

## WORLD WAR ONE LESSON

### STARTER ACTIVITY

(Instrumental music could be used during this exercise)

**Pupils are to be stood in a neutral position, hands by sides, faces expressionless** (they will create a range of different characters in this starter – none of which are to be like them – so they need to get rid of habits, holding sleeves, messing with hair, walking ‘their’ walk)

**Walk around the space with a moderate pace,  
speed up, slow down,  
change direction,  
touch a wall, touch the floor,  
make eye-contact with someone briefly.**

**Walk around the space as if you have a big decision to make,  
Stop, find somewhere to think about this some more.**

**Get up from your seat as if you are a soldier – obey my commands..**

**ATTENTION!** (They should be stood upright, rigid, saluting the teacher)

**GET READY! AIM, FIRE!** (They should mime taking a rifle from the holster and firing it across the room.)

**QUICK, TAKE SHELTER, WE ARE UNDER ATTACK!** (They should find shelter and should be sustaining role as soldiers)

**Using slow motion you are to take a hand-grenade and release the catch and throw it towards the enemy then take cover...GO!**

**Get up and walk around the space once more, remember no talking, no touching...**

**Get into groups of 3 and create a freeze-frame of *a mother waving goodbye to her children as they board a train to be evacuated to the country.***

**You have 30 seconds to construct this.** (Count down from 10 secs and then shout FREEZE as the teacher inspects the still images – highlight good work and focused poses).

**Walk around the space, you must get into a group with someone different this time.**

**Get into groups of 4 and create a freeze-frame of *a family eating a meal with rationed food.***

**30 seconds etc...**

**Get into a group of 2 and create a freeze-frame of *women working for the first time doing the jobs men had done before they went to war.***

**Get into a group of 6 and create a freeze-frame of *world war one soldiers in the trenches***

**Find a space on your own and create a freeze frame of *a wife of a soldier who has just received a letter to say he is missing, presumed dead.***