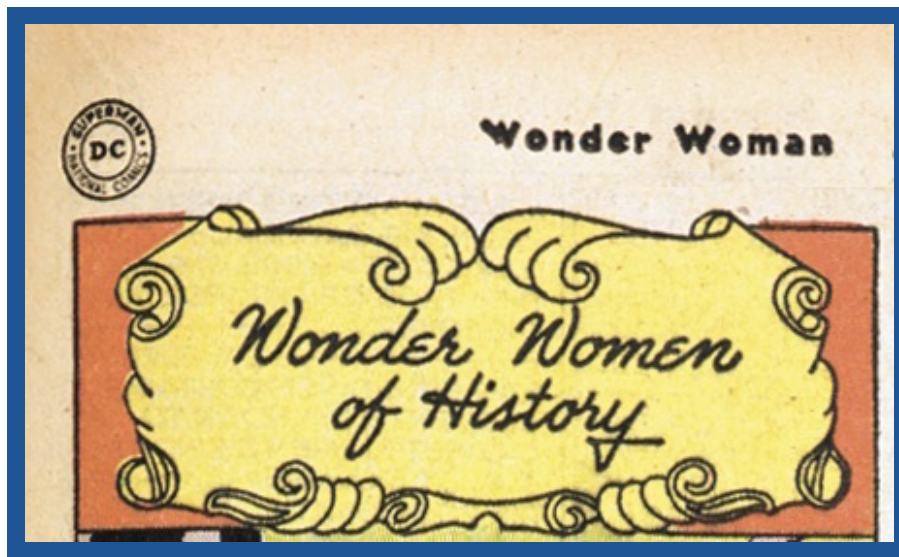


Was Jane Addams a Wonder Woman In History?



Harvey, S. (2001). American women: A Library of Congress guide for the study of women's history and culture in the United States [Page 65]. Retrieved from <http://hdl.handle.net/2027/uiug.30112056803700?url..>

Supporting Questions

1. What extraordinary human skills or personality traits did Jane Addams possess?
2. Who or what were the villains in Jane Addams' life?
3. What extraordinary accomplishments did Jane Addams make in the name of World Peace?

6-8 Grade Teaching with Primary Sources Hub
Jane Addams: Pacifist Inquiry by Ann B. Canning

Was Jane Addams a Wonder Woman In History?

Inquiry Standard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> D1.1.9-12. Explain how a question reflects an enduring issue in the field. D2.His.3.9-12. Use questions generated about individuals and groups to assess how the significance of their actions changes over time and is shaped by the historical context.
Staging the Compelling Question	Observe – Reflect – Question: Examine a Comic Book Cover for Wonder Woman and write down the physical traits you see exhibited. What do you think makes her a Superhero? Read the article about the “Super Women of History” comic book feature by Sheridan Harvey and reflect on the human traits the women in this series all shared. What questions do these two sources raise in your mind?

Supporting Question 1	Supporting Question 2	Supporting Question 3
What extraordinary human skills or personality traits did Jane Addams possess?	Who or what were the villains in Jane Addams’ life?	What extraordinary accomplishments did Jane Addams make in the name of World Peace?
Formative Performance Task	Formative Performance Task	Formative Performance Task
Analyze the primary sources listed below to discover evidence to answer supporting question #1.	Analyze the primary sources listed below to discover and record evidence to answer supporting question #2.	Analyze the primary sources listed below to discover and record evidence to answer supporting question #3.
Featured Sources	Featured Sources	Featured Sources
Source A: 1. Organize to Avert Human Slaughter Says Jane Adams An Address before the Second National Peace Conference 1914. Source B: 2. Excerpts of Speeches and the Writing of Jane Addams	Source A: The Strangest Infatuations Source B: An Insult To War Source C: Criticism of Jane Addams	Source A: Jane Addams: A Foe of War and Need Source B: Nobel Peace Prize Award Speech 1931

Summative Performance Task	<p>ARGUMENT Write an argument made up of claims with evidence that responds to the compelling question, “Was Jane Addams a Wonder Woman in History?”</p>
Taking Informed Action	<p>EXTENSION Use your argument to write a comment to the DC Entertainment Management team encouraging them to reinstate the Wonder Women in History Feature that stopped in 1957. In your comment, recommend that they restart this feature with a story about Jane Addams or another woman in history that was not included in the original series. http://www.dcentertainment.com/#contact</p> <p>UNDERSTAND Plan some critical TV viewing with your family, focusing on a particular program. Count the number of male characters and female characters. How are they portrayed? Do the same with the commercials. Have a family discussion about reasons for the gender imbalance and how female characters could be given an equal voice.</p> <p>ASSESS Consider how others might learn about this contemporary images of women in the media.</p> <p>ACTION Help to put more women in leadership roles. Encourage qualified women you know to run for office and support women candidates who are committed to policies that will have a positive impact on women. Visit She Should Run to find out how you can be actively involved in getting more women to run for public office.</p>

Inquiry Description

This inquiry evolved from a secondary source at the Library of Congress for young learners called *Meet Amazing Americans*. “Jane Addams was a peacemaker even when she was criticized for her views. She taught, wrote, and lectured about peace both nationally and internationally. Before World War I, Addams was probably the most beloved woman in America because of her social reform work at Hull House in Chicago. In a newspaper poll that asked, *Who among our contemporaries are of the most value to the community?* Jane Addams was second, after Thomas Edison. When she opposed America's involvement in World War I, however, newspaper editors called her a traitor and a fool, but she never changed her mind.”
http://www.americaslibrary.gov/aa/addams/aa_addams..

In 1942, the most beloved female superhero, Super Woman was created in All Star Comics followed by a backup series in 1942 called Wonder Women of History. These women used their extraordinary human powers to fight poverty, peace and justice. Jane Addams was not in this series of real life wonder women. Does Jane Addams fit this superhero profile? Does she deserve to be #67 in the Wonder Women of History series?

Structure

After brainstorming what traits an Amazon from Greek mythology and Wonder Woman from superhero comic book fiction possess, students will compare these traits to the role Jane Addams played in the 20th Century Peace Movement. Primary sources will include Jane Addams personal writings and speeches, media reactions to her peace organizing efforts at home and abroad and Wonder Woman in History comic strips.

Staging the Compelling Question

Compelling Question	Was Jane Addams a Wonder Woman In History?
Featured Sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Source A: American women: A Library of Congress guide for the study of women's history and culture in the United States [Page 65].● Source B: Wonder Women in History● Source C: Superhero definition

Staging the compelling question

Students will brainstorm what personality traits are possessed by superheroes in general and female super heroines or Wonder Women in particular.

Compelling Question

Featured Source A

American women: A Library of Congress guide for the study of women's history and culture in the United States [Page 65].

Excerpt

"Wonder Women of History" appeared as a regular feature in the Wonder Woman comic book, with Florence Nightingale as the first, in issue no.1 of 1942, and ending with Gail Laughlin in issue no. 66 of May 1954. Since Wonder Woman's strength, speed, and agility are the result of her Amazon training rather than super powers, this feature also reinforced a major theme of the series: any young girl could become a wonder woman through personal initiative. Women from a variety of ethnic backgrounds, occupations, and historical time periods were included. Each biography was one to four pages in length.

Source:

<http://hdl.handle.net/2027/uiug.30112056803700?url..>

Compelling Question

Featured Source B

Wonder Women in History

Excerpt

Golden Age Wonder Woman comics had a backup feature called the "Wonder Women of History" detailing real life women and their famous achievements.

As opposed to the main focus of the Wonder Woman comic, which was the detailing of the adventures of a fictional character, these comics detailed the real life exploits of women far ahead of their times. In doing so these stories were serving the same role that the Wonder Woman stories had originally been designed to play, that of providing strong role models to young women. Eventually the series of backup stories were discontinued and replaced by one page comics detailing various marriage and wedding ceremonies/rituals. The last Wonder Woman issue to feature a "*Wonder Woman of History*" was issue 57. The stories were originally written outside of context to the overall comic as stand-alones, but eventually the stories became part of files that Diana Prince kept. The stories tended to highlight key points from the women's lives, as opposed to focusing on specific episodes.

Source:

<http://comicvine.gamespot.com/the-wonder-women-of-..>

Compelling Question

Featured Source C

Superhero definition

Excerpt

A fictional hero having extraordinary or [superhuman](#) powers; *also*: an exceptionally skillful or successful person

Source:

Superhero. (n.d.). Retrieved April 16, 2016, from <http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/superher..>

Supporting Question 1

Supporting Question	What extraordinary human skills or personality traits did Jane Addams possess?
Formative Performance Task	Analyze the primary sources listed below to discover evidence to answer supporting question #1.
Featured Sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Source A: 1. Organize to Avert Human Slaughter Says Jane Adams An Address before the Second National Peace Conference 1914.● Source B: 2. Excerpts of Speeches and the Writing of Jane Addams
Additional Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Primary Source Analysis Tool General.pdf (https://s3.amazonaws.com/idm-dev/u/b/6/4/a/151/b64ae96304a889aa4018340402be1be22d74b1cf.pdf)● SCIM-CChartsforNovices.pdf (https://s3.amazonaws.com/idm-dev/u/8/d/5/9/151/8d590fc4877cc351ed3fca546c79349d8d88c0fd.pdf)

This question will examine the personal writings and speeches of Jane Addams to find evidence for her beliefs and actions related to democracy, peace and the power of women before, during and after WWI.

Formative Performance Task

Use either the Analysis tool from the Library of Congress or the SCIM-C worksheet. Student worksheets and explanations of both these historical analysis tools are posted under additional materials.

Supporting Question 1

Featured Source A

1. Organize to Avert Human Slaughter Says Jane Addams An Address before the Second National Peace Conference 1914.

"ORGANIZE TO AVERT HUMAN SLAUGHTER," SAYS JANE ADDAMS IN PEACE ADDRESS

BY JANE ADDAMS.

(From an Address Before the Second Annual Peace Congress, Chicago.)

Men very early learned to do things together, because they were obliged to fight together; one of the things which war bequeathed to mankind and to the male portion of mankind was this ability to go out together, to go in tribes, to go in phalanxes, to go in regiments, to go in whatever body of men was the safest to those who were fighting, and to bring the most destruction to those whom they were fighting against.

But we women never had this training. It is said that even when women were used as beasts of burden, which began very early, one woman always went by herself or went with another beast, but two women never pulled together.

Whether that is true or not, I think it is certainly true that the thing which is happening now to this special generation of women is the ability and the learning how to act together.

At last women are learning to pull together, to pull in bodies. We may call those bodies clubs or we may call them benefit societies, or we may call them this, that and the other, but they are all bodies of women as such, and they are going out to do away with such evil as they see and to bring about such good as they may be able to perform.

There is one thing which the theory of evolution has given to us. It is very hard for us to detach ourselves from the past. That is, whether we call ourselves evolutionists or not, whether we think much about it or not, it has so changed our point of view that unconsciously we realize we are children of the past.

The things which we are now are the results of the things which have gone before us. If at last in the fullness of time it has come about that

Anglo-Saxon women have received a larger measure of freedom, if they can go to clubs without being accused by the men of their family, or by the newspapers, which are often much worse, of neglecting their children at home, in their cradles; if various things have happened so that we can



Jane Addams

without detaching ourselves too much from the past, organize into these clubs and movements, it is now up to us—if I may use that phrase—to see what we are going to do with this power of organization and with this new ability to act together.

If men learned it in fighting, it may be harder for them to forget the method by which they learned it. It

The day book. (Chicago, Ill.) 1911-1917, August 25, 1914, LAST EDITION, Image 11. Image provided by University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Library, Urbana, IL. <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045487/>.

may always be harder for a body of men to go out to do things, to reform, than it will be for women. They are not quite free from the fighting instinct yet.

It is said that one of the charms of political life is the fighting element that still remains; the consciousness that you are one of a large body of men going out to battle against your enemy of the other party.

If we lack all of that training and have now come into this new movement with the power of acting together, we ought to bring a distinct factor in the peace of the world.

We ought to make it clear that bodies of people can act together without this fighting spirit, without the spirit of competition, without the spirit of rivalry; simply moved by a common impulse, going out to do the things which ought to be done, and finally we have at last learned to do them together.

So it seems to me we are, as women's organizations, bringing into the civilizing forces—or shall I say social forces?—or those things which make for progress, a new combination which while it does make for progress will make for peace as perhaps no organizations have ever done before. I hope that it is not fantastic, and I hope we will show that it is true.

—o—o—
GERMAN KAISERIN MAY TRY CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

Berlin.—That the kaiserin is seriously ill of a malady which has failed of diagnosis by specialists is the current belief. It is said that the emperor has indicated that he would be pleased if she would try Christian Science, since medical skill has failed, but that her materialistic trend of thought has prevented this plan.

—o—o—
FOR SUMMER TRADE

• • • • •
 • Wanted—An experienced sales-
 • lady in underwear and Hosiery.
 • • • • •

—Ad in Chicago paper.

THE LAST FRANCO-GERMAN WAR IN A NUTSHELL

The rapidity with which Germany accomplished its purpose in the Franco-Prussian of 1870-71 is shown in the following table:

- War declared July 19, 1870.
- July 28—Half a million Germans enter France.
- August 2—Minor French success at Saarbruck.
- August 4—French defeat at Weissenberg.
- August 6—French defeat at Worth.
- August 16—German triumph in three days' battle at Gravelotte.
- September 1—French disaster at Sedan, followed by surrender and flight of the emperor.
- September 16—Germans appear before Paris.
- October 27—Metz falls.
- January 28, 1871—Paris capitulates.
- May 10, 1871—Peace of Frankfurt-on-Main.

—o—o—
PLEASANT TIME WAS HAD



"Is it necessary for you to have a fight at your house every time you have a christening?"
 "Well, judge, it's the only way our set can get a social event into the papers."

The day book. (Chicago, Ill.) 1911-1917, August 25, 1914, LAST EDITION, Image 11. Image provided by University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Library, Urbana, IL. [http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045487/.](http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045487/)

Supporting Question 1

Featured Source B

2. Excerpts of Speeches and the Writing of Jane Addams

Excerpt

Jane Addams, speech at Carnegie Hall, July 9, 1915

The first thing which was striking is this, that the same causes and reasons for the war were heard everywhere. Each warring nation solemnly assured you it is fighting under the impulse of self-defense. Another thing which we found very striking was that in practically all of the foreign offices the men said that a nation at war cannot make negotiations and that a nation at war cannot even express willingness to receive negotiations, for if it does either, the enemy will at once construe it as a symptom of weakness.

Generally speaking, we heard everywhere that this war was an old man's war; that the young men who were dying, the young men who were doing the fighting, were not the men who wanted the war, and were not the men who believed in the war; that someone in church and state, somewhere in the high places of society, the elderly people, the middle-aged people, had established themselves and had convinced themselves that this was a righteous war, that this war must be fought out, and the young men must do the fighting.

Jane Addams, Patriotism and Pacifism in War Time, June 16, 1917 This world crisis should be utilized for the creation of an international government to secure without war, those high ends which they now gallantly seek to obtain upon the battlefield. With such a creed can the pacifists of today be accused of selfishness when they urge upon the United States no isolation, not indifference to moral issues and to the fate of liberty and democracy, but a strenuous endeavor to lead all nations of the earth into an organized international life worthy of civilized men.

Jane Addams, speech in Chicago November 28, 1919 Hundreds of poor laboring men and women are being thrown into jails and police stations because of their political beliefs. In fact, an attempt is being made to deport an entire political party. These men and women, who in some respects are more American in ideals than the agents of the government who are tracking them down, are thrust into cells so crowded they cannot lie down. And what is it these radicals seek? It is the right of free speech and free thought; nothing more than is guaranteed to them under the Constitution of the United States, but repudiated because of the war. It is a dangerous situation we face at the present time, with the rule of the few overcoming the voice of the many. It is doubly dangerous because we are trying to suppress something upon which our very country was founded - liberty. The cure for the spirit of unrest in this country is conciliation and education - not hysteria. Free speech is the greatest safety valve of our United States. Let us give these people a chance to explain their beliefs and desires. Let us end this suppression and spirit of intolerance which is making of America another autocracy.

Source:

Kaufmann, B. (n.d.). Voices Education Project. Retrieved April 08, 2016, from <http://voiceseducation.org/node/269>

Supporting Question 2

Supporting Question	Who or what were the villains in Jane Addams' life?
Formative Performance Task	Analyze the primary sources listed below to discover and record evidence to answer supporting question #2.
Featured Sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Source A: The Strangest Infatuations● Source B: An Insult ToWar● Source C: Criticism of Jane Addams

Some superheroes use their powers to counter day-to-day crime while also combating threats against humanity from supervillains, who are their criminal counterparts.

Jane Addams was well known and respected by the public and the media for her social reform work. The tables turned when she became an outspoken advocate for peace. This question explores that reaction and looks at how Jane Addams withstood the criticism

Formative Performance Task

Use either the Analysis tool from the Library of Congress or the SCIM-C worksheet. Student worksheets and explanations of both these historical analysis tools are posted under additional materials for Supporting Question #1.

Supporting Question 2

Featured Source A

The Strangest Infatuations



Rogers, W. A. (1918) The Strangest of Infatuations. [?] [Image] Retrieved from the Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/item/2010717801>.

AN INSULT TO WAR.**Miss Addams Would Strip the Dead of Honor and Courage.**

Mount Kisco, N. Y., July 11, 1915.

To the Editor of The New York Times:

On Friday night at Carnegie Hall Miss Jane Addams stated that in the present war, in order to get soldiers to charge with the bayonet, all nations are forced first to make them drunk. I quote from THE TIMES report:

In Germany they have a regular formula for it [she said.] In England they use rum and the French resort to absinthe. In other words, therefore, in the terrible bayonet charges they speak of with dread, the men must be doped before they start.

In this war the French or English soldier who has been killed in a bayonet charge gave his life to protect his home and country. For his supreme exit he had prepared himself by months of discipline. Through the Winter in the trenches he has endured shells, disease, snow, and ice. For months he had been parted from his wife, children, friends—all those he most loved. When the order to charge came it was for them he gave his life, that against those who destroyed Belgium they might preserve their home, might live to enjoy peace.

Miss Addams denies him the credit of his sacrifice. She strips him of honor and courage. She tells his children, "Your father did not die for France, or for England, or for you; he died because he was drunk."

In my opinion, since the war began, no statement has been so unworthy or so untrue and ridiculous. The contempt it shows for the memory of the dead is appalling; the credulity and ignorance it displays are inconceivable.

Miss Addams does not know that even from France they have banished absinthe. If she doubts that in this France has succeeded let her ask for it. I asked for it, and each *maitre d'hôtel* treated me as though I had proposed we should assassinate General Joffre.

If Miss Addams does know that the French Government has banished absinthe, then she is accusing it of openly receiving the congratulations of the world for destroying the drug while secretly using it to make fiends of the army. If what Miss Addams states is true, then the French Government is rotten, French officers deserve only court-martial, and French soldiers are cowards.

If we are to believe her, the Canadians at Ypres, the Australians in the Dardanelles, the English and the French on the Aisne made no supreme sacrifice, but were killed in a drunken brawl.

Miss Addams desires peace. So does every one else. But she will not attain peace by misrepresentation. I have seen more of this war and other wars than Miss Addams, and I know all war to be wicked, wasteful, and unintelligent, and where Miss Addams can furnish one argument in favor of peace I will furnish a hundred. But against this insult, flung by a complacent and self-satisfied woman at men who gave

their lives for men, I protest. And I believe that with me are all those women and men who respect courage and honor.

RICHARD HARDING DAVIS.

The New York Times

Published: July 13, 1915

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Supporting Question 2

Featured Source C

Criticism of Jane Addams

Excerpt

Criticism of Jane Addams

The excerpt below comes from a piece from in thePittsfield Journal on July 3, 1915.

The time was when Miss Jane Addams of Hull House, Chicago held a warm place in the hearts of the American people but she is vast losing their esteem, which her earlier efforts seem to merit. Her dabbling in politics, her suffrage activity and her ill-advised methods of working for peace have very materially lowered her in the esteem of hundreds of former admirers.

The excerpt below comes from a piece from in theFort Wayne News June 18, 1917.

For three of four years past Jane Addams has gone to bizarre extremes in her advocacy of weird measures and her championship of impossible people, apparently capitalizing on a reputation honestly won in a worthy work, to keep herself constantly in the headlines. She has sacrificed fame for notoriety and a place in the public heart for a place in the spotlight.

Source:

Voices Education Project" Criticism of Jane Addams. (n.d.). Retrieved April 16, 2016, from <http://voiceseducation.org/node/270>

Supporting Question 3

Supporting Question	What extraordinary accomplishments did Jane Addams make in the name of World Peace?
Formative Performance Task	Analyze the primary sources listed below to discover and record evidence to answer supporting question #3.
Featured Sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Source A: Jane Addams: A Foe of War and Need● Source B: Nobel Peace Prize Award Speech 1931

This question asks students to look at how this nation and the world viewed Jane Addams at the end of her life.

Formative Performance Task

Use either the Analysis tool from the Library of Congress or the SCIM-C worksheet. Student worksheets and explanations of both these historical analysis tools are posted under additional materials for Supporting Question #1.

Supporting Question 3

Featured Source A

Jane Addams: A Foe of War and Need

Excerpt

She made enemies. Her views were sometimes considered dangerously radical. Socialists and other radicals met at Hull House, and her opponents sometimes forgot that her liberal attitude in permitting such meetings did not include a membership in the groups she tolerated. In the World War her efforts for peace were unabated even when the United States entered the struggle and the wartime hysteria which ensued obscured for a time the American public's realization of Miss Addams's purity of purpose and character.

World peace was forever dear to her heart, and from the time of the war she became more and more active in its behalf. But she did not ignore other causes. Lavishly she gave of herself to fight child labor, to lead political causes such as those of Colonel Roosevelt and the Progressive Party in 1912 and of Senator La Follette and his Progressives of 1924, to battle for disarmament, for insurance against unemployment, old age and poverty, for woman suffrage and for equal rights of women. But she never left Hull House, her starting place, and remained as its resident head until her death.

She lectured from end to end of the United States. All over Europe and Asia she traveled, everywhere striving to alleviate the suffering of the masses, everywhere serene, helpful, capable, dauntless. She wrote many books. In each she pledged herself anew to fight for justice as she saw it.

In one of her books Miss Addams wrote:

"My father always spoke of the martyred President as Mr. Lincoln, and I never heard the great name without a thrill. I remember the day--it must have been one of comparative leisure, perhaps a Sunday--when at my request my father took out of his desk a thin packet marked 'Mr. Lincoln's Letters,' the shortest one of which bore unmistakable traces of that remarkable personality. These letters began 'My Dear Double D-'ed Addams,' and to the inquiry as to how the person thus addressed was about to vote on a certain measure then before the Legislature was added the assurance that he knew this Addams 'would vote according to his conscience.'"

She wrote also that the first exciting suggestion "of the great world of moral enterprise and serious undertakings" came when she was 12 and she found her father mourning over the death of Giuseppe Mazzini, the Italian patriot. Her father explained how Mazzini had striven all his life

for the freedom of his country.

"I obtained," she wrote, "a sense of the genuine relationship which may exist between men who share large hopes and like desires, even though they differ in nationality, language and creed; that those things count for absolutely nothing between groups for men who are trying to abolish

slavery in America or to throw off Hapsburg oppression in Italy."

In April, 1915, she helped to organize and became president of the Woman's International League for Peace and Freedom, then called the Woman's International Peace Congress, which she headed until 1929, when she became honorary international president. The first meeting, held in April, 1915, at The Hague, was, in many respects, a stormy one, as it was attended by women from all of the warring countries, as well as most of the neutral ones.

After the conference Miss Addams toured Europe in an effort to persuade the heads of the belligerent nations to make peace. But she found that the war spirit was dominant. The movement for a conference to offer continuous mediation, which she backed, was checked by the refusal of President Wilson to move in the matter.

Henry Ford then offered to convey several hundred Americans to Europe on a peace mission. Miss Addams intended to sail, but could not, as she was desperately ill in Chicago at the time the Oscar II sailed. The Lusitania had been sunk by this time and American patriotism became so vehement as to cause resentment against Miss Addams.

She was horrified at the sinking, but said that "talk of reprisal and aggression can only increase the spirit of bitterness." She opposed going to war over the case and continued to cooperate with those who wanted to stop the war.

After the war declaration in April, 1917, she met measures for strengthening of the blockade of the Central Powers with the declaration that the United States "should not allow the women and children of any nation to starve." She declared later that "the feelings of German-born Americans should have been considered before the United States entered the war."

She was never accused of being pro-German, but was much criticized for her pacifism. After the war she presided at international conferences of the league in Zurich in 1919, in Vienna in 1921, in The Hague in 1922, in Washington in 1924, in Dublin in 1926 and at Prague in 1929. Always in her peace work she was forward looking. It was noted that in the resolutions adopted at the first conference in 1915 many of President Wilson's Fourteen Points were forecast. In 1924 much opposition was manifested in this country to the conference, to which Miss Addams replied gracefully, without rancor.

Source:

Jane Addams a foe of war and need. (1935, May 22). New York Times. Retrieved April 16, 2016, from [http://www.nytimes.com/learning/general/onthisday/..](http://www.nytimes.com/learning/general/onthisday/)

Supporting Question 3

Featured Source B

Nobel Peace Prize Award Speech 1931

Excerpt

It must be said, however, that the United States is not the power for peace in the world that we should have wished her to be. She has sometimes let herself drift into the imperialism which is the natural outcome of industrial capitalism in our age. In many ways she is typical of the wildest form of capitalist society, and this has inevitably left its mark on American politics.

But America has at the same time fostered some of the most spirited idealism on earth. It may be that this idealism derives its vigor from the squalor and evil produced by social conditions, in other words from the contrasts within itself. It is certainly an undeniable fact, which must strike anyone who knows the country, that the American nation has an instinctive and profound faith in what the philosophers of 100 or 150 years ago used to call human perfectability, the capacity to become more and more perfect. It is a faith which has provided the foundation for some of our greatest religions and one which has inspired much of the best work for progress. It was proclaimed by Jesus Christ; it inspired the work of men like Emerson and Wergeland¹. To the American mind nothing is impossible. This attitude applies not only to science and technology but to social forms and conditions as well. To an American an ideal is not just a beautiful mirage but a practical reality the implementation of which is every man's duty. American social idealism expresses itself as a burning desire to devote work and life to the construction of a more equitable society, in which men will show each other greater consideration in their mutual relations, will provide stronger protection to the weak, and will offer greater opportunities for the beneficent forces of progress.

Two of the finest representatives of this American idealism are awarded the Nobel Peace Prize today. Both have worked assiduously and for many years to revive the ideal of peace and to rekindle the spirit of peace in their own nation and in the whole of mankind.

In honoring Jane Addams, we also pay tribute to the work which women can do for peace and fraternity among nations. The old concept implied that woman was the source of nearly all sin and strife on earth. Popular tradition and poetry would also have it that women were frequently the cause of the wars waged by kings and nations. I know of only one legend to the contrary, the story of the Sabine women who threw themselves between their Roman fathers and brothers and their Sabine husbands.

In modern times the poets, starting with Goethe, Ibsen, and Bjørnson², have seen women in a different light; in their eyes women reflect the highest and purest moral standards of society. And no man has placed greater faith in the work of women for the cause of peace than did Bjørnson. It is this new position acquired by women in the society of our time, their new independence in relation to men, that gave us reason to anticipate that they would constitute a new force in the work for peace. Bjørnson seemed to see women as bringing «the spirit of calm to the tumult of battle», with the prayer that love should prevail over the passion to kill, and to believe that when women obtained power in society and in the state, the very spirit of war must die.

Twice in my life, once more than twenty years ago and now again this year, I have had the pleasure of visiting the institution where she has been carrying on her lifework. In the poorest districts of Chicago, among Polish, Italian, Mexican, and other immigrants, she has established and maintained the vast social organization centered in Hull-House³. Here young and old alike, in fact all who ask, receive a helping hand whether they wish to educate themselves or to find work. When you meet Miss Addams here - be it in meeting room, workroom, or dining room - you immediately become poignantly aware that she has built a *home* and in it is a *mother* to one and all. She is not one to talk much, but her quiet, greathearted personality inspires confidence and creates an atmosphere of goodwill which instinctively brings out the best in everyone.

Presentation Speech by Halvdan Koht⁴, member of the Nobel Committee, on December 10, 1931

Source:

"The Nobel Peace Prize 1931 - Presentation Speech". Nobelprize.org. Nobel Media AB 2014. Web. 16 Apr

2016.

Summative Performance Task

Compelling Question	Was Jane Addams a Wonder Woman In History?
Argument	Write an argument made up of claims with evidence that responds to the compelling question, "Was Jane Addams a Wonder Woman in History?"
Extension	Use your argument to write a comment to the DC Entertainment Management team encouraging them to reinstate the Wonder Women in History Feature that stopped in 1957. In your comment, recommend that they restart this feature with a story about Jane Addams or another woman in history that was not included in the original series. http://www.dcentertainment.com/#contact
Additional Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Golden Age Wonder Woman Comics had a backup feature called the.pdf (https://s3.amazonaws.com/idm-dev/u/0/e/e/5/151/0ee5936f7f50ec603e3b8cbefde4f96f2240537e.pdf)

Argument

The argument provides students an opportunity to make claims using evidence from the primary sources about the life and legacy of Jane Addams.

Extension

The extension shifts the focus back to the comic book feature series from the 1940s and 50s. It requires students to apply what they have learned to a another context and think about how Jane Addams could be presented as s role model to today's young women. A list of 57 wonder women included in that original Wonder Women In History feature is listed in Additional Material Below.

Taking Informed Action

Understand	Plan some critical TV viewing with your family, focusing on a particular program. Count the number of male characters and female characters. How are they portrayed? Do the same with the commercials. Have a family discussion about reasons for the gender imbalance and how female characters could be given an equal voice.
Assess	Consider how others might learn about this contemporary images of women in the media.
Action	Help to put more women in leadership roles. Encourage qualified women you know to run for office and support women candidates who are committed to policies that will have a positive impact on women. Visit She Should Run to find out how you can be actively involved in getting more women to run for public office.

This action is one of several action plans suggested on the website for the award winning documentary film: Wonder Women: The Untold Story of American Super Heroines.

<http://wonderwomendoc.com/>

