

# Interview with a veteran challenge

## Teacher's notes

### The big question

How do conflicts affect communities?

### Level

Fourth

### Experiences and outcomes

I have experienced the energy and excitement of presenting/performing for different audiences.

**EXA 4-01a**

I make full use of and value the opportunities I am given to improve and manage my learning and, in turn, I can help to encourage learning and confidence in others. **HWB 4-11a**

Representing my class, school and/or wider community encourages my self-worth and confidence and allows me to contribute to and participate in society. **HWB 4-12a**

I can express an informed view about the changing nature of conflict over time, appreciate its impact and empathise with the experiences of those involved. **SOC 4-06b**

I can describe attempts to resolve an international conflict and maintain the peace and can present my conclusion about how effective these attempts were. **SOC 4-06c**

I can use ICT effectively in different learning contexts across the curriculum to access, select and present relevant information in a range of tasks. **TCH 4-03b**

When I engage with others I can make a relevant contribution, ensure that everyone has an opportunity to contribute and encourage them to take account of others' points of view or alternative solutions. I can respond in ways appropriate to my role, exploring and expanding on contributions to reflect on, clarify or adapt thinking. **LIT 4-02a**

### Introduction

This challenge is designed to make students more aware of veterans living in their communities and how conflict has affected them.

Students should be encouraged to take charge of this challenge but teachers will want to provide them with direction regarding the types of questions that could be asked and also assist in finding a veteran who is willing to be interviewed.

Students will require guidance on how best to present their interview: is the veteran willing to be filmed? Could pupils play this at a remembrance assembly? Will they simply prepare a display board with transcripts or could they feedback to another class or year group within the school? This will certainly challenge pupils to show a great deal of empathy and understanding and help them to understand how conflicts have affected their local communities.

# Interview with a veteran challenge

## Your challenge

Conflicts affect communities in a variety of ways. Fortunately, since the end of the Second World War, people living in Scotland have largely been untouched by the worst effects of war that other parts of the world have experienced. However, living in our communities are veterans of the British armed forces and their families who have experienced, and who continue to experience, the consequences of conflict.

One in five of the Scottish population is a member of the veterans' community (ex-Service person or spouse/dependent of ex-Service person). Your challenge is to prepare a list of questions you would like to ask a veteran to find out more about their experiences. You should then organise an interview with a veteran in your community and then present the findings of your interview to another class or year group within your school.

Work in groups of four or five

Prepare a list of questions that will help you find out more about the experiences of a veteran. You could think about asking why they joined the services, what their job was, where they served, how their experiences have affected their lives, what life was like for them after leaving the services, how they feel about the way veterans are treated in their communities.

For inspiration watch the short film 'Veterans' Stories' on the Sowing the Poppy seed DVD or on the Poppyscotland Learning website via this link

<http://learning.poppyscotland.org.uk/resource/veterans-stories/>

When preparing your list, make sure your questions are thoughtful and sensitive. Many veterans find it difficult to talk openly about their experiences and showing consideration and appreciation for their willingness to talk to you is a must.

Get help from your teacher in organising an interview with a veteran. You may already know people in your community who have served in the armed forces or have friends and family who do, so finding someone may be easier than you think!

Perhaps you could film your interview or record it on a tablet or smartphone device?

After conducting your interview think about how you will present your information. You could organise a school remembrance assembly and play the recording/video to your audience - decide on the best way to make people aware that veterans form a large part of our communities and need our support.

## Rules

- Everyone participates in the production and presentation of your group's work.
- Work within the timescales provided by your teacher.
- Meet the challenge criteria - have you done what you were asked to do?
- Grouping and planning - remains of this period.

# Interview with a veteran challenge

## My interview questions

1. ....
2. ....
3. ....
4. ....
5. ....
6. ....
7. ....
8. ....
9. ....
10. ....

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## What progress have I made today?

### SAL SOC

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> level

I can use both primary and secondary sources of evidence in an investigation about the past.

Some points from my primary source are...

Some points from my secondary source are...

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> level

I can present information about how conflict has had an impact on people.

Two points are...

#### 4<sup>th</sup> level

I can express an informed view about the changing nature of conflict over time.

An example of this change is...

I can appreciate the impact of conflict and empathise with the experiences of those involved.

Three pieces of information that I found out about the impact of war are...

## Interview with a veteran challenge

### Peer marking exercise / self-assessment

Tick all that apply.

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