



1914—1918

EXPLORING THE  
IRISH EXPERIENCE



## NLI WWI LEARNING RESOURCES

Junior Cert worksheet

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 it's 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:

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

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# 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

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## POISON GAS

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## RAILWAYS

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**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:

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# 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

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

# MUSIC AND WORDS

7 Every year, the National Library and Poetry Ireland organises a poetry speaking competition for post-primary schools 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?



COUNTRYSIDE



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:

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## 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.**

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For more information please visit:

**[www.nli.ie](http://www.nli.ie)**

**[www.nli.ie/WWI](http://www.nli.ie/WWI)**

or email: **[learning@nli.ie](mailto:learning@nli.ie)**

