

Final Performance Task Options for Unit 5

Important Information for All Three Options

The following are the main ideas you are to understand from this unit. They should appear in this final performance task so your teacher can assess whether you learned the most essential content.

- The concept of the spiral of violence teaches us that responding to violence with violence is against Christ's call to live as peacemakers.
- Legitimate self-defense and nonviolent resistance are two moral ways of responding to violent aggression.
- The arms race and illegal arms trade are sinful social structures that support escalating violence between nations and that contribute to other injustices.
- True peace is the result of working at forgiveness, reconciliation, and justice; it is realized by loving our enemies and trusting in God.

Option 1: Video Game That Promotes Peace and Nonviolence

You will discover in this unit the pervasiveness of violence in the media, especially in video games. For this option you will work in a small group of two or three people to create a video game concept that promotes peace and nonviolence. You will write a 7- to 8-page concept paper for the game, including the following components:

- a clever title and brief introduction to the purpose and rules of the game
- a clever description of the game design, including the background or setting for the game, the purpose or rules for playing the game, a description of the main storyline (focused on the goal of working for peace), names and descriptions of at least five characters, and the appropriate age range of the players
- any special features to enhance the game, such as music, dialogue, action, levels, various pieces of information related to peacemaking inserted throughout the game, and graphics
- a concluding statement about how this game promotes peace and nonviolence



Option 2: Online Peace Newspaper

For this option you will work individually to create an online peace newspaper for teens to help to increase their awareness of violence in your community and the world and to offer opportunities for teens to help to promote peace. Create this online newspaper by utilizing a computer program offered online at no cost. Follow the directions on the Web site to create your newspaper.

Include the following elements in your newspaper:

- a name and logo
- the volume number, issue number, and date
- a Scripture quotation (cited) related to peace
- a quotation from a Church document related to peace (cited)
- a two-column feature article of about five hundred words written about an issue of violence currently going on in the world (It must be a real issue that you have researched; be sure to cite your sources. Include in the article a headline; a byline [who wrote it]; the “who, what, when, where, why, and how” of the issue; and a list of action ideas teens can use to work for peace in the situation identified.)
- a minor article dealing with a local situation of peace
- a minor article dealing with a peacemaking strategy that could be used on your campus

Bookmark the link to your newspaper and submit the link to your teacher (and perhaps to your classmates as well). Also print out a copy of the newsletter to turn in.

Option 3: Volunteer at a Social Advocacy Agency that Promotes Peace

For this option you will work individually and volunteer at a social advocacy agency in your community, such as a Catholic Worker House or a religious community that works for peace. This will help you to learn more about how organizations and individuals work to promote peace in the world. Work with your teacher to select a social advocacy agency that works to promote peace. Be sure that this organization supports the core values of Catholic social teaching on peacemaking. Make arrangements with the organization to serve as a volunteer at the agency for five hours. Your time as a volunteer will help you to understand how the organization works.

Upon completing your volunteer time, interview the director of the agency. The purpose of the interview is to answer any questions you might have about the organization and to learn more in-depth facts about the organization. Ask permission in advance to videotape or record the interview. Use the following questions as a guide for the interview and create a few of your own:

- What is the mission of your agency? How does the agency work to promote peace?
- What is the best-kept secret about the work of your agency?
- How did you get involved in working for peace and running a nonprofit organization?



- What do you find to be the most challenging aspect of working for peace?
- How can teens get involved in working for peace?

Share the videotaped interview with the class. If you are not allowed to videotape the interview, share a verbal report on the interview with your class.

