Chosen battle:
The battle I have chosen to do a study of is the Battle of Crete. This battle took place in May of 1941 between the attacking German forces and the defending Allied forces. The battle took place on the island of Crete and was part of the Second World War. The victors of this battle were the Nazi Germany forces who achieved occupation of Crete.

The Battle for Crete’s significance to New Zealanders:
I consider the battle for Crete to be a significant event for New Zealanders in the 21st century because although New Zealand and the Allied forces were unsuccessful in their objectives, the involvement of the New Zealand forces gained New Zealand a lot of respect and gratitude from other countries. Our contribution to the battle of Crete has changed the way other countries perceive and think of New Zealand. The battle is also significant because of its importance in the creation on a positive and lasting relationship between New Zealand and Crete. Many New Zealanders were killed or injured in the battle and more were taken prisoner. The battle is an important part of our history and identity as a nation.

Focusing Questions:
1. What were the objectives of both the defending Allied forces and the attacking German forces in the Battle of Crete in 1941?
2. In what ways did the Battle for Crete differ from conventional battles prior to this event?
3. What events were significant to the Battle of Crete?
4. How did the consequences of the Battle for Crete help to make this event significant for New Zealanders?

Sources
Audio:
- http://www.nzhistory.net.nz/war/the-battle-for-crete/kiwi-stories – Primary source. Audio interviews of New Zealanders at the Battle for Crete, along with the transcripts. From this source I expect to get some New Zealand perspectives and first hand accounts on various parts of the battle. The accounts will also give me some information regarding what weapons were used and what some of the key moments were in the battle. I also expect to find some more in depth information relating to how this battle is significant for New Zealand and the feelings some of the soldiers felt during the event.

Books: (secondary sources)
- Battle For Crete, New Zealand's Near-Run Affair, 1941. Matthew Wright. From this book I expect to find information on the first focusing question, what were the objectives of the battle, also how the battle differed from more conventional battles of its time and how the German forces had "air superiority". I expect to find information on the debate on whether or not mistakes made by New Zealand soldiers and the Island Commander played a role in the resulting German victory and the arguments opposing this.
- Creforce the Anzacs and the Battle of Crete. Stella Tzobanakins. From this book I expect to find information on the background of the battle as well as information regarding the important events of the battle, and an explanation of the outcome and what consequences of the German victory were. The book is complete with a time line also which is valuable because it will give me a brief overview of what happened, when, and which forces were involved. This will give me a broader understanding of the battle which will help me to answer the focusing questions with more knowledge. I also expect the book to give a perspective on how/why the battle is significant for the Anzacs and therefore New Zealanders.

Internet:
  From this web site I expect to get a brief overview about the battle...

Video:
- Operation Mercury - Battle of Crete part 1 (1941) (and part 2)
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gM3ozurWYTE , video footage primary source, translations secondary source. This is a German wartime newsreel. It is combat footage from the Germans during the attack on Crete. From this source I expect to find some German perspective on the battle and what their objectives were, and why Crete was important to them. The video also shows how the battle was broadcast to the public in Germany.

Time Management Plan
1. Go to the school library and issue out books on the Battle for Crete, look for information relating to all focusing questions.
2. Research on the internet for newspaper sources from both New Zealand (or other Allied forces countries) and Germany, relating to focusing questions 2 and 4.
3. Research on the internet for web sites containing secondary as well as primary information on all aspects of the Battle of Crete.
4. Find video and audio primary sources on both perspectives, relating specifically to significant event and objectives of the battle.
5. Go to University Library and the Central City Library to look for books or other sources on the Battle for Crete.
6. Search the New Zealand index and request primary sources (if possible, otherwise secondary sources) on the Battle for Crete relating to all focusing questions.
7. Look for German sources (from a German point of view). If the sources are in German request help from Burnside German teacher or year 13 German students with translating, or if in unable to do so use google translate (not as reliable).
8. Analyse and annotate all sources and information according to focusing questions.
9. Complete research process evaluation.