like best?



WHY _____

100 YEARS AGO

8 Choose one of the events that are described in the area to the right of the projected slideshow (the corner nearest the windows).

Imagine you are a reporter on the scene. Prepare a short newspaper headline and report (100 words altogether) describing what happened:

POSTERS

9 Have a look at the 'Road to War' (the screen to the left of the world map) and the 'Challenging choices' section. Examine how the different posters shown make their case for and against the war.

Now use the space over the page to design a poster either supporting or opposing the war. You might wish to use some of these elements to help you:

POSTERS / BLOCK TYPE / SHORT STRAPLINES / IMAGES OF WAR
STRONG COLOURS / APPEALS TO NATIONAL IDENTITY / QUOTES FROM KEY PEOPLE
PATRIOTIC SYMBOLS / APPEALS TO BELIEFS AND VALUES / IMAGES OF IRELAND



**THANK YOU!
WE HOPE YOU ENJOYED VISITING
THE NATIONAL LIBRARY.**



*Leabharlann
Náisiúnta
na hÉireann*
National Library
of Ireland