

GALLERY 2: THE SOUTH AFRICAN AND FIRST WORLD WARS

Name: _____

Canada's contributions in these overseas wars led to a growing autonomy and international recognition, but at great cost.

1 **LOOK** at the mannequin of the soldier in South Africa. Why would a soldier like him write, "You cannot imagine what war is until you are in it."? (Driver Frederick Lee)



2

At the start of the First World War, strict regulations ensured that becoming a soldier was not easy. Use the interactive to fill in the following:

How old are you?

Do you wear glasses?

Do you have flat feet?

How tall are you?

Would you have been accepted as a soldier?

3 **FIND** these three images related to the Second Battle of Ypres. Which one do you think is the closest representation of what it was like to be there?

Which one would you use to persuade more Canadians to enlist as soldiers? Why?



4



LOOK at the trench model. Pick one person and complete the first sentence of a letter home for that person.

Dear Family: Today,

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USING this painting, imagine you were there and complete the following:

The noise was as loud as:

After 12 hours of firing the gun, I was so,

that I



6 During the First World War, would you rather have been:

- A pilot
- An artillery gunner
- A nurse
- A child at home in Canada, whose father was away at war
- A front-line soldier

Give one reason for your choice:

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7 Why is there a little teddy bear in this gallery?

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8 **WHAT** happened to these two men?

Thomas Ricketts



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Francis Pegahmagabow



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9 **WHY** did these events matter to Canadians when they were happening? Why do they matter now?

Draw arrows from each event to the reason it mattered then and the reason it matters now.

EVENTS

- South African War
- Second Battle of Ypres
- Battle of Vimy Ridge
- Signing of the Treaty of Versailles

THEN

- A Canadian victory
- Ended the First World War
- 6,000 Canadian soldiers were killed or wounded in three days
- Canada sent troops overseas for the first time

NOW

- Reveals much about the conditions and costs of the First World War
- Has become a symbol of Canada's accomplishments and identity
- Helps understand Canada's roots as a member of the British Empire
- An important step in Canada's evolution as a fully independent country