

War Story Trailer

Project Overview



The War Story Project is a unit of work which leads to all pupils to explore World War II from a personal point of view. The project uses the Apple iMovie 'Narrative' trailer and the StoryCorps animation 'Germans in the Woods' as a basis to create an outcome that allows children to get excited about their writing.

Important Note: As this project deals with themes relating to WWII and its effects, we highly recommend teachers watch the stimulus videos before sharing them with their class to ensure their suitability.

In this project, pupils can develop a number of writing skills including setting and character description, narrative and report writing, as well as opportunities for the teacher to include specific sentence level work. The modelling process by the teacher becomes especially important due to the use of film rather than written texts.

Following each writing lesson there will be opportunities to create footage based on their writing. We have provided a shot and scene template to guide you through this filming process. You may want each group of pupils to create a film each, based on an amalgamation of their individual pieces of writing or you may come together as a class to create a whole class film which involves all pupils. When filming, don't worry if you run out of time - you can easily continue filming in ICT lessons.

Lesson	Description	Writing Focus	Filming task/Shots
1	Piecing the story together	Writing a detective's case file using clues to provide evidence for what they think may have happened in the story.	No filming task, watch the 'Germans in the Woods' stimulus video.
2	The characters daily experience	Description of a day in the life of the character as a diary entry or letter home.	4 shots showing the character in their setting and using action to illustrate their daily life.
3	The event (part 1 and 2)	Detailed writing about the first 2 sections of the event.	A mix of closeups and action shots to illustrate first half of the event.
4	An alternative event ending (part 3 and 4)	Detailed writing about the final 2 sections of the event as it could have happened.	A mix of closeups and action shots to illustrate second half of the event.
5	A brighter future	Writing a report about what happens to the character in their future	A mix of shot types to show the future of the character.

Filming Preparation

- Ensure there is enough free memory space on all iPads and that they are fully charged before filming. See: **Preparing your iPad (and children) for filming** for more details on how to do this.
- Don't be too worried about the timings for the shots needed (e.g. 6.0 second wide shot needed) but do need to be aware which shots are longer than others when filming. Timings are given so you can quickly reference where to put each shot in the iMovie 'Narrative' template. Always film for a bit longer as a general rule.
- We recommend filming all your footage first before starting to edit. There is a suggested ICT lesson (see the **Filming and Editing** document for further support) included at the end of this resource to show you how to create the final trailer. Ensure iMovie is installed on all iPads before editing. It's usually free, (depending on the age of your iPad), just download it from the [app store](#).
- This project does use the Apple iMovie 'Narrative' trailer template, but could be completed on any video editing app such as [WeVideo](#).
- For the trailer, we will be using a limited number of sentences from their writing but if you wanted to make it a longer project, you could use more footage and record their writing as a voiceover to make a longer film. This would have to be done outside of the iMovie trailer template.