Comparing and Contrasting Equipment used on D-Day

OBJECTIVE: By studying the images of two D-Day artifacts as well as primary sources related to the artifacts, students will compare and contrast the two packs primarily used on D-Day. Students will use a variety of graphic organizers to assist with the thinking process. Finally, students will communicate their findings in a compare and contrast essay.

BENCHMARKS: English SOLs: 5.6 c, e; 5.7 a, b; 5.8; 5.9; 6.6; 6.7; 7.1; 7.8; 9.6; 9.7

DIRECTIONS:
1. Pass out copies of artifact images and related primary sources
2. Pass out copies of the provided Venn diagram or Double Bubble Map. (This will help students organize their thoughts for their essays.)
3. Students should look and record similarities and differences between the “assault vest” and “strap pack” as seen in the images.
4. Once students have recorded their observations, they should write a compare and contrast essay on their findings. (See the “Teaching the Compare/Contrast Essay” at www.tnellen.com/cybereng/rubric/c&c.htm). Ask for volunteers to read their essays aloud to the class.

ASSESSMENT: Components for assessment include the Venn Diagram/Double Bubble Map and the student-written compare/contrast essay.

ENRICHMENT: Have students work individually or as a group to create T-charts to record the pros and cons of each piece of equipment. Then students, from the perspective of a WWII soldier, should write an individual persuasive letter to General Eisenhower explaining which pack they would prefer to use for the upcoming D-Day invasion and why.
Assault Vest Images

Assault Vest, Frontal View

Assault Vest, Rear View, Top Half

Assault Vest, Rear View

Assault Vest, Rear View, Bottom Half
Strap Pack Images

Strap Pack, Frontal View

Strap Pack, Side View

Strap Pack, Rear View

Strap Pack, Rear View, Close-Up