

Year 12: Modern History	
<p>Modern History is a senior, general subject where students examine humanity’s recent past. Modern History aims for students to gain historical knowledge and understanding about some of the main forces that have contributed to the development of the modern world and to have students think historically and gain historical consciousness in relation to these forces. These aims complement and build on the learning covered in the <i>Australian Curriculum 7-10 History</i>.</p>	
<p><b>Units of Work</b></p>	<p><b>Unit 4: International Experiences in the Modern World</b></p> <p><b>Topic 1: Australian Engagement with Asia since 1945</b></p> <p><b>Aspect of Topic: Australia and the Vietnam War</b></p> <p>This material will also be suitable for Unit 3: National History</p> <p>Topic 1: Australia 1914-1949</p> <p>Aspect of Topic: Australia and World War Two</p>
<p><b>Key inquiry questions:</b></p>	<p>What were the experiences of Australian service personnel in the Vietnam War?</p> <p>How were the experiences of Australian Vietnam War veterans different from WW2 veterans?</p> <p>How was the Australian involvement in the Vietnam War aligned with the US Defence alliance?</p>
<p><b>Content Description</b></p>	
<p>The historical sources are a series of filmed interviews with service personnel from the Vietnam War. They include:</p> <p><a href="#">Clarence Whitehorn’s Story (Clarry)</a></p>	

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## Year 12 Modern History Curriculum Learning Notes

### [John Fallows' Story](#)

Each person provided an account of their personal service history to illustrate the:

Experiences of Australians during the Vietnam War

The interactions with the US military and the Vietnamese.

The experiences of service personnel upon returning to Australia

The learning resources provide guided questions, contextualised vocabulary and suggested responding tasks to assist students engage with and understand the recollections of the individuals interviewed. Links to primary and secondary sources are included.

There are also a series of filmed interviews with service personnel from World War Two. They include:

### [Douglas Farmer's Story](#)

### [Jackie McLaughlin's Story \(Daphne\)](#)

### [Robert McDermant's Story](#)

Each person has provided an account of their personal service history to illustrate:

Experiences of Australians during World War II

The impact of World War II at a local and national level

The significance of World War II to Australia's international relationships in the twentieth century

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## Learning Objectives and Success Criteria

### Learning Objectives

Students are learning:

- To comprehend terms, issues and concepts linked to ideas about Australian engagement with Asia since 1945
- To analyse evidence from historical sources to show understanding about ideas relating to Australian engagement with Asia since 1945
- To synthesise evidence from historical sources
- To evaluate evidence from historical sources
- To create responses that communicate meaning to suit purpose of ideas about Australian engagement with Asia since 1945

### Success criteria

Students will be successful when they can:

- Demonstrate understanding of terms, issues and concepts
- Analyse evidence from historical sources to show understanding
- Create written responses that communicate meaning to suit a purpose

## Teaching Notes

### Timing

The content in the learning notes will support three lessons of class time, using 70 minute lessons as a guide.

### Resources

#### Video Transcripts

[Douglas Farmer's Story](#)

[Jackie McLaughlin's Story \(Daphne\)](#)

[Robert McDermant's Story](#)

[Clarence Whitehorn's Story](#)

[John Fellows' Story](#)

[dva.gov.au](http://dva.gov.au)

[aso.gov.au](http://aso.gov.au)

[awm.gov.au](http://awm.gov.au)

[bbc.com](http://bbc.com)

[engineersaustralia.org.au](http://engineersaustralia.org.au)

[northernterritory.com](http://northernterritory.com)

[trove.nla.gov.au](http://trove.nla.gov.au)

[seniorsnews.com.au](http://seniorsnews.com.au)

## Teaching Notes

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## Year 12 Modern History Curriculum Learning Notes

Teachers should assist students to engage with the video resources by using the vocabulary and comprehension activities included in the Year 10 Learning Notes package.

The level of response is differentiated as the Year 12 interpretation questions address higher level requirements and criteria from the QCAA Modern History 2019 syllabus.

The activities included enable students to practice skills required to complete short responses to historical sources format as used in the Modern History Year 12 external exam.

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**Learning Activities**

1. Use evidence from [Clarence Whitehorn's](#) account to identify one implicit message about the treatment of Vietnam veterans upon their return home from active service.


2. Find evidence to suggest that the Australian service personnel were unprepared for the scale of the Vietnam War.


3. Compare the homecoming of the veterans of WW2 with those of the Vietnam War.


4. Analyse evidence from the accounts of [Clarence Whitehorn](#) and [John Fellows](#) to find evidence that the Australian service people contributed to humanitarian efforts as well as military duties.


5. Analyse evidence to compare perspectives regarding the Vietnam War and World War Two.


6. Evaluate the evidence from the veteran accounts that the Vietnam War was in a conflict in which the participants were not as clear about their military objectives as in World War Two.




7. Evaluate the extent to which evidence in [Whitehorn](#) and [McDermant](#) is useful and reliable that the Vietnam War was seen as a different type of conflict from World War Two in Australian public opinion.


8. Synthesise evidence from three sources to form an historical argument that public opinion towards the Vietnam War was different from World War Two.


The following context statements accompany the video sources.

Context Statement

[Clarence Whitehorn](#) enlisted in the Australian Army in 1967. He was sent to Vietnam as a member of the signals unit. In 1990, he was awarded an Order of Australia Medal for service to the Australian Army.

Context Statement

[John Fallows](#) enlisted in the Royal Australian Air Force in 1964 and was sent to Vietnam in 1968. He worked in aircraft maintenance and management of the base armoury.

Context Statement

[Douglas Farmer](#) served in the Royal Australian Air Force in Papua New Guinea in World War Two as well as in Darwin.

Context Statement

[Daphne McLaughlin \(Jackie\)](#) served in the Royal Air Force in Britain during World War Two. She married an Australian airman stationed in England and immigrated to Australia in 1946 as a war bride.

Context Statement

[Robert McDermant](#) served in the Australian Army during World War Two in the 7th Field Ambulance in Bougainville.

## Year 12 Modern History Curriculum Learning Notes

**Australian Government, Department of Veterans' Affairs** [www.dva.gov.au](http://www.dva.gov.au)

Australian Government, Department of Veterans' Affairs. (2019). "Nui Dat" Retrieved from: <https://anzacportal.dva.gov.au/wars-and-missions/vietnam-war-1962-1975/events/phuoc-tuy-province/nui-dat>

Australian Government, Department of Veterans' Affairs. (2019). "Why was Port Moresby Important?" Retrieved from: <https://anzacportal.dva.gov.au/wars-and-missions/kokoda-track-1942-1943/kokoda-track/war-papua-strategic-context/why-was-port-moresby-important>

The Australian Government Department of Veterans' Affairs site provides support for Australian Veterans and their families, including but not limited to mental and physical health support, financial support, and assistance with acclimatising to civilian life.

**Australian Screen, National Sound and Film Archive of Australia** [www.aso.gov.au](http://www.aso.gov.au)

"Menzie's Speech: Declaration of War (1939)". Retrieved from: <https://aso.gov.au/titles/radio/menzies-speech-declaration-war/clip1/>

Australian Screen, part of the National Sound and Film Archive of Australia, preserves historically significant multimedia and archival footage.

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## Year 12 Modern History Curriculum Learning Notes

**Australian War Memorial:** [www.awm.gov.au](http://www.awm.gov.au)

Australian War Memorial London, (2021). "Australians in WWII". Retrieved from: <https://www.awmlondon.gov.au/australians-in-wwii>

Australian War Memorial, (2021). "Battle of Milne Bay". Retrieved from: <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/E84334>

Australian War Memorial, (2019). "Conscription". Retrieved from: <https://www.awm.gov.au/articles/encyclopedia/conscription>

Australian War Memorial, (2020). "Malayan Emergency". Retrieved from: <https://www.awm.gov.au/articles/atwar/malayan-emergency>

Australian War Memorial, (2021). "War Brides". Retrieved from: <https://www.awm.gov.au/articles/encyclopedia/war-brides>

Campbell, E. (2012). "Bougainville's Hard Slog". Australian War Memorial. Retrieved from: <https://www.awm.gov.au/articles/blog/bougainvilles-hard-slog>

The Australian War Memorial is an archival site and museum dedicated to information about Australian service personnel and their duties. Located in Canberra, the War Memorial itself is an official site of commemoration.

**British Broadcasting Corporation** [www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk)

British Broadcasting Corporation, (2021). "Primary History KS2: WW2 Clips. The Declaration of War." Retrieved from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/history-ks2-world-war-2-clips-the-declaration-of-war/z4qn6v4>

British Broadcasting Corporation, (2021). "WW2: Could you be part of a Lancaster Bomber?" Retrieved from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/ww2-could-you-be-part-of-a-lancaster-bomber-crew/zd2v6v4>

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## Year 12 Modern History Curriculum Learning Notes

The BBC is the Government funded broadcasting service in the United Kingdom, hosting a range of news services. Historical information about WWI and WWII are extensive on the BBC.

**Engineers Australia** [www.engineersaustralia.org.au](http://www.engineersaustralia.org.au)

Engineers Australia. (2021). "Owen Submachine Gun". Retrieved from: <https://portal.engineersaustralia.org.au/heritage/owen-submachine-gun>

Engineers Australia provides information about various war-time artillery in Australian military history.

**Government of Northern Territory, Tourism NT** [www.northernterritory.com](http://www.northernterritory.com)

Government of Northern Territory, Tourism NT. (2021). "World War II History". Retrieved from: <https://northernterritory.com/things-to-do/history-and-heritage/world-war-ii-history>

This Government site is produced by Tourism NT, providing geographical information about the Territory and its history as a significant location of warfare during WWII.

**National Library of Australia, Trove** [www.trove.nla.gov.au](http://www.trove.nla.gov.au)

(1939, September 4). *The Courier-Mail (Brisbane, Qld. : 1933 - 1954)*, p. 1. Retrieved April 12, 2021, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page1990653>

Trove is an archival site created in collaboration with the National Library of Australia. Trove contains numerous articles, multimedia, propaganda, and historical records about Australian war history.

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## Year 12 Modern History Curriculum Learning Notes

**Seniors News** [www.seniorsnews.com.au](http://www.seniorsnews.com.au)

Johnstone, T. (2020). "War bride reaches out to others". Published in Seniors News. Retrieved from: <https://www.seniorsnews.com.au/news/war-bride-reaches-out-to-others/3940831/>

Seniors News is a News Corp affiliated online publication catering to the senior demographic of Australia, including articles about service personnel in the community.

**Virtual War Memorial** [www.vwma.gov.au](http://www.vwma.gov.au)

Virtual War Memorial, (2021). "No. 106 Squadron (RAF)". Retrieved from: <https://vwma.org.au/explore/units/1180>

Archival site with information about Australian service personnel and their duties.

State Library of Queensland acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their continuing connection to land and as custodians of stories for millennia. We are inspired by this tradition in our work to share and preserve Queensland's memory for future generations.

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