

# World War II - The Memory Project

Your task is to write a letter of remembrance from the perspective of a personal relation in your family who was alive during WWII. Your letter will tell a personal story that highlights their life experiences and perspectives during the war and any contribution made or criticism toward the war effort either on a home front or a war front anywhere in the world at that time (1933 - 1945).

It is critical that you develop a letter based on research and an understanding of the biases for and against the war and/or certain groups, events, actions, or policies they would likely have had due to their social identity (e.g. country of origin, nationality, ethnicity, minority, woman, etc.).

In the interest of realism, your letter may express any stereotyped or discriminatory ideas your personal relation had at that time. But, you must remember that while people had biases based, in part, on their social identities, that not all members of a given social group would have felt the same way. Excellent letters may include research that uncovers a disagreement with the dominant views held by others within your character's social identity(ies).



'Sauerkraut Line' of the Boston Bruins is shown above in a practice session at Boston Garden, as they trained their hockey sticks, rifle-fashion, on the Daily Record cameraman. Left to right, "Bobby" Bauer, Milton Schmidt and "Porky" Dumart.

As Part of the Ottawa RCAF Flyers, the "Kraut" line of Schmidt, Dumart & Bauer helped the Flyers win the Allan Cup (Canadian Championships) in 1942

Excellent letters will do the following:

### Knowledge and Understanding

- \* The fact base of your letter must include eight (8) facts and/or details from your primary and/or secondary research.

### Thinking and Inquiry

- \* Your character's thoughts about war.
- \* Your character's feelings based on her or his experiences / stories.
- \* Evidence of the dominant biases / interests held by members of the social group to which your character belongs AND your character's agreement or disagreement with those biases.

### Communication

- \* The letter should be written using proper paragraphs and punctuation.
- \* Aim to use authentic vocabulary.
- \* Be sure to EDIT carefully for logical, spelling, and grammatical errors.

### Application

- \* Write in letter style from the perspective of your chosen character.
- \* The letter is meant to be one of remembrance read in the context of that time.
- \* Ask yourself what would be most important for us to remember about your character and their experiences today.
- \* Aim to incorporate facts you have selected smoothly into your letter so that they do not sound too forced.
- \* Try to give your letter a personal feel based on interviews & research.

## Front Remembrance Letter — RUBRIC

	<b>Level 4</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 1</b>
<b>Knowledge &amp; Understanding</b> (Historical Details)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Facts selected are accurate and highly relevant.</li> <li>-Facts selected and content of letter are rich in powerful detail, creating a vivid picture of life on the Front</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Facts selected are accurate and relevant</li> <li>-Facts selected and content of letter contain detail that helps create a good picture of the Front experience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Evidence of some attempt to select accurate, relevant historical details</li> <li>-Facts selected and content of letter contain some detail that helps to create a picture of the Front experience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-More attention to selection of accurate and relevant facts needed</li> <li>-Facts selected and content of letter create only a limited picture of the Front experience</li> </ul>
<b>Thinking &amp; Inquiry</b> Front Experience)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Highly effective explanations are used</li> <li>-Accurate and highly nuanced description of biases present</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Considerably effective explanations are included</li> <li>-Accurate description of biases present</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Moderately effective explanations are used</li> <li>-Somewhat accurate description of biases present</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Explanations are not effective</li> <li>-Description of biases are inaccurate or not present</li> </ul>
<b>Communication</b> (Style)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Spelling and grammar almost completely error-free</li> <li>-Sophisticated vocabulary and complex sentence structure used throughout</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Some errors in grammar and/or spelling present</li> <li>-Sophisticated vocabulary and complex sentence structure used most of the time</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Substantial editing for spelling and/or grammar needed</li> <li>-Evidence of some attempt to use sophisticated and complex sentence structure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Spelling and grammar require a great amount of editing</li> <li>-Simple vocabulary and sentence structure used</li> </ul>
<b>Application</b> (Quality of Finished Product)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Letter is highly reflective of task and time period studied</li> <li>-Facts have been incorporated smoothly into writing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Letter reflects task and time period studied to a considerable degree</li> <li>-Facts have been incorporated into writing in a fairly smooth manner</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Letter is somewhat reflective of task and time period</li> <li>-Facts are present but need to be more smoothly integrated into letter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Letter reflects task and time period studied to a limited degree</li> <li>-Much more attention to smoothly incorporating facts into letter is needed</li> </ul>