

Educational Activity for the *Canada's WW1 Battlefields* video series

Educators: The following activity should be used alongside Valour Canada's WW1 Battlefields video series.

Learning outcomes:

Upon viewing the series and completing the activities below, students will:

- Describe two or more of the First World War (FWW) battles that involved Canada.
- Research and organize findings about Canada's WW1 battles.
- Evaluate which battles were historically more important to Canadian military history.
- Assess the impact various battles had upon the outcome of the FWW.

Web resources for students:

- *Canada's WW1 Battlefields* video series playlist (Valour Canada: YouTube)
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLc8xffddvvhAEO6gtdl7B9NkXMtk69g8p>

Note: Videos are listed individually on the next page.

- *The Road to Vimy Ridge* (Valour Canada website)
<https://vimyridge.valourcanada.ca>
- *Canada: First World War Battles* (Veterans – Government of Canada website)
<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/wars-and-conflicts/first-world-war/>

A special thank you to historian and archaeologist Andy Robertshaw who narrated and produced this series. Andy's filmography includes *Wonder Woman, 1917, They Shall Not Grow Old, and War Horse* ([IMDb](#)).



The Taking of Vimy Ridge, Easter Monday 1917. Painting by Richard Jack. ([Library and Archives Canada, M#2837452](#)).

Video Playlist:

Battlefield Videos (12):

Reading a CMGC Cemetery – Regina Trench (Somme) (12m:23)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pcf_7z1t2Yg

Menin Gate – The Missing on the Western Front (4m:40)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v5QmK-GeYOE>

Mons: From the last Canadian casualty to the first battle https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JGXtw6vKQVo	(3m:48)
Gas Attack – Ypres 1915 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gYvduJ2P3SA	(5m:25)
Beaumont Hamel – Newfoundlanders on the Somme (Pt. 1 of 2) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r_mY_-3sf3k	(4m:14)
Beaumont Hamel – Newfoundlanders on the Somme (Pt. 2 of 2) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LSyiRZ5eDYU	(2m:31)
Courcelette – The First Tank Battle (1916) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ztkRW1kX9ks	(6m:32)
Vimy Ridge: The Canadian National Memorial https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3G-ygReZL6Q	(3m:35)
Hill 70: A Forgotten Battle? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xTvRg43MweE	(6m:31)
Passchendaele: The Importance of High Ground https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZnqGa8PVbc	(5m:35)
Battle of Moreuil Wood https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fAJ1eHZr-gI	(4m:51)
Breaking the DQ Line (Sept. 1918) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4EnXrKWCMjA	(4m:51)
Special Videos (4):	
A Good Battlefield Tourist & Life in the Muddy Trenches https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7AzQV-R9gQc	(3m:42)
Battlefield Danger: Beware the Iron Harvest https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-28cENgMecU	(2m:38)
Dressing a WW1 Soldier (Pt. 1 of 2) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZTg485CJkbo	(9m:57)
Dressing a WW1 Soldier (Pt. 2 of 2) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gPV14Tm6itE	(5m:40)

Activity:

- Part 1:** The student will choose (or the teacher will assign) to view two of the twelve main videos and then complete the table on page 3. Note that videos 5 and 6 are both about Beaumont-Hamel so a student should choose both of them in addition to another so that they can compare two different battles.
- Part 2:** The student will research online, then compare and contrast the two battles they've chosen (using the table on page 3). In addition to the videos provided, students will complete their research using authoritative websites, including [The Road to Vimy Ridge](#) and [Canada: First World War Battles](#).
- Part 3 (Optional):** As a group and using the videos and any completed research, discuss and determine which battle covered by the videos is the **most important in Canadian military history** (using the table on page 4). The teacher should note how a battle's importance might change if the question instead asks about: "... each battle's **importance in the course of the First World War.**" Then, create a timeline that shows Canada's battles in the First World War.

- End -

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Part 1 Worksheet: Assessment of Two Battles

Name: _____

Video Title	What is the video about? (2-3 sentences)	What is the most important point being made in the video? (1 sentence)	Which battle does the video reference? Record the date(s) of the battle and 3 other facts about Canada's involvement in that battle.
			1. 2. 3.
			1. 2. 3.

Part 2 Worksheet: Compare and Contrast Two Battles

I studied the following two battles: 1. _____ and 2. _____.		
List three ways in which the two battles are the same or very similar.	List three ways in which the two battles are different.	Which of the two battles is more important to Canadian military history? Provide three facts and/or pieces of evidence to back up your argument.
1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3.

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Part 3 Worksheet: Historical Importance

Name: _____

Video Title & Battle	Date/ timeframe	Important Points	Cdn Historical Importance (Tier 1, 2, or 3)