**Northern Ireland War Memorial**

**StoryMaps for Leaving Certificate Ireland: Topic 3**

**The Pursuit of Sovereignty and the Impact of Partition, 1912-1949**

## **INTRODUCTION**

These learning resources have been designed to highlight how the Northern Ireland War Memorial’s *StoryMaps* can be used to address the *Leaving Certificate*curriculum in reference to **Ireland Topic 3: The pursuit of Sovereignty and the Impact of partition, 1912-1949**specifically focusing on *‘The Impact of World War II, North & South’.*

It addresses 6 key themes:

* Smuggling
* Americans
* Blitz
* Evacuation
* Industry
* Victory

Use these StoryMaps to answer the example essay questions below.

## **key elements**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Aims** | **Learning Outcomes** |
| Knowledge and Understanding | * To develop knowledge and understanding of human activity in the past. * To promote understanding of the present through the development of a historical perspective on issues of contemporary importance. * To develop knowledge and understanding of Irish, European and world history. * To develop students' understanding of historical concepts. * To provide students with a perspective of change in a world of change. |
| Skills of history | * To develop an awareness of different interpretations of particular historical issues. * To develop a range of research skills essential for the study of history. * To develop an appreciation of the nature and variety of historical evidence. |
| Preparation for life and citizenship | * To develop the ability to think critically. * To develop positive values associated with the study of history. * To develop in students an appreciation of the society in which they live and of other societies, past and present. * To develop in students an informed and critical awareness of their historical inheritance |

## **SMUGGLING**

Access the Smuggling StoryMaps by visiting: [**https://arcg.is/1jmKPm1**](https://arcg.is/1jmKPm1)

Listen to the extracts found on the StoryMap above and use these to consider the questions below:

* Why do you think people engaged in smuggling despite the risk of fines, criminal charges or loss of goods?
* How tightly enforced were customs regulations and what impact could both corruption or discretion play if an individual was caught smuggling?
* How useful are these oral history extracts in studying the social and economic impact of Second World War on Northern Ireland? What are their limitations?

## **Victory**

Access the Victory StoryMaps by visiting: [**https://arcg.is/1SXinb0b**](https://arcg.is/1SXinb0b)

Listen to the extracts found on the StoryMap above and use these to consider the questions below:

* How was Victory celebrated in Northern Ireland? Use specific examples of how and where these celebrations took place.
* Suggest three reasons why Victory over Japan celebrations in August 1945 differed to the much larger Victory in Europe celebrations in May 1945.
* How can eyewitness testimony enrich our understanding of historical events and their impact, with specific reference to Victory celebrations of Spring/Summer 1945?

## **AMERICANS**

Access the American StoryMaps by visiting: [**https://arcg.is/PCvDa1**](https://arcg.is/PCvDa1)

Listen to the extracts found on the StoryMap above and use these to consider the questions below:

* Do you think the Americans were a welcome presence to the people of Northern Ireland? Please provide examples showing both positive and negative opinions
* Using the oral history extracts for examples, evaluate the cultural, economic and social impacts of the American Presence in Northern Ireland.
* How useful are these as primary sources for a historian?

## **INDUSTRY**

Access the Industry StoryMaps by visiting: [**https://arcg.is/1niG5P1**](https://arcg.is/1niG5P1)

Listen to the extracts found on the StoryMap above and use these to consider the questions below:

* How did the Second World War impact the farming industry in Northern Ireland?
* What products did Northern Ireland produce during the Second World War?
* Would these extracts be useful to a historian researching the economic impact of the Second World War?

## **BLITZ**

Access the Blitz StoryMaps by visiting: [**https://arcg.is/1eCqqe2**](https://arcg.is/1eCqqe2)

Listen to the extracts found on the StoryMap above and use these to consider the questions below:

* How do these extracts suggest that the ‘Dockside’, ‘Easter Tuesday’ & ‘Fire’ Air Raids on Belfast differ?
* What contributing factors led to the very high casualty numbers of the Easter raid of 15/16 April 1941 on Belfast?
* How reliable are these eyewitness oral history accounts of the Belfast Blitz? Consider the effect of emotion, trauma and the passage of time between event and interview.

## **EVACUATION**

Access the Evacuation Blitz StoryMaps by visiting:[**https://arcg.is/18LiXG1**](https://arcg.is/18LiXG1)

Listen to the extracts found on the StoryMap above and use these to consider the questions below:

* How do these extracts suggest that life in the countryside differed to life in wartime Belfast?
* Do these oral history accounts suggest that evacuation experience was positive or negative for evacuees?
* How useful are these oral history extracts in studying the process of evacuation- are there more suitable sources that should be considered?