

**World War II****Focus on Writing****A Radio News Broadcast**

During World War II, Americans relied on radio broadcasts to receive news about their loved ones fighting overseas. Write a radio news broadcast about an event from the war.

**PREWRITING**

- 1. Taking Notes on Pearl Harbor** In your notebook, answer the following questions: Where is Pearl Harbor? Who attacked Pearl Harbor? When did it occur? What was the result of the attack? Consider other details that might make for a good news broadcast.
- 2. Taking Notes on the Home Front** How did ordinary citizens in the United States support the war effort? Imagine you are writing a broadcast convincing other Americans to “do their part.” How might you convince them? What stories might you tell?
- 3. Taking Notes on the Progress of the War** In a chart like the one below, write the major battles of the war. In the right-hand column, list a detail about each one. (One battle has been filled in to get you started.) Then, write how American leaders, strategies, and individual soldiers contributed to victories in Europe and North Africa.

<b>Major Battle</b>	<b>Details</b>
Battle of El Alamein	The British stopped the Afrika Korps.

- 4. Taking Notes on Military Achievements** Note the challenges U.S. soldiers faced in the Pacific. Then compare and contrast fighting in the Pacific and fighting in Europe and Africa. How might you describe a Pacific battle in your radio report?
- 5. Taking Notes on the Impact of the War** Take notes on the last days of World War II. How did the Allies finally win the war? What impact did the war have on people and countries around the world? How might you convey this in your radio report?

**WRITING**

**6. Writing** Begin by reviewing your notes. Then, decide on an event or story from World War II and write a radio news broadcast about it. Your broadcast should be one to two paragraphs long. Begin by stating the topic of your broadcast. Use descriptive language to engage your listeners. Include quotes from soldiers or national leaders. Be sure to answer the questions *Who? What? Where? When? Why?* and *How?* End by telling the importance of the event or story.

**EVALUATING**

**8. Evaluating Your Radio News Broadcast** Does your radio news broadcast do a good job of presenting an event or story from World War II? Use the questions below to evaluate and revise your radio news broadcast.

**Rubric**

- Does your radio news broadcast begin by telling the topic?
- Does your broadcast include important details about the topic?
- Does your broadcast use descriptive language?
- Does your broadcast answer the questions *Who? What? Where? When? Why?* and *How?*
- Does your broadcast end by telling the importance of the event or story?