Story Brainstorm

# What’s your perspective?

For your story, you will need to develop a perspective on WWI that you want to communicate to your reader. This will help you focus your story, and choose words and events that are connected by a cohesive thread.

**Step 1: Identify Model Perspectives:**

In All Quiet on the Western Front and Slaughterhouse 5, there are many perspectives about war that are represented. In your group, brainstorm and write down 3-5 truths that either novel communicates. Make them beautiful sentences! Communicate poetically!

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

**Step Two: Your Possible Perspectives:**

In a short story, you will want to stick to ONE main message in order to keep your story focused and tightly constructed. Remember, you only have 5-7 pages! Below, brainstorm 2-4 truths of war that you are interested in trying to communicate in your short story.

1.

2.

3.

4.

# Key Decisions

Now that you have a perspective, here are some key decisions you need to make in order to guide your research. Please note that ALL of these are subject to change once you start researching and writing! This is just to help you focus your initial research!

**Character**

1. Is your character male or female? *Male Female*
2. What country is your main character from? Must be a country who fought in WWI or WWII.

1. What role did your character play during the war? Soldier, officer, civilian, medic, nurse, propagandist…other?

**Setting**

1. Where is your main character located during the war? Think about country and region. This may be affected by the specific historical event/battle you choose below.
2. If your character is a soldier, what front are they fighting on?

**Historical Events/Time Period**

1. What time period do you want to set your story in? Start of the war? Middle? End? (1914-1918) (1941-1945)
2. What specific historical events/battles would you like to include in your story? Use the timelines below to help you choose at least one historical event to incorporate into your story!   
   WORLD WAR ONE
   1. <http://theworldwar.org/explore/interactive-wwi-timeline>
   2. <http://www.pbs.org/greatwar/timeline/time_1914.html>
   3. <http://history1900s.about.com/od/1910s/a/WWI-Timeline.htm>
3. WORLD WAR TWO

a. <http://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/article.php?ModuleId=10007306>

b.  [http://www.nationalgeographic.com/pearlharbor/history/wwii\_timeline.html](%20http:/www.nationalgeographic.com/pearlharbor/history/wwii_timeline.html)