



**The**

*a competition for*

**Simpson**

*year 9 and 10 students*

**Prize**

**2009 runner-up**  
**New South Wales**

**Marcus Harris**  
***Woolooware High School***

# *World War I had a devastating effect on Australian society. Why should we commemorate our participation in this conflict?*

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**by Marcus Harris, Woollooware High School**

Marcus' entry is in the form of a visual presentation.

## **Explanation**

I had the idea that the best way to explain why WWI should be commemorated is to explain the hardships that were endured in the two major events that Australia was involved in, Gallipoli and the Western front, this was the most effective way to enforce the real impact that WWI had on the lives involved. I believed that there would be a much better impact and response from an audience with photos from the war and actual journals to explain the hardships that were encountered to defend Australia. The use of footage at the memorial gave an insight to the respect that the soldiers deserve those past and present, I filmed the memorial to demonstrate its solemn purpose to remember and respect those who sacrificed their very lives to defend their country and to help the mother country from which the majority of the population had originated.

WWI had, unquestionably, a devastating effect on Australian society and most of the soldiers had only a small idea of what the effects of war were. Because of this men were unprepared for the challenges that they faced during these times. However, the Australian soldiers persistently fought against the enemy and would bravely fight for Australia. This was the first war Australia was ever involved in and the memories of the war are everlasting to those involved. Terrible, painful memories which occurred in this harsh war.

Mainly during the film I attempt to portray a message of Bravery, selfless attitudes and persistence in harsh times. All these things could be found in those Australian troops who served for Australia in the first world war. My main aim though through the film is that these ANZACs are "the heroes of our time" that they did not fight for fame or glory they however fought to protect those they loved and to protect their fellow countrymen. This is the message I portrayed depicting why we remember them, it is so their memory may live on forever and that the harsh times that they faced should be remembered because this was done to protect their fellow Australians. This is why we remember them, so their memory will live forever and because to express our gratitude for the sacrifices they made for us, their future generations, "lest we forget."

