**WORLD WAR II: INTRODUCTION**

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| What do you KNOW about World War II?  | What do you WANT TO KNOW about WWII? |
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Ella is a mean girl. Ella had a rough childhood, and takes out her anger on her peers at school. Natalie has been repeatedly bullied by Ella all year long. Ella has sent Natalie mean text messages and posted negative rumors about her on social media. Natalie has sat and taken it, because she doesn’t know what to do. Natalie’s best friends, Tom and Grace, know about the situation. Natalie’s mom does, too, but thinks that it’s “just a high school thing” and that she can learn to face her fears and face a bully head-on. The bullying continues to progress over the course of Natalie’s freshman year. Ella’s friends, Sofia and Hank, ignore her meanness at first, brushing it off because of her childhood. Over time, after watching Ella’s bullying, they start to develop similar feelings toward Natalie. Ella takes the bullying from online bashing to in-person bashing. Ella, Sofia, and Hank start making fun of Natalie at school and in the hallways. Still it does not stop. Natalie doesn’t know what to do about it – she just tries to ignore it, hoping it will go away, and that Ella will move on or stop doing it. But, now that Sofia and Hank are involved, she’s can’t handle it anymore. It’s causing Natalie to live in fear. One day, Ella brings brass knuckles to school. Ella stops Natalie in the hall, takes out her brass knuckles, and gets in a fighting pose. A crowd starts gathering around Natalie and Ella. Hank and Sofia, Ella’s friends, are there. So are Tom and Grace, Natalie’s friends. Ella starts beating Natalie up.

1. What would you do?
2. If you were Tom or Grace (Natalie’s friends), what would you have done? When?
3. If you were Hank or Sofia (Ella’s friends), what would you have done? Why?

Focus question for WWII unit:

***At what point does it become our responsibility to step in and take action when we see a wrong occurring?***Or, when is enough enough?