

ACTIVITY: The causes of the Second World War

■ ATL

- Communication skills – Use appropriate forms of writing for different purposes and audiences

What is your goal?

Your goal is to write a biased or one-sided newspaper report as a journalist explaining why war broke out in Europe in September 1939 or in Asia in December 1941. Take the perspective *either* that 'Hitler caused the war' or that 'the policy of appeasement caused the war' if you are writing about Europe; or, if you are writing about Asia, *either* that it was 'Japan's war' or that 'the USA provoked Japanese aggression'.

You will be given one of these themes to write up a one-sided persuasive argument that **explains** how your theme caused the outbreak of the Second World War. This should be between 700 and 1500 words long.

How will you achieve this?

Your finished product must include the following and be laid out like a newspaper report:

- An appropriate name for your paper
- A banner headline
- A front-page biased report on the causes of the Second World War in Europe
- All the key events from the 1930s leading to the outbreak of war
- Visual images to support your version of events, e.g. cartoons, photographs, etc.

◆ Assessment opportunities

- ◆ This activity can be assessed using Criterion A: Knowing and understanding and Criteria C: Communicating.