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Module 24: World War I Essays

Essential Question Writing Activity

PROMPT

Historical Context

In this module, you've learned how World War I impacted the United States and forever transformed Europe. Now it's your turn to demonstrate your understanding of the module content by writing an essay.

Task

Write a persuasive essay that answers this question:

How did World War I impact America and transform Europe?

1. Your essay should include key people, events, and turning points during World War I and the resulting peace process.
2. Cite evidence to support your position.
3. Organize your essay into an introduction, body, and conclusion.

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Document-Based Investigation Writing Activity

PROMPT

Historical Context

World War I began when Archduke Ferdinand was assassinated in 1914. For over four years, the Central powers (including Austria-Hungary and Germany) fought the Allied powers (including France, Russia, and Britain). The U.S. joined in 1917. The Allies won, resulting in an armistice in November 1918.

Task

When World War I broke out in Europe in 1914, President Woodrow Wilson declared U.S. neutrality. In an informative essay, explain how the United States went from a neutral party, to a member of the Allies, to a member of the winning side that nonetheless did not sign the Treaty of Versailles.

Complete the following steps as you plan and compose your essay.

1. Review your notes and sources before you start writing.
2. Use at least three of the sources in Part 1, and develop the topic with relevant, well-chosen text or visual evidence from the documents.
3. Cite specific text or visual evidence from each of the sources in your response.
4. Plan your essay so that it includes an introduction, several body paragraphs, and a concluding paragraph.
5. Organize your essay in a clear and logical way that highlights comparisons and contrasts. Be sure to discuss the similarities and differences between the points of view of various groups and individuals.
6. Write a conclusion that sums up your ideas and supports the information you present.