

Suggestions for integrating the essay contest into grade 10 courses

Grade 10 Canadian History Since World War I

Teachers may introduce the essay topic when they address World War II in their class. The development of nuclear weapons was explored by several countries. The U.S.A. started the Manhattan Project in top secret, led by scientist Robert Oppenheimer and General Leslie Groves. The U.S.A dropped a test bomb in 1945 and then bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945. The results were devastating on the people and buildings in these cities and led to the unconditional surrender of Japan.

Teachers may have students explore the devastation and consequences through the Wikipedia entry on Setsuko Thurlow in our [resource list](#). Classes may also explore these issues as the Cold War develops between the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A and their allies. Teachers may play one of Setsuko's speeches to the class to introduce the issues. Students may be put in small groups to listen to one of Setsuko Thurlow's other speeches on the devastating nature of the bombing of Hiroshima, the grave risks posed by nuclear weapons and the importance of promoting nuclear disarmament and world peace. Students may research the two world treaties on nuclear weapons and write an essay on "Nuclear Weapons, Nuclear Disarmament and World Peace."

Grade 10 Civics and Citizenship

Teachers may have students examine the nuclear weapons issue as part of their exploration of civic awareness in a global context. Students could explore how some Canadians have developed personal civic action plans around the issues of nuclear weapons, nuclear disarmament and the promotion of world peace in their times. Students may use this essay opportunity to also develop a personal action plan on how to support the push for world peace in their time. Teachers may have students explore the devastation and consequences of nuclear war through the Wikipedia entry on Setsuko Thurlow in our resource list. Teachers may also play Setsuko Thurlow's speech at the United Nations on the day the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) was adopted on 7 July 2017 to launch the discussion about civic action and ways to support democratic change in society. Next, students could work in small groups to listen to some of Setsuko Thurlow's other speeches and discuss the issues and the actions she has taken.