War Horse Lesson Plans

Teacher Instructions

I. Day 1—Introduction to World War I

1. Pass out the worksheet “World War I Word Cloud.” Have students look up the vocabulary terms in the word cloud using their textbooks, a computer or on their own device (cell phone, tablet, laptop, etc.). Go over each term briefly as an introduction to the World War I.

2. Pass out the “War Horse Guided Viewing Notes.” - Read the questions to your students so they know what to look for while watching the movie War Horse.
   - Print this on the back of the Word Cloud to save paper.
   - Make sure to pause the film from time to time and point out information students can write down on their guided viewing notes.

3. Begin the movie.

II. Day 2—Continue the Movie

1. Take a few minutes to discuss some of the questions from the guided viewing notes.

2. Continue the movie War Horse.

III. Day 3—Finish the Movie, Compare/Contrast

1. Finish the movie War Horse. Discuss guided viewing notes.

2. Hand out the “Life of a Teenager” compare/contrast activity. Allow students to work in pairs to complete the activity and then discuss as a class.

IV. Day 4—Begin your introduction to World War I.

1. Visit [www.ushistoryteachers.com](http://www.ushistoryteachers.com) for complete lesson plans on World War I including
   - Activities and worksheets.
   - PowerPoint and video presentations.
   - Quizzes, tests and other formative and summative assessments.
   - Documentary and movie lesson plans.
   - Much more.
World War I Word Cloud

Directions: Use a textbook or the Internet to look up definitions for each term in the word cloud below. Define the vocabulary terms in the blank space on this worksheet. Draw a line from the term in the word cloud, to your definition in the blank space.
War Horse Guided Viewing Notes

What was England like in the early 1900s?

⇒ How did people live?

- Some people were…

- Other people were...

⇒ What was the economy like?

- Agricultural? Industrial? Both?

What were horses used for before the Great War?

What were horses used for during the Great War?

List some of the technologies you see being used in the film:

- By common citizens:

- By the military:
Life of a Teenager Compare / Contrast

War Horse

**Directions:** Think about the teenagers you saw in the film (Albert, Emilie, Michael and Gunter, etc). What was life like for a teenager in Europe before and during World War I? How is it the same or different than the life of a teenager today? Compare and Contrast in the diagram below.

[Diagram: Venn diagram comparing Teen Life During World War I and Teen Life Today, with Similarities in the overlapping area.]