

This is a history learning resource for the teaching of the First World War at KS3 (England) or Grades 7-9 (South Africa).

It supports the English National Curriculum for KS3 History -Challenges for Britain, Europe and the wider world 1901 to the present day - the First World War and the Peace Settlement. For pupils in Hampshire, it could also form part of a local history study.

It supports the South African National Curriculum Statement for Senior Grades 7-9 in Social Sciences 2.4.2, 2.4.3 and 2.4.4.

Activities within this pack could also form a stimulus for literacy, art and design.

#### Equipment:

Posters from the We Die Like Brothers resource pack.

Reverend Dyobha's speech from the Death Dance.

Understanding Significance worksheet

Workbooks and writing materials.

Words highlighted in **green** can be found in the glossary at the back of the resource pack.

# We Die Like Brothers

## Understanding Significance

### Understanding Significance

Read the posters at the start of this pack again, and the speech made by Reverend Dyobha which can be found in The Death Dance.

They contain a lot of information about the ship and its story. The worksheet below has some statements about the story of the Mendi.

Determine which have:

**Local significance**

**National significance**

**International significance**

### Learning outcomes

Pupils will gain an understanding of how events in one country can have significance and influence in others.

Pupils will gain historical perspective by understanding the terms local, national and international in relation to historical significance.

### Homework/Extension activities

Research what is meant by the following terms – cultural history, economic history, military history, political history, religious history and social history.

Can any of these terms be used to describe the story of the Mendi?

Could more than one term be used?

# SS MENDI

1. The role of the SANLC has  significance because the men were South African, serving the British Army and were to be based in France.

2. The wreck of the ship has  significance because it lies in British waters, but tells the story of South African men, on their way to France.

3. The Reverend Dyobha's words spoken onboard the deck of the sinking ship have (1) , (2)  and (3)  significance. They have (1)  significance because he speaks of tribal groups, (2)  significance because those groups form the nation of South Africa and (3)  significance because they encourage unity and equality amongst all people.

4. Across South Africa memorial services were held with huge numbers attending, accompanied by an outpouring of grief and dignified sorrow.

This has  significance because these events were held nationally in South Africa.

5. The Mendi was built in Glasgow in 1905. Glasgow had a thriving shipbuilding industry that had  significance to the people of that city. At the time, Glasgow was the greatest shipbuilding centre in the world and therefore also had  significance.

6. Before the war, the Mendi carried cargo and passengers between Liverpool and West Africa. The international trade of goods, and international movement of people, had  significance.

**We Die Like Brothers**  
**Understanding Significance**