

THE ANZAC TRADITION

Since the outbreak of World War I, more than 100,000 Australians have died in conflicts and peacekeeping missions around the world. Many others have been injured or have come home changed by their experiences. On ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day, we remember all of the servicemen and women who have put themselves in harm's way to make sure we are safe.

FINDING OUT

Would you be willing to undergo hardships so other people, perhaps complete strangers, can live in peace, freedom and safety?

What would you be prepared to endure?

What would you be willing to give up?

In this video, learn about the sacrifices made by Australians who joined the struggle against authoritarian regimes in World War I.

SORTING OUT

What threats and hardships did Australians endure in World War I?

Which of these frightens you the most?

How many Australians perished in Gallipoli?

How many died on the Western Front?

What differences can you see between the Gallipoli and the Western Front campaigns?

What do they have in common?

Are there particular images in the video that move you more than others? Can you explain why?

Related content:

- <https://rsleducation.com.au/Themes/Commemoration/years-7---10/The-ANZAC-Tradition>



THE ANZAC TRADITION

TAKING ACTION

According to the narrator, why do we pause on ANZAC and Remembrance Days?

What ideals are displayed by Australians who risk their lives in service, both now and in the past?

Do you think these ideals are shared by Australians today?

Are there others you would add to the list?

Do you take time to stop and reflect on ANZAC and Remembrance Days?

Do you think it is important for Australians to continue to do so? Why/why not?

Related content:

- Add link to video



THE ANZAC TRADITION

TEACHERS' NOTES

Students are prompted to consider the hardships experienced by Australians who served in World War I and reflect on their own willingness to endure suffering on behalf of others.

The video refers to '... the threat of violent death, extreme weather, hunger, exposure, injury, torture and disease' as well as '... [struggling] to survive in muddy, rat-infested trenches exposed to rain and snow, not knowing when the next grenade or poison gas attack would strike'. How would students have responded to these threats?

The video also identifies ideals represented by women and men who have served in conflicts i.e. courage, mateship, egalitarianism and a willingness to risk one's life for a greater cause. It is helpful for students to discuss these ideals and whether they think they are relevant in contemporary Australia. Is it important to identify principles that we should aspire to? If so, are there others that students would add to the list?

Please note that Australians served in places other than France, Belgium, Palestine and Turkey, most notably Egypt. The countries listed in the video are the ones in which most Australians saw action. Similarly, the list of locations in which Australians have served since World War I is not exhaustive.

This resource supports the following History Content Descriptions:

- ACDSEH095 The places where Australians fought and the nature of warfare during World War I, including the Gallipoli campaign
- ACDSEH097 The commemoration of World War I, including debates about the nature and significance of the ANZAC legend
- ACHHS172 Identify and analyse the perspectives of people from the past

