

Investigating WW2 with Lisburn Museum and The Irish Linen Centre



Topic: The Home Front

During World War 2 there were many threats to people at home, it wasn't just being a soldier that was dangerous during the war.

Gas Attacks and bombs being dropped were two things that people feared.

The Government put restrictions in place to help keep people at home safe. These included everyone being given a gas mask to carry and *blackout* times being introduced.

Many people did not like having to carry a gas mask as it was a reminder of the danger they faced. However they knew they had to listen out for special sirens that would sound to let them know they

had to put on their gas mask to stay safe!



Would you want to carry a gas mask everywhere you went?

Write your answer: _____

A Blackout was a way to help keep towns and cities safe. When the sun went down people were asked to close all their curtains so houses could not be easily seen in the dark. Car headlamps were fitted with special covers so only a small amount of light would be shown.



This is a headlight cover from Lisburn Museum's collection. It was used in WW2 to hide the lights from a car. The slits at the front are less than 5mm wide! Very little light could pass through them.

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Exercise:

If you wanted to walk down the street during the black out what do you think the dangers might be and why?

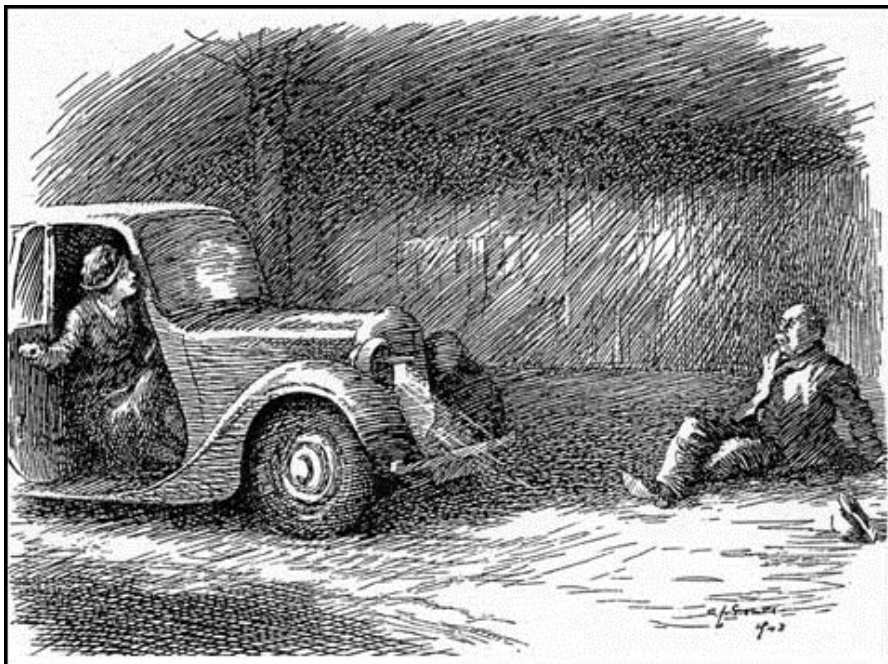
Write a list here:

think

1.

2.

3.



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CHALLENGE

Can you draw a poster to warn people about one of the dangers they faced?

Have a look at these posters from WWII to get some ideas.



Image from: worldwar2headquarters.com

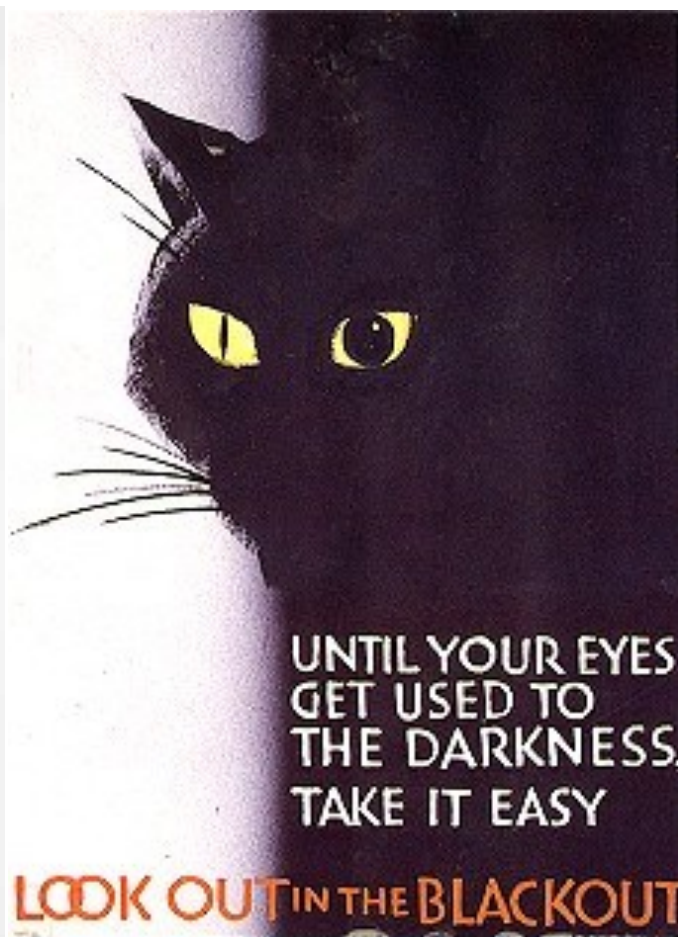


Image from: www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk

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My Warning poster

A large, empty rounded rectangular frame with a thick black border, occupying the majority of the page. It is intended for a student to draw their own warning poster.