**English 11**

**Response #3 – Vimy Ridge – Birthplace of a Nation – or of a Canadian myth?**

The battle, which marks its 100th anniversary this year, has long been touted as the defining event that unified Canada. Whether or not it did, its symbolism endures.

Peter Mansbridge: Why Vimy Matters From *The National* ***(CBC)***

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/why-vimy-matters-peter-mansbridge-on-a-battle-that-defined-us-1.4056108>

See also: Robert Everett Green’s ‘Vimy Ridge: Birthplace of a Nation – or of a Canadian myth?’ From *The Globe and Mail* (April 5, 2017)

Weblink: <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/battle-of-vimy-ridge-first-world-war/article34515113/>

**Questions to consider:**

1. Why was Vimy Ridge significant to the development of Canada’s national identity?
2. What is the counter-narrative to the argument Vimy was a defining moment and the birth of the Canadian nation? Is Vimy really a universally accepted symbol across Canada and for Canadians?
3. A century later, what should the Battle of Vimy Ridge mean for Canada and Canadians?