





HVL LESSON TITLE:

## A SOLDIER'S PERSEVERANCE

DEVELOPED BY: MICHELLE BREEDEN

# A SOLDIER'S PERSEVERANCE

**GUIDING QUESTION:** 

How can a soldier overcome adversity?

#### **OVERVIEW**

Students will determine the meaning of the word perseverance and determine personal examples. Once they have established the definition of the word, they will use this as a guide while viewing the interview of Charles Henry and determine how he preserved through his military career.



Subject(s):
History



WWII Veteran(s):

**Charles Henry** 



**Duration:** 

45 min.

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"It was a privilege to me, and I learned a lot from being assigned to that position of MP because the Germans spoke fluent English and they knew more black history than I did."

**CHARLES HENRY** - WWII VETERAN

#### **OVERVIEW**

Students will determine the meaning of the word perseverance and determine personal examples. Once they have established the definition of the word, they will use this as a guide while viewing the interview of Charles Henry and determine how he preserved through his military career.

#### HISTORICAL CONTEXT

During World War II over 1 million African Americans will serve in one of the American military branches. The United States military was still segregated and denied African American soldiers many opportunities including becoming officers and members of the airborne division. African Americans were fighting aboard for freedoms that they themselves did not receive. This denial of opportunities and advancement; however, did not stop them from fighting for their country during World War II.

#### **OBJECTIVES**

At the conclusion of this lesson, students will be able to

- Understand how soldiers had to overcome adversity using personal character traits of perseverance.
- · Understand how to use primary documents to draw conclusions about the past.

#### **STANDARDS**

#### CCSS.ELA- Literacy 6-8.1

Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources.

#### CCSS. ELA- Literacy 6-8.4

Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary specific to domains related to history/social studies.

#### CCSS.ELA-Literacy 6-8.7

Integrate visual information (e.g., charts, graphs, photographs, videos, or maps) with other information in print and digital texts.

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#### **MATERIALS & DOCUMENTS**

#### **CHARLES HENRY VIDEO:**

African American WW2 Veteran Was Denied
Joining the Airborne | Memoirs Of WWII #29
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zwT8\_GVyVEw

#### **DOCUMENT A:**

Frayer Model- one for each student.

#### COMPUTER WITH INTERNET ACCESS

#### **PROCEDURES**

#### **ACTIVITY 01**

As students to use Document A and complete the following 3 out of 4 boxes.

- · Define the word perseverance.
- · List Related Characteristic that you feel go with perseverance.
- Give 2 examples of a person or profession you feel show perseverance.
- · Leave 4th box empty for now.
- Discuss student responses by sharing several as a whole group.

#### **ACTIVITY 02**

- Have students watch Charles Henry Interview. While they watch the video, have students in the 4thbox of the previous activity right down moments in Charles's story where he demonstrated\ perseverance during his service.
- · After the video, ask students to compare their responses with each other and highlight any responses that match between them.
- · Ask the students to reflect on this question: How can we take what Charles did during his time as an American Hero and apply it to our lives?

#### METHODS FOR EXTENSION

- · As Charles's video showed, it was years later that his loyalty was rewarded with his honorary paratrooper wings. As an extension activity, have students write a presentation speech for the day he received his Honorary Airborne Wings acknowledging the events Mr. Henry had to persevere through and list his characteristics that have him being awarded this honor.
- · If time allows, have students share their speeches.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: email: info@honoringveteranlegacies.org