

Student 4: High Achieved
NZQA Intended for teacher use only

Research proposal:

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Since the arrival of their ancestors, Maori have been going to war for more than 1000 years. Growing up, I always had an interest in history - especially Maori history. As a product of the past, I have chosen the New Zealand (Maori) Pioneer Battalion as my topic of inquiry. I have chosen this topic because as a Maori myself I wanted an insight into what the lives of Maori soldiers and the Maori society in general, were like during the First World War. I wanted to learn more about the roles the Maori and the conditions in which they worked in and the different perspectives of the Maori in World War One. This may provide some insights into why Maori became involved in what was really a Pakeha war a very long way from their villages and homes – despite the problems Maori had faced with Pakeha over the previous century.

Focusing questions:

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1. What role did the New Zealand Pioneer Battalion play in WWI?
2. What were some experiences for the NZPB during WWI?
3. What were the attitudes of people towards Maori going to war?
4. How did the Maori respond to going to war?

Possible Sources:

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New Zealand History Online – <http://www.nzhistory.net.nz>
 Another potential source that I would expect to find helpful information from would be This web site contains information relating to New Zealand's involvement with the battle of the Somme and how the Battle of the Somme impacted on New Zealanders. **It is a New Zealand-based history website so should have detail and credibility.** It should be helpful for answering my fourth focus question in particular.

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Auckland War Memorial Museum – Scars on the Heart exhibition and research room
 This source provides some of the primary sources required for this research. This includes letters which give accounts of the Maori Pioneers and official army documents and records for Maori soldiers. There are also weapons used by these soldiers. These should assist most with the second and third focusing questions...

Examples of annotations:

5	Relevance: This primary source is relevant to FQ2. It shows members of the Pioneer Battalion working on laying down a road. This helps me to understand the types of jobs Maori were given in the war as well as their work conditions. Compared to other written sources that only talk about the roles I am able to visually see and make my own judgements. So this is one of my best	Relevance: This secondary source is relevant to my fourth focus question because provides more than one example of what it is that the soldiers worked on which included digging trenches, building roads and other duties behind the front line. This source does not provide as much understanding, compared to sources like <i>Maori in the Great War</i>, but it provides some basic information.	6
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<p>sources. Reliability: I found this primary source very reliable because it was taken at the time of World War One and the website is also reliable because it came from a history web site that specialises.</p>	<p>Reliability: I find this web site reliable because it comes from an official New Zealand website. The web site publishes original drawings, maps and photographs. Using this primary evidence I can make my own conclusions rather than relying on other historians.</p>
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Evaluation:

I chose to focus my topic on the Maori involvement of World War One by looking at what roles the Maori had, their experiences, the attitudes towards the Maori pioneers and the responses from Maori in general. I wanted to specifically learn about the Maori involvement because I felt as though, being Maori, that it was my duty to learn and gain as much knowledge about the actions of my ancestors in the Great War. I also believed that the recognition of their role wasn't as appreciated or portrayed enough as it should have been, so I thought that this assignment was a perfect opportunity for me to show my appreciation by learning about their involvement.

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During this achievement standard, I have encountered both strengths and weaknesses that have helped to improve my ability to carry out research and increase my knowledge about the Maori in the First World War. I have learnt to expand my findings and go beyond the obvious for information and the benefits that come with going the extra mile. By going to the Auckland Museum, I was able to learn and see more.

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A strength I have had for this research assignment was having multiple sources to use for my first focus question 'What roles did the New Zealand Pioneer Battalion play in WWI?' and my fourth one 'How did the Maori respond to going to war? There were many sources that I was able to use, which allowed me to gain as much information as possible to answer these questions. A website that I found most helpful was a New Zealand history website (<http://www.nzhistory.net.nz>). I found this website very helpful as it contained a lot of useful information that was relevant to my four focus questions. The majority of my sources came from this website. It was able to provide me with primary source pictures, quotes from Maori leaders, Pioneers and other relevant people. It also gave me a lot of relevant information towards my questions that helped me to gain a better understanding of this topic.

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The New Zealand History Online website was a really helpful source that I commonly used to provide answer for my first focus question. It gave relevant information that answered my focus questions, as well as providing general information about Maori in World War I.

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Another source that I found useful was the book, *Frontier of Dreams, the Story of New Zealand* by John Parker. I found this source useful because it provided me with very helpful information that I was able to use to answer my focus questions. It included descriptive information about the perspectives from Maori leaders and the actions taken to rebel against conscription...

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