World War II was an historical event with global implications. Common people in many parts of the world were affected by momentous economic and political disruptions. Explore some of the effects of these global forces by writing a paper or creating a visual presentation based on an interview with someone who lived through World War II.

You will become a historian as you write the paper or design a presentation describing how the life of a senior citizen, such as a grandparent, neighbor, or a resident of a local retirement home who is from the United States or another country, was affected by these global events. The interview subject needs to have lived through this event, but does not have to have been a direct participant. For example, you can interview a woman about how life changed in her community during World War II.

Guidelines For Writing the Paper
Each of you will interview a senior citizen (grandparent, neighbor, resident of local retirement home from the United States or another country.)
- Please see your teacher if you need assistance finding an interview subject.

Conducting the Interview
1. Prepare for your interview by reviewing Chapter 29 in your text book as well as class notes and resource materials.

2. Make a list of questions to ask your subject. (See Sample Interview Questions packet) It is best to ask questions that will give the interviewee broad range to answer. Avoid questions that can be answered with a simple yes or no.

3. After meeting your interview subject, explain why the class is doing the project. Have the interviewee sign the release form.
4. During the interview, be sure to give the interviewee plenty of time to remember things from the past and provide a response. **Always be polite!**

5. Be prepared to ask a follow up question on the spur of the moment to gain clarification or to pursue some information you were not expecting.

6. You may record or video tape the interview, but always take notes too.

**Writing the Paper (Option 1)**

1. Try to begin your paper as soon as possible after the interview is complete – the conversation will be fresh in your mind!

2. Begin the paper with an introduction that provides background information on your interview subject and states your thesis (main idea.) The thesis should give your opinion about how much WWII affected the life of the interviewee.

3. The first few paragraphs in the body of the paper should describe the general circumstances surrounding WWII. Use your textbook and notes as resources here.

4. The remaining paragraphs in the body of the paper should portray the effect of WWII on the interview subject.

5. End with a conclusion in which you restate your thesis and explain why it is correct.

**Creating a Visual Presentation (Option 2)**

1. Try to begin your presentation as soon as possible after the interview is complete – the conversation will still be fresh in your mind!

2. You may create a PowerPoint presentation, a large poster, or a diorama.

3. All visual presentations **MUST** contain accurate data from your interview subject as well as the WWII time period.

4. Your presentation should include at least 5 illustrations, photographs or other visual materials (discuss guidelines for diorama separately.)

**Your work should be compiled in a pocket folder with your name on it.**

**Your folder should include:**
- A copy of your interview notes
- Completed Interview Essay outline (if you are choosing option 1)
- At least one typed and revised draft (if you are choosing option 1)
- Final paper – 12 pt., double spaced, at least 3 pages long, OR visual presentation