World War I

“The War To End All Wars”
The Central Powers

- Austria-Hungarian Empire
- German Empire
- Ottoman Empire
The Allied Nations

Great Britain  France  Russian Empire
Prelude to War

- **Militarism**
  - Arms Race
  - Large Armies raised by conscription

- **Alliance System**

- **Imperialism**
  - Desire for colonies and expansion into other countries

- **Nationalism**
  - Strong sense of patriotism towards one's country
  - “My country is always right.”
How did World War I start?
Causes of World War I
Cause # 1

Nationalism

Many countries felt that their country was better than the countries around them.
How do you show that you are the greatest country in the world?
Colonize as many countries as you can.

What is it called when you colonize and take over weaker places?
Cause # 2

Imperialism

Contest between countries for trade and for colonies.
Cause #3

Growth of Alliances
Nations began gathering allies. When a country agrees to be an ally, they are saying that in case of war, they will fight with you.
Prelude to War

- European Alliance system: Who is allied with who?
  - Serbs with Russians
  - Russians with French
  - French with British
  - British with Dutch, French & Belgians
  - Austrians with Germans – and occasionally Italy
  - Germans with Turks and Bulgarians
If something happens and a country declares war on another, it is no longer two countries at war, it is quite a bit more. It is known as the domino effect.
Cause # 4

Due to a sense of nationalism, a contest for trade and colonies (Imperialism), and the growth of alliances, countries began having an arms race.
Cause #4

**Militarism:**

Glorification of war and the military.
Who has the most colonies?

How do they protect trade from those colonies?

Therefore, it stands to reason if you want colonies, you better build a big navy to gain and protect them.
Germany wants colonies, so it expands its navy to compete w/ Britain. Great Britain feels threatened, so they expand their navy.

See where this is leading?
Russia does not trust Germany, so it doubles its spending on the army.
Russians exercise with tree trunks
France mandatory 3 years of military service for all men.
“The Spark That Lit the Powderkeg”
Archduke Franz Ferdinand was next in line to be the emperor (ruler) of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.
The Archduke was visiting Sarajevo, Bosnia.
Gavrilo Princip

Terrorist: A person who uses violence for a political cause.
Gavrilo Princip under guard on his way to trial.
Within 6 Weeks, War Broke Out
chain Reaction
Crowds Outside the Hungarian Parliament in Budapest After War is Declared
Kaiser Wilhelm II

“You will be home before the leaves have fallen from the trees!!”
Nr. 6. In der Heimat gibt's a Wiedersehn. (Staatsbahnhof in Wien)
Where was World War I fought?
The war was fought on two major fronts: The Eastern Front and the Western Front.

There are also two minor fronts: the Italian Front and the Turkish Front (Galipoli)
Conduct of the War: 1914

- Schlieffen Plan
- Battle of Tannenburg
- Battle of the Marne
Why Switzerland never gets invaded
The Eastern Front: The War with Russia
Russians Launch Uncoordinated 1914 Attack

* Russia Invades Prussia and Austria
* Amateurish - not well planned
* Germans use railroads to move forces from Western to Eastern Front
  * Germans successfully ambush Russian army at Tannenburg
  * Russians suffer 230,000 casualties

Just the beginning of a series of disasters that will lead to the downfall of Russia in 1917
Gallipoli: The War with Turkey
Gallipoli Campaign 1915

Britain tries to open a supply route to Russia through the Black Sea.
The Western Front: The War with Britain and France.
The German Plan for Defeating France
The German Plan - The “Schlieffen Plan”
BRAVO, BELGIUM!
## Size of European Armies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nation</th>
<th>Size of army in 1914</th>
<th>Total number of soldiers who fought during the war.</th>
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<td>1,251,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>210,000</td>
<td>2,850,000</td>
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</table>
High Cost of War
Beginning of Trench Warfare
Aircraft can warn of the build-up of enemy troops before an attack.

Barbed wire: metres deep and an impassable obstacle for any troops able to reach it.

No Man's Land (the stretch of land between the trenches of the opposing sides) has already been churned up by shell fire. In wet weather it becomes a mass of mud, making it even harder for troops to cross.

Concrete block house for a machine-gun.

Support trench.

Reserve trench.

Communication trenches allow reserves to be brought forward without exposing them to enemy fire.

A deep dug-out. German ones could be 15 m below ground and too well constructed to be damaged by shell fire.

Long-range artillery is placed about 10 km behind the front line. These guns fire at advancing enemy troops.

Front-line dug-outs provide protection but not against a direct hit from an artillery shell.

PROBLEMS FACING ATTACKING TROOPS
**Trench Diagram A.**

**Key**

*Note A.* Usually in between the first support line trench and the artillery line there would be two or three more support trench lines. This diagram has been condensed.

1. Communication Trench
2. Machine Gun Nest
3. Underground Bunker
4. Traverse
5. Wire Break
6. Listening Post
+ Trench Block
Rough Life In Trenches
German soldiers in their trenches near Antwerp (September 1914)
A British trench - the soldier on the right is on guard - the others are resting.
Rough Life In Trenches
Trenches Get Elaborate
Trenches Get Elaborate
Trench Warfare
Trench Warfare
Suicide Runs,
Trench Foot, &
Rats
(2) Sergeant Harry Roberts, Lancashire Fusiliers, interviewed after the war.

If you have never had trench feet described to you. I will tell you. Your feet swell to two or three times their normal size and go completely dead. You could stick a bayonet into them and not feel a thing.

If you are fortunate enough not to lose your feet and the swelling begins to go down. It is then that the intolerable, indescribable agony begins. I have heard men cry and even scream with the pain and many had to have their feet and legs amputated.
“Life in the trenches was hell on earth. Lice, rats, trench foot, trench mouth, where the gums rot and you lose your teeth. And of course dead bodies everywhere.

Rats. There are millions!! Some are huge fellows, nearly as big as cats. Several of our men were awakened to find a rat snuggling down under the blanket alongside them!”
German soldiers after rat hunting in their trenches
“In training the food was just about eatable but in France we were starving. All we lived on was tea and dog biscuits. If we got meat once a week we were lucky, but imagine trying to eat standing in a trench full of water with the smell of dead bodies nearby.”
Nap Time?
Latrines were always dangerous places because of the regularity with which they had to be used. Jerry soon came to spot such places, and, believe me, they were not places to linger.
New Weapons
New Weapons
Blinded by Mustard Gas
German machine-gun section with gasmasks (Verdun, 1916)
New Weapons
Early Tanks – How are they different from modern tanks?
A “Led” Zeppelin 😊
The Battlefield of Pashendale
Dead bodies in a trench after an attack
The Results of Years of War
Battle of Verdun

- the longest and one of the bloodiest engagements of World War I. *February 1916 – December 1916*

- Two million men were engaged.

- The intention of the Germans had been a battle of attrition in which they hoped to bleed the French army white.

- In the end, they sustained almost as many casualties as the French; an estimated 328,000 to the French 348,000.
Battleships
At the Battle of Jutland – the largest Naval Battle of WWI
Submarines (U-Boats)
What’s a poor soldier to do?

- How can you protect yourself against all of this new weaponry?
Camouflage
What’s wrong with this picture?
“Cry Havoc! And let slip the dogs of war!”

William Shakespeare

Animals Are Soldiers Too!
Women in the Army – The Army Nursing Corps.
1917 - Russia Drops Out of War

- Massive Russian losses discourage people of Russia
- Communists blame Czar
- People rise up against Czar
  - Civil war breaks out in Russia (Russian Revolution)
  - Lenin, Trotsky
  - Russia signs peace treaty w/ Germany
    • Treaty of Brest Litovsk
The U.S. Gets involved

- German U-boat sinks British passenger ship Lusitania
- 150 Americans on board die
- Germany sends The Zimmerman Note
  - Asks Mexico to help if US gets into war
  - US intercepts message
    - US declares war on Germany
LUSITANIA SUNK BY A SUBMARINE, PROBABLY 1,260 DEAD;
TWICE TORPEDOED OFF IRISH COAST; SINKS IN 15 MINUTES;
CAPT. TURNER SAVED, FROHMAN AND VANDERBILT MISSING;
WASHINGTON BELIEVES THAT A GRAVE CRISIS IS AT HAND

SOUNDS THE PRESIDENT

SOME DEAD TAKEN ASHORE
Several Hundred Survivors at Queenstown and Havre.

THE LOST CARGO SHIP

THE LUSITANIA SUNK

ONLY 659 WERE SAVED.
Few Cabin Passengers.

SOUTHWARK, SUNDAY, May 0, 1915—The news that the Lusitania had been sunk by a German submarine last night was received at 11:45 p.m. by the American Red Cross in London, and the British Government. The United States, it was learned, had no direct connection with the Lusitania, but the British and German Governments were both informed of the disaster. The Lusitania was carrying a large number of passengers, including many women and children, and the loss of life is expected to be very great. The White Star Line, the company that owns the Lusitania, has issued a statement that the vessel was sunk in the North Atlantic Ocean, and that all efforts were made to save the passengers.
Coded

Decoded

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

FROM 2nd from London # 8747.

"We intend to begin on the first of February unrestricted submarine warfare. We shall endeavor in spite of this to keep the United States of America neutral. In the event of this not succeeding, we make Mexico a proposal of alliance on the following basis: make war together, make peace together, generous financial support and an understanding on our part that Mexico is to reconquer the lost territory in Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona. The settlement in detail is left to you. You will inform the President of the above most secretly as soon as the outbreak of war with the United States of America is certain and add the suggestion that he should, on his own initiative, appeal to Japan to immediate adherence and at the same time mediate between Japan and ourselves. Please call the President's attention to the fact that the ruthless employment of our submarines now offers the prospect of compelling England in a few months to make peace." Signed, [illegible].
The Yanks Are Coming..

- US unprepared for war
  - Army about the size of Italy’s army
- Quickly expands Army
- Massive force of fresh troops pour into Europe to help French and Brits
  - Poorly trained but enthusiastic
- Enough to tip the scales in allies favor

Gen. John “Blackjack” Pershing
Wilson’s 14 Points

- Program for lasting peace
  - I. Open covenants of peace
  - II. Absolute freedom of seas
  - III. Equality of trade conditions among nations
  - IV. National armaments to be reduced
  - V. Impartial adjustment of all colonial claims
  - VI. Evacuation of all Russian territory
  - VII. Belgium must be evacuated and restored
  - VIII. All French territory freed and restored, and wrong done to France by Prussia in 1871 (Alsace-Lorraine) should be righted
  - IX. Readjustment of Italy’s frontiers along national lines
Fourteen Points

- X. Peoples of Austria-Hungary should be accorded freest opportunity to autonomous development
- XI. Rumania, Serbia, and Montenegro restored; Serbia given free/secure access to sea; and international guarantees of political/economic independence of Balkan states
- XII. Turkish portion of Ottoman Empire given secure sovereignty, and Dardanelles permanently opened as free passage to ships
- XIII. Independent Polish state created including territories inhabited by Poles, assured free/secure access to sea
- XIV. Association of nations formed
Treaty of Versailles
Big Four and Their Goals

- **David Lloyd George**
  - Prime Minister of Great Britain
  - Expand British empire/power
  - Make Germany pay

- **Georges Clemenceau**
  - Premier of France
  - Ensure French security
  - Make Germany pay
Big Four and Their Goals

- **Vittorio Orlando**
  - Premier of Italy
  - Enlarge Italy's European lands
  - Expand Italy's empire

- **Woodrow Wilson**
  - US President
  - Provide just peace
  - Create better world
T/V Provisions

- War guilt and reparation
  - Germany accepted sole responsibility
  - Germany had to pay reparations
    - Paid until 1931
    - Afterwards repudiated debt

- League of Nations created
T/V Provisions

- Territorial
  - Alsace-Lorraine to France
  - Saar to League of Nations and France
  - Northern German lands to Denmark and Belgium
  - Parts of eastern Germany to Poland
  - Danzig--free city under League of Nations control for Poland
T/V Provisions

- Colonial—German colonies to Allies as League of Nations mandates
- Disarmament
  - German army severely limited
  - German navy reduced
  - German war industries prohibited
How to Encourage People to Fight the War

Propaganda!
Propaganda

Each side tried to make the other look evil, and encourage people to fight
ONLY THE NAVY CAN STOP THIS
Food is Ammunition-
Don’t waste it.

UNITED STATES FOOD ADMINISTRATION
HALT the HUN!

BUY U.S. GOVERNMENT BONDS
THIRD LIBERTY LOAN
HELP CRUSH THE MENACE OF THE SEAS

BUY LIBERTY BONDS
Buy QuicklyBuy Freely
Artwork of WWI
What point is the artist trying to get across?
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>Total Mobilized</th>
<th>Killed &amp; Died</th>
<th>Wounded</th>
<th>Prisoners &amp; Missing</th>
<th>Total Casualties</th>
<th>Casualties % of Mobilized</th>
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<td><strong>7.750.919</strong></td>
<td><strong>37.508.686</strong></td>
<td><strong>57.6</strong></td>
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</table>
North Schleswig given to Denmark.

Danzig - a free city run by the League of Nations.

Poland was given a 'corridor' to the Baltic Sea, cutting off East Prussia from Germany.

Posen - rich farmland given to Poland.

Dемилиаризated zone.

New government met here - so Germany was called the Weimar Republic.

Saar coalfields given to France for 15 years.

Germany was forbidden to unite with Austria.
### Comparative Losses in World War I

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<th>Men Killed in Battle</th>
<th>Country</th>
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