

AQA GCSE HISTORY

Conflict and Tension:

The First World War 1894-1918

Knowledge Organiser Pack

Student Name		Form	
History Teacher		History Group	



Conflict and Tension, First World War 1894-1918: Background to the War and the Alliance System

In order to understand the causes of the First World War, it's important that you know where the underlying tensions existed between the countries in Europe.

GREAT BRITAIN

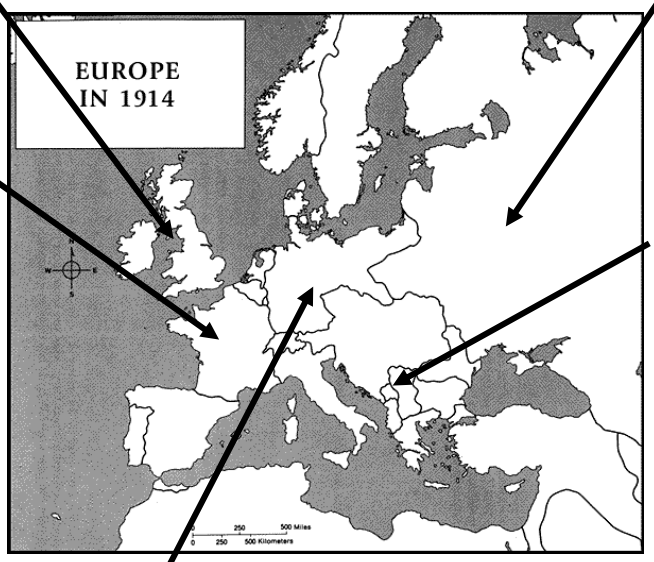
- Britain's empire spanned 25% of the globe. It was their priority to protect and maintain their empire.
- Britain had the largest navy in the world.
- Britain was a wealthy trading nation.

RUSSIA

- Lost a war against Japan in 1905 so focused on rebuilding their army.
- Feared that Germany wanted to take Russian land.
- Rivals with Austria-Hungary about who should control the Slavs.

FRANCE

- Germany had taken land from France in 1871 (Alsace-Lorraine). They were worried that Germany would try to take some more.
- Second largest empire.



SERBIA

- Had become independent from the Ottoman Empire in 1878.
- Was determined to expand and free its people from the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

GERMANY

- Germany wanted to become a world power.
- Germany had a small African empire. They wanted to expand their empire.
- Germany was becoming a major trading country and was becoming rich.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY

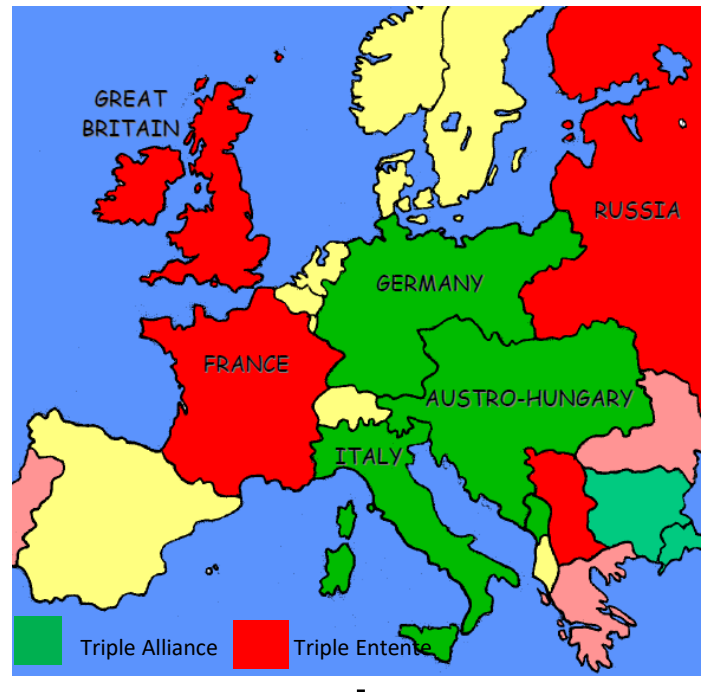
- Had a large European empire.
- Was worried that the different nationalities within their empire would want to become independent.
- Was worried about the growing strength of Serbia.

Each of the major European powers aligned themselves with others to increase their influence and security. Two rival blocs formed: **The Triple Alliance** and the **Triple Entente**.

An alliance is a union between two or more countries who agree to provide mutual support: this could be military or economic.

TRIPLE ENTENTE

- Great Britain
- France
- Russia



TRIPLE ALLIANCE

- Germany
- Austria-Hungary
- Italy

Franco-Russian Alliance 1894
France and Russia agreed to support each other militarily if Germany attacked either of them.

Entente-Cordiale 1904
Britain and France made agreements over land in Africa.

Anglo-Russian Agreement 1907
Britain and Russia made agreements over land in the Middle East.

Triple Alliance 1882
Germany, Austria-Hungary and Italy agreed to provide military support if one of them was attacked by another power.

Conflict and Tension, First World War 1894-1918: Splendid Isolation and Weltpolitik

In order to understand how and why tensions increased in Europe during this period, it is important to identify what the foreign policy of some of the main countries were at this time.



BRITAIN AND SPLENDID ISOLATION

- In the late 1800s and early 1900s Britain was in Splendid Isolation.
- Britain felt they did not need economic and military allies.
- The British empire was the largest in the world, Britain was the richest country with the strongest navy.

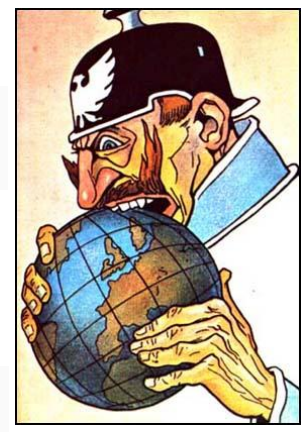
WHY DID BRITAIN LEAVE SPLENDID ISOLATION?

1. Britain & France clashed over control of colonies in north Africa – Britain wanted to be on good terms with France.
2. Kaiser Wilhelm wanted Germany to be a global power and began building a navy.
3. The Triple Alliance was formed.
4. In 1894 the Franco-Russian alliance was signed: Europe was split in two.
5. In 1895 Russia began to challenge British territory in China.
6. Germany publically condemned British actions in the Boer War. Britain need to make friends.



GERMANY'S POLICY OF WELTPOLITIK.

- In 1890 Wilhelm introduced his new policy of Weltpolitik which means world policy.
- It was a determination that Germany should have an increasingly important role on the world stage.
- Germany believed they would obtain this through expanding their empire and developing their navy.
- Wilhelm wanted Germany to be the greatest nation on earth.
- Many European powers were worried by this policy.



Why were Britain worried about Germany?	Why did Germany feel Weltpolitik was justified?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 1905 a huge fleet of German ships were being built. • Kaiser Wilhelm ignored Bismark's friendly agreements he had made previously. • Britain felt Germany did not need a navy as they had no empire. • Military leaders were chosen to help Wilhelm rule. • In 1912 Germany expanded their army to make it the biggest in Europe. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Germany felt surrounded and was insecure about their future so increased the size of the military. • Britain and France had huge empires. • Germany felt they needed to increase their navy to protect their trade.

Conflict and Tension, First World War 1894-1918: The Naval Arms Race and the Arms Race on Land

Military leaders of the main European powers at this time, believed that war would be avoided if they built up their military. How and why did Europe increase their military?

THE NAVAL RACE

Britain felt their large navy was justified because: a) Britain was an island b) Britain had a large empire they needed to control c) Britain was far from self-sufficient and imported goods.

Germany formulated a plan to build the second largest navy. Tirpitz believed a navy for Germany was an "absolute necessity" and without which Germany would "go under".

The guns could fire half ton shells

One of first ships to send electronic messages to guns.

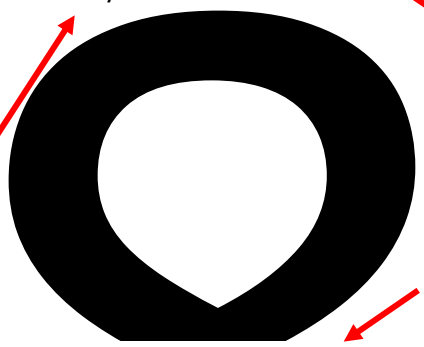


It could fire at a distance of 10 miles

It could travel at 25mph

Britain's industry meant dreadnoughts could be built quickly

2. 1899 Britain place their navy on 2 Power Standard.



3. In 1900 Germany pass another naval law which doubles their navy.

1. 1898 Germany pass the first naval law to increase the size of the navy.

4. In 1906 Britain developed the dreadnought, Germany make their own version shortly after.



5. In 1909 Germany declare they won't limit the number of dreadnoughts they build.

6. The British public put pressure of the Government to build more with a campaign "We want 8 and we won't wait!"

8. By 1914 Britain had 29 dreadnoughts, Germany had 17.

7. Britain builds 15 dreadnoughts 1911-1913, Germany builds 8.

THE ARMS RACE ON LAND



- Had introduced conscription
- Had developed a war plan: The Schlieffen Plan, in 1905.
- The German army was powerful and well-trained.
- Germany increased military spending 73% during this period.



- Had introduced conscription.
- Had developed a war plan known as Plan 17.
- Were in close but secret military talks with the British from 1912.
- Had 1 million men in their army in 1914.



- Had introduced conscription.
- Russia had developed a war plan known as Plan 19.
- Had 1.5 million men in their army in 1914.
- It was a badly equipped army.



- Was the only major European power to have not introduced conscription by 1914.
- Had the smallest army.

Conflict and Tension, First World War 1894-1918: The Moroccan Crises

In 1905, Morocco was one of the only independent nations in Africa. France and Germany were both interested in gaining the territory. Tensions grew and resulted in France threatening war in the First Moroccan Crisis and Britain threatening war in the Second Moroccan Crisis.

THE FIRST MOROCCAN CRISIS, 1905

CAUSES



France wanted to take control of Morocco and Britain supported this.




Germany opposed this and said that they supported Moroccan independence.

Germany's aims.


- To gain some land.
- To test the strength of the Entente Cordiale.
- To show that Germany was fully involved in world affairs.

THE SECOND MOROCCAN CRISIS, 1911


CAUSES




There was a rebellion against the ruler of Morocco.



France used this an opportunity to take over Morocco.




The Kaiser sent a gunboat, the Panther, to protect German interests in Morocco.




He also hoped that he would gain land.

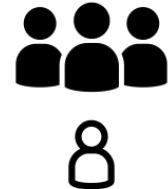
EVENTS




France were furious and threatened Germany with war.



A conference was held in Algeciras, Spain in January 1906 to settle the dispute.




Out of the 14 nations in attendance, only Austria-Hungary and Morocco supported Germany.




France was given 'special rights' in Morocco including control of their economy and police.


EVENTS




Britain was worried that Germany wanted Morocco to challenge their naval base in Gibraltar.



This occurred during the naval race when tensions between Britain and Germany were high.




Britain were furious and threatened Germany with war.




Germany backed down.


RESULTS




Britain and France got closer and started having secret military talks.



Britain and Russia signed the Anglo-Russian Agreement in 1907.




Germany increased their military spending as they felt ganged up on.




The Triple Alliance was weaker as Italy did not support Germany.


RESULTS




Germany was given land in the Congo – this was mainly swamp.



Britain and France made secret navel agreements.



Germany did not want to back down a third time.

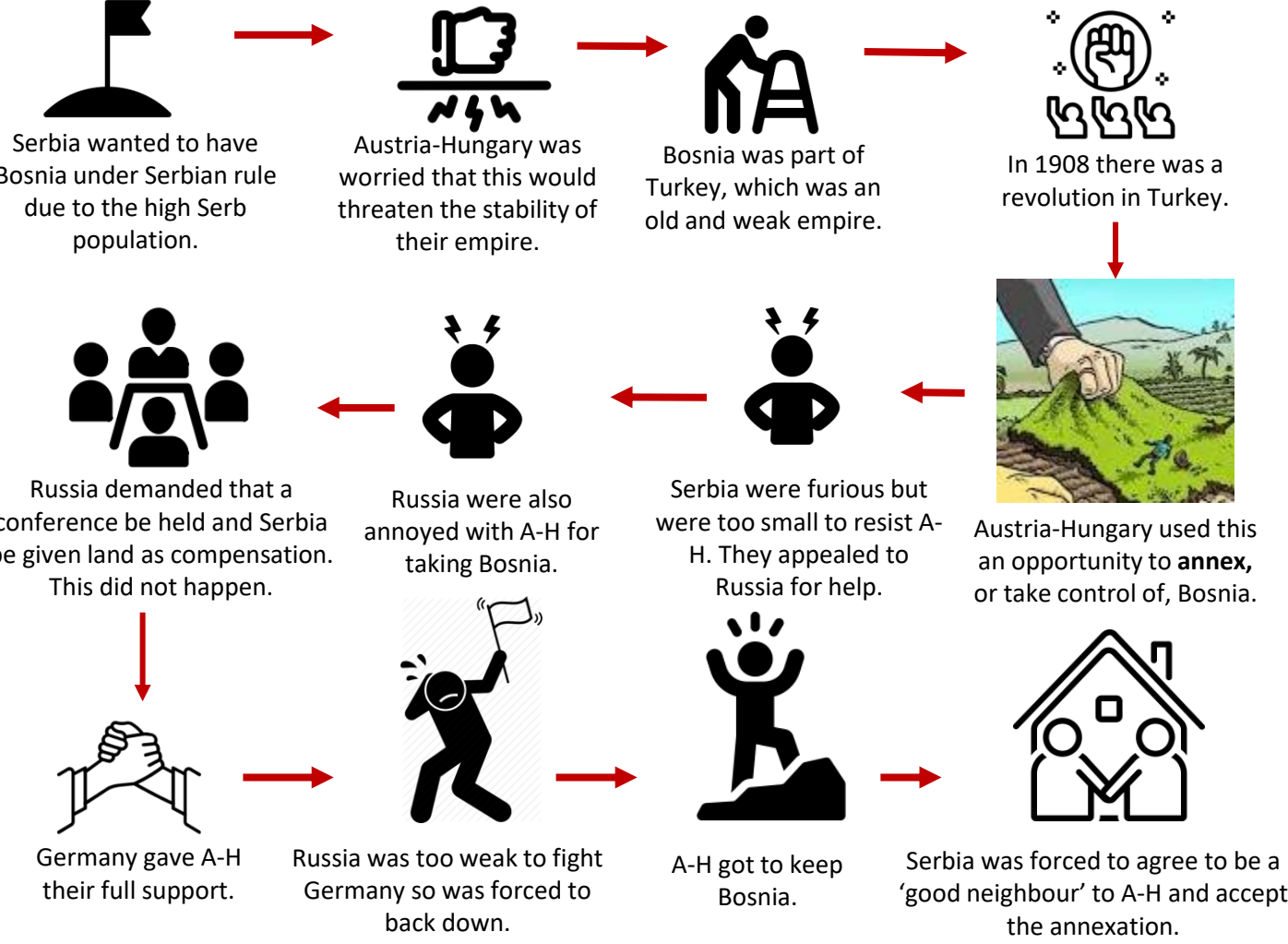


The Triple Alliance was weaker as Italy opposed German action.

Conflict and Tension, First World War 1894-1918: Trouble in the Balkans

The Balkans, an area spanning most of southern Europe, had been under the control of the Ottoman Empire. With Turkey becoming weaker ('the sick man of Europe'), many countries in the Balkans had ideas of independence and expansion, most notably of all – Serbia.

BOSNIAN CRISIS, 1908



BALKAN WARS, 1912 AND 1913

THE BALKAN LEAGUE

Serbia, Bulgaria, Montenegro and Greece joined together to form the Balkan League.



AIM: To force the Turkish Empire out of Europe.



Supported and encouraged by Russia who wanted access to a warm water port.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR, 1912

- The Balkan League fought Turkey.
- The war lasted just 6 weeks.
- A conference was held in London to decide how Turkish land was going to be distributed.
- Balkan League countries all made gains.

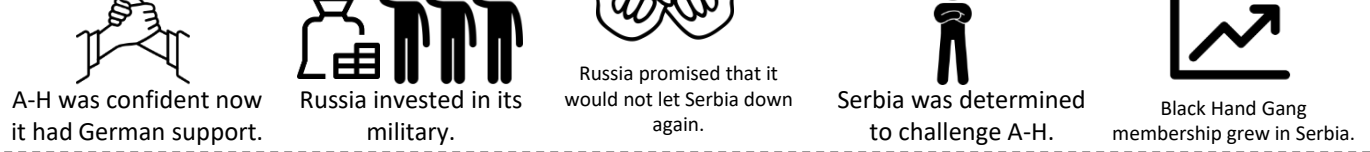


THE SECOND BALKAN WAR, 1913

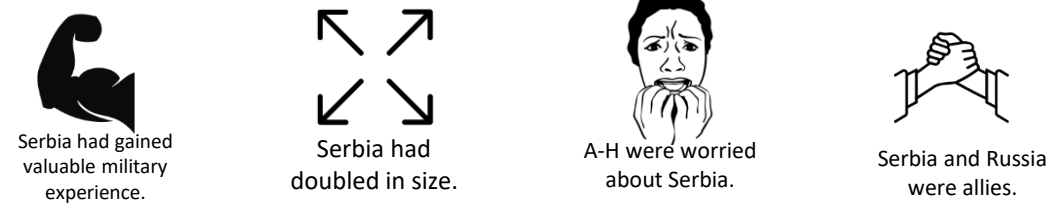
- Bulgaria were annoyed as they wanted more land.
- They attacked the other members of the Balkan League.
- Turkey and Romania joined in to try and get some land.
- It lasted 3 months.
- Bulgaria lost all the gains made in the first war.



KEY RESULTS



KEY RESULTS



Conflict and Tension, First World War 1894-1918: The Slide to War

The assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand which took place in June 1914 was the spark which ignited the Great War. Within six weeks, almost all of Europe had been dragged into the bloodiest war in history.

The Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand.



The Archduke who was heir to the throne in Austria and his wife Sophie were visiting Sarajevo in Bosnia



In a bid to appear friendly, the Archduke chose not to deploy the army on the streets.



The Black Hand Gang were a nationalist movement who aimed to unite all Serbs into "Greater Serbia".



With weapons smuggled in from Serbia, 7 assassins were ready for the Archduke's visit on 28th June 1914.



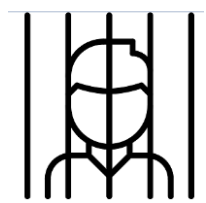
The first attempt to kill the Archduke failed, the grenade had a 10 second delay and bounced off the back of the car.



Whilst going to visit the injured in hospital the driver of the car took a wrong turn.



Gavrillo Princip happened to be standing on the corner and fired two shots. Killing both the Archduke and his wife.



Gavrillo Princip was sentenced to life in prison, he was too young to receive the death penalty. He died two years later from TB.

How did the assassination lead to war in 1914?



28th June 1914 the Archduke is assassinated by the Black Hand Gang.



5th July 1914 Germany issue Austria with the Blank Cheque – their promise to support Austria, no matter what.



23rd July 1914 Austria issues Serbia with an ultimatum.



28th July 1914 Austria rejects Serbia's response and declares war.



29th July 1914 Austria shells Belgrade, the capital of Serbia.



30th July 1914 Russia begins to mobilise their army.



1st August 1914 Germany declares war on Russia.



3rd August 1914 Germany declares war on France and invades Belgium.



4th August 1914 Britain declares war on Germany.

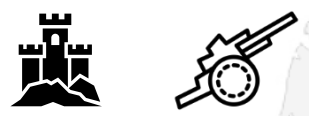
Conflict and Tension, First World War 1894-1918: From Schlieffen to Stalemate

The 'Race to the Sea' was one of the major events in the early period of World War I and occurred throughout September and October of 1914. The Western Front was the name given to the line of fighting that occurred in Belgium and along the northeastern regions of France throughout the war. The German army invaded Belgium in line with the Schlieffen Plan. The Germans advanced quickly into Belgium in the first few weeks of the war. But their successes didn't last long – their progress was slowed and eventually halted by fierce fighting against Belgian, French and British troops in the west and Russian troops in the east. This led to **stalemate**.

! This knowledge organiser shows the chronology and geography of the events of Autumn 1914. Please ensure you read the events in the correct order by following the numbers (1-5).


1. BATTLE OF LIÈGE (5-16 August 1914)

- First Belgian resistance encountered by Germany.
- Defended by a steep slope and 12 armoured forts with long-range heavy artillery.
- Slowed German advance by 4-5 days.




5. BATTLE OF YSER (October 1914)

- King Albert of Belgium ordered the flooding of the land by opening the canal locks.
- German Fourth Army forced to retreat on 29 October.



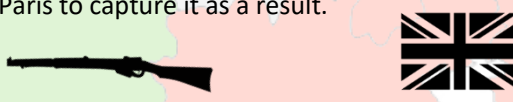
4. BATTLE OF THE MARNE (23 August 1914)

- Germany changed plan to head to Paris directly on foot.
- French troops arrived by rail and taxi to defend the capital.
- Combined British and French forces halted German advance along the River Marne.
- 250,000 French and 250,000 German soldiers died.
- Trenches dug for protection from 8 September – stalemate developed.



2. BATTLE OF MONS (23 August 1914)

- British Expeditionary Force (a small but very well trained force) engage German army.
- Used rapid rifle fire, causing Germans to believe they were under machine gun fire.
- Germany abandoned the plan to sweep around Paris to capture it as a result.



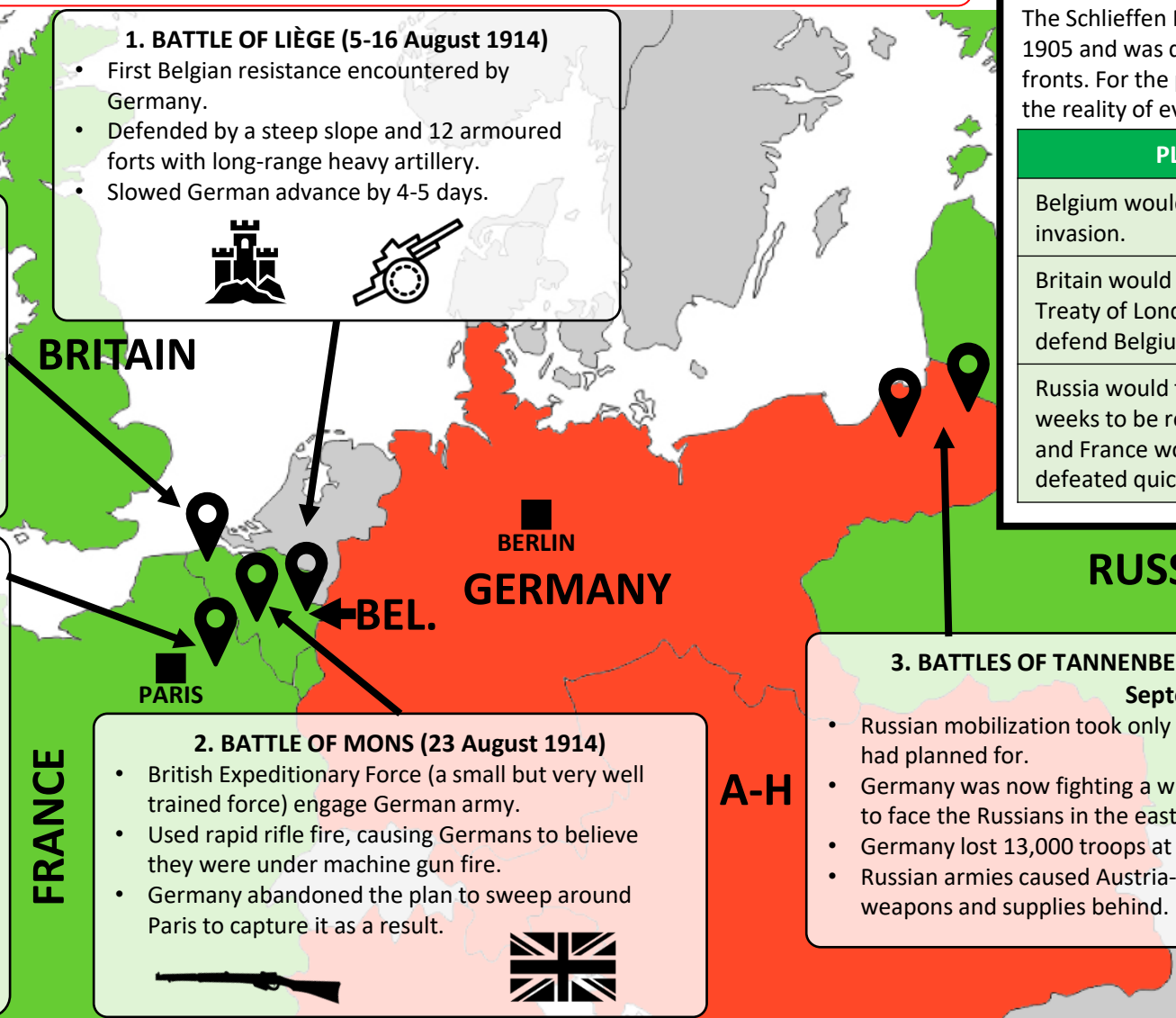
WHAT WAS THE SCHLIEFFEN PLAN?

The Schlieffen Plan was the German war plan developed in 1905 and was designed to help Germany avoid a war on two fronts. For the plan to succeed, it made some assumptions but the reality of events resulted in it failing.

PLAN	REALITY
Belgium would not resist an invasion.	Belgium resisted the German army.
Britain would not honour the Treaty of London (1839) and defend Belgium.	Britain honoured their agreement to protect Belgian neutrality.
Russia would take at least 6 weeks to be ready for war and France would be defeated quickly.	Russia mobilized in just 10 days and were advancing towards Germany – this was now a war on two fronts!

3. BATTLES OF TANNENBERG & MARUSIAN LAKES (August & September 1914)

- Russian mobilization took only 10 days, much faster than the Germans had planned for.
- Germany was now fighting a war on two fronts and sent 100,000 troops to face the Russians in the east.
- Germany lost 13,000 troops at the Battle of Tannenberg.
- Russian armies caused Austria-Hungary to retreat and leave their weapons and supplies behind.



Conflict and Tension, First World War 1894-1918: Life in the trenches

Life in the trenches was tough. Conditions could be different depending on where you were on the Western Front but there are many conditions which were the same across the front line.



Routines

DAILY

- Life was rather boring in the trenches when fighting was not taking place.
- Duties were rotated in the frontline trenches;
 - 1/3 on guard duty
 - 1/3 repairing damage and collecting food and supplies
 - 1/3 resting.

MONTHLY

- In a typical month, soldiers would spend only 4 days on the front line, 4 days in a support trench, 8 days on the reserve trench and rest of the time in the towns behind the front line.



Hygiene

- Keeping clean was almost impossible.
- Soldiers were infested with lice.
- There were no toilets and so soldiers used buckets.
- Rats were everywhere; feeding off soldiers' food and dead corpses in No Man's Land.



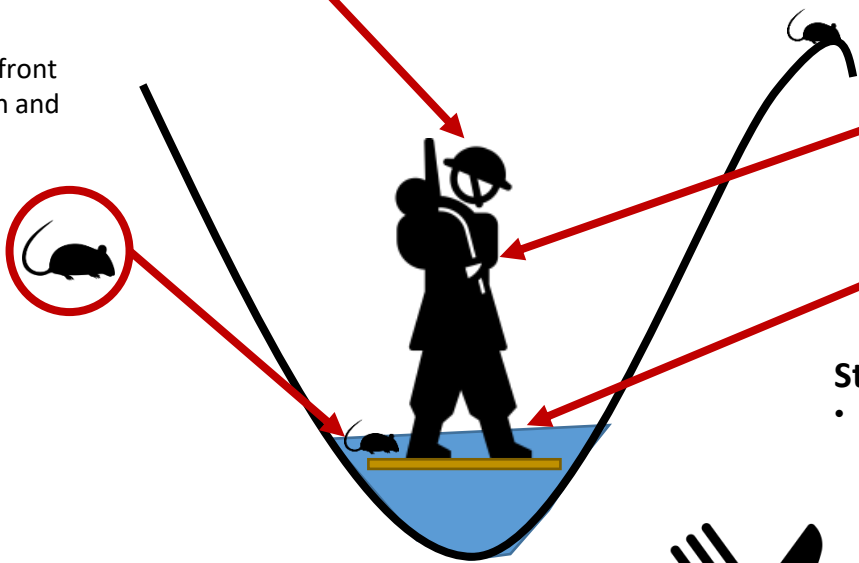
Trench Humour

- Some used humour to cope and manage the stress of life on the front line.
- Rude songs, naughty jokes and funny pictures and cartoons were used to make light of the situation.
- The Wipers Times was started by British Troops in the Belgian town of Ypres in 1916. This was an unofficial newspaper for the ordinary soldier.
 - It told funny stories and had disguised criticisms of the senior commanders.



Mental Health

- 'Shellshock' was common.
- Living under the constant fear of death and noise of bombing, and seeing close friends die in horrific ways caused shellshock.
- Some shook with uncontrollably whilst others were paralyzed with fear.



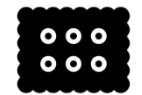
Stand to

- The highest state of alert on both sides. Soldiers were up before sunlight and guns were loaded, on the lookout for enemy attack.



Food & Diet

- Food was very basic in the trenches.
- Stew, bread and hard biscuits were the main staple of the diet.



- As some soldiers were from poor backgrounds, this was the best they had ever had.
- Bacon, cheese and jam were treats.
- Water had been treated with chlorine to kill germs which made it taste horrible. British troops received a drink of rum in harsh weather and the Germans drank beer and brandy.



Luxuries

- Soldiers looked forward to receiving letters and parcels from home.
- Every week, 12 million packages were sent to the front line containing toiletries, tobacco and sweets.
- Soldiers sent letters home but they would be censored to check they did not contain army secrets or show low morale.

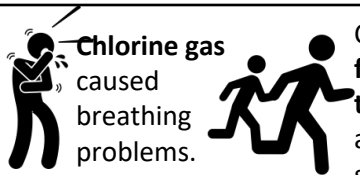





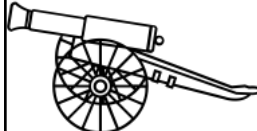
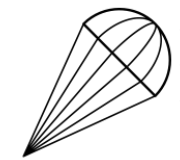














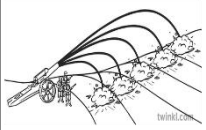






Health

- As trenches were exposed to the elements, so were the soldiers.
- Trenches were boiling hot in the summer and freezing cold in the winter.
- Many soldiers suffered from illnesses like pneumonia, bronchitis, tuberculosis and diarrhea.
- LICE spread illnesses such as Trench Fever.
- WATER caused many soldiers to suffer from trench foot, a painful condition where the foot swells and develops open sores.

Conflict and Tension, First World War 1894-1918: Weapons in World War One

World War One was a time of huge developments in both weaponry at tactics. The start of the war saw the use of cavalry, but advances in technology soon saw the use of poison gas, aircraft and tanks.

	What was it like at the start of the war?	How did it work?	How was it countered?	What were the limitations of the weapon?	How did the weapon develop during the war?
POISON GAS	First used by Germany in 1915 .	 <p>Chlorine gas caused breathing problems. Caused fear and terror among soldiers.</p>	 <p>All British troops carried gas masks by April 1916.</p>	 <p>Only 3000 British troops died from gas attacks.</p>	 <p>Mustard gas burned and blinded the victim.</p>
AIRCRAFT	 <p>Initially used for reconnaissance.</p>	 <p>In 1914, planes were dangerous and unreliable.</p>	 <p>Anti-aircraft guns were used to defend against aerial attacks.</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cramped - No parachute - Dangerous 	 <p>1915 planes were used as weapons as machines gun were mounted.</p>
TANKS	 <p>First used in 1916 at the Somme. More than half broke down or got stuck.</p>	 <p>Advanced ahead of the infantry, crushing barbed wire and firing guns.</p>	 <p>By 1918: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Armour piercing bullets - Artillery aimed at tanks. </p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Slow – only 5mph. - Difficult to move. 	 <p>1917 – Battle of Cambrai. Tanks used en masse and gained 5 miles of land.</p>
UNDERGROUND WARFARE – TUNNELLING AND MINES		 <p>Tunnels were dug underneath No Man's Land to attack (or lay mines in order to attack) the enemy.</p>	 <p>Miners would check oil drums filled with water for vibrations to see if enemy miners were nearby.</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tunnels could collapse - Meet enemy - Slow (a year to dig some) 	 <p>1917 – Battle of Messines. 19 mines detonated – 10,000 Germans killed..</p>
ARTILLERY	 <p>Artillery bombardment often used before an attack.</p>	 <p>To fire over No Man's Land with the aim of destroying enemy trenches. 60% of all wounds were from artillery</p>	 <p>1916 – Germans had counter-artillery units.</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inaccurate - Sometimes bombed own front lines/ killed own men 	 <p>Creeping barrage allowed men to cross No Man's Land under artillery cover.</p>
MACHINE GUNS	Used from 1914 during Allied Offensives.	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 10 bullets a second (rifle 15 per min) - 2750 metres - Crew of 2-4 - 40% of British wounds 	 <p>Artillery bombardment.</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Heavy - Needed a crew 	 <p>By 1917 both sides had developed specially trained soldiers.</p>

Conflict and Tension, First World War 1894-1918: Key Battles

The First World War was a succession of key battles, and these saw developments in tactics and use of weapons. There were many battles over the duration of the war but there were 4 key battles which had key causes, developments and consequences.

BATTLE OF VERDUN – FEBRUARY-DECEMBER 1916

AIMS

Knock France (main allied defence) out of the war.

Force the French to defend the town and drain them.

Falkenhayn: "Bleed France white!"

140,000 German troops. + 1,200 artillery guns & 2.5m shells. → French were outnumbered with only 30,000 troops – were pushed back quickly.

When the Somme started, Germany were pushed back. ← By 23 June, Germany was 2.5 miles from Verdun. ← 80% of French force fought. 6,000 vehicles a day arrived for defence.

RESULTS

Germany: 280,000
France: 315,000

Britain launched the Somme.

French army mutinies in 1917, no help in offensives.

BATTLE OF PASSCHENDAELE – JULY-NOVEMBER 1917

AIMS

To destroy German submarine bases.

To destroy German morale for war.

10 day artillery bombardment. → Drainage systems destroyed. → Initial Allied progress using stepping stones. → Heavy rain in August 1917.

Soldiers and horses drowned. ← Rifles clogged with mud. ← Craters filled with water so soldiers lost cover. ← Tanks got stuck in the mud.

RESULTS

Submarine bases remained intact.

Gained approx. 4.5mi

Germany: 400,000
Allies: 300,000

BATTLE OF THE SOMME – JULY-NOVEMBER 1916

AIMS

Relieve pressure on the French at Verdun.

Weaken the Germans through attrition warfare.

Week-long artillery bombardment to destroy defences. → German defences not destroyed, Germans safe in dug outs. → British infantry walked over No Man's Land.

Creeping barrage developed to protect advancing infantry. ← Tactics developed over time to reduce losses inflicted. ← German machine guns kill 20,000 and wound 40,000 on day 1.

RESULTS

Germany: 500,000
Britain: 620,000

Gained 7 miles.

Verdun held and France remained in the war.

BATTLE OF CAMBRAI – NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1917

AIMS

To attack the Hindenburg Line. (German defensive line)

Short artillery bombardment on morning of attack. → 350 tanks were used. → Infantry progressed using creeping barrage.

By the end of November, Germany counter-attacked. ← 5 miles gained on the first day. ← Germans were surprised at the speed of the attack..

RESULTS

Germany: 45,000
Allies: 44,000

9,000 German prisoners.

Allies learnt to use tanks en masse, combined with artillery and infantry.

Conflict and Tension, First World War 1894-1918: The Gallipoli Landings

The Gallipoli landings were planned in order to open up a supply route to Russia to enable the allies to defeat Germany. But how and why did it fail?



Why did the British launch an offensive at Gallipoli?

- An attempt to create a supply route through the Dardanelles to Russia.
- With the supplies, Russia would be able to defeat Germany.
- German troops sent to defend Gallipoli would weaken the enemy on the Western and Eastern fronts.
- A quick win against Turkey would mean Bulgaria would join the Allies and attack Austria-Hungary.



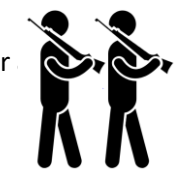
Phase 1: 19th February 1915 British & French ships begin attack on Turkish forts at the entrance of the Dardanelles



Phase 1: By 25th February the entrance was clear of Turkish forts and mines.



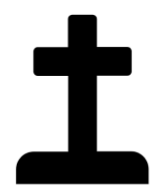
Phase 2: The main naval attack was launched on 18th March. British ships were shelled by Turkish forts. 3 British ships sunk, 3 severely damaged.



Phase 3: 70,000 men were gathered for land invasion on 25th April. These were mainly ANZAC troops. Turkey moved 84,000 troops along the coastline.

Results of the Gallipoli Campaign:

- Turkey was not knocked out of the war.
- Over 200,000 allied deaths (300,000 Turkish deaths).
- The campaign prevented the Turks from helping Austria-Hungary or Germany.
- Russia remained short of supplies.
- A few British submarines managed to attack Constantinople and sink Turkish warships and supplies.



Why was Gallipoli a failure for the allies?



Hygiene was poor due to water shortages. Soldiers only had access to 1-2 litres a day. Alongside overcrowding this led to disease.	Latrines that were dug were poorly prepared and rapidly filled up.	Bodies were left to decompose this led to flies everywhere.	Dysentery was common. 3 months into the campaign, more men were suffering from sickness than injuries.
The Turkish troops had good leaders who were fighting at the front.	Turkish troops were well organised and disciplined. Not what the British expected!	The Turkish spirit was high and they were committed to defending their homeland.	The Turks had access to high ground and artillery. They used snipers.
The terrain was difficult and the maps did not show areas such as Razor's Edge. It was impossible to progress.	The only escape from Turkish fire on the beaches was for the allies to go up the cliffs.	The beach was protected by reinforced barbed wire and was difficult to cut through.	Turkish trenches followed the line of the cliffs.
Battle plans were made using sketches of the coastline and didn't include location of guns and forts.	The British Navy bombing Turkish forts warned the Turks that the allies were thinking of attacking there.	Allied organisation was poor.	25 th April landings were in the wrong place. Ships got lost. Troops were faced with cliffs.

Conflict and Tension, First World War 1894-1918: The War at Sea

Control of the sea was vital for both sides during the war. It was needed to ensure supplies were reaching people at home (both in Britain and Germany) and soldiers at the front. There were a number of small battles in the early part of the war but it was largely a stalemate as both sides were reluctant to use their navies.

BRITISH BLOCKADE OF GERMANY – 1914-1919

AIM

Starve out Germany and stop essential war supplies from reaching the country.



WHAT WAS IT?

- German ships blocked into own ports by the British navy and mines.
- Britain used **contraband lists** to stop supplies from reaching Germany by intercepting vessels suspected of taking goods to Germany.
- Britain declared the North Sea a **British 'military area' on 3 November 1914.**
- **Neutral merchant ships agreed to dock in British ports** for inspection and then escorted through the British minefields.



RESULTS

- Lack of coal, oil and steel damaged German industry.
- Lack of medicines meant injured soldiers and sick civilians could not be treated, effects seen in the 1918 Spanish Flu (150,000 died).
- Lack of fertilized resulted in wide-spread food shortages.
- Average daily diet was of less than 1,000 calories a day.
- 763,000 Germans died as a result of starvation.
- Major anti-war riots broke out by as early as 1915.



THE BATTLE OF JUTLAND – MAY 1916

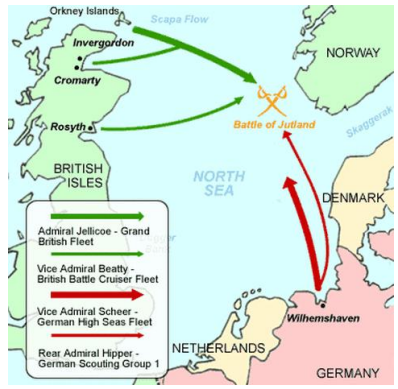
GERMAN AIMS

- Destroy the British Blockade.
- Draw out the British navy from their ports and engage both navies in battle.

EVENTS OF JUTLAND

German Plan

- Admiral Scheer felt that the best way to defeat the British Navy was to force it into open sea.
- A few German ships would act as bait in the North Sea, so the British would sail out to meet them. The rest of the German fleet would trap them from behind.



The battle

- The Germans followed their plan but the British had decoded German messages and knew what to expect. Despite this, a British ship was destroyed in 20 minutes of the start of the battle.
- When the rest of the British fleet arrived, the Germans sailed north. Rather than follow, the British planned to attack on their way home.
- The British fleet was hampered by poor communications between Admirals Beatty and Jellicoe, poor quality armour on their ships and poor visibility at night.

RESULTS

- The Blockade remained in place (the Germans didn't achieve their aim).
- The British suffered heavier losses which led to the Germans declaring victory.
- The German navy never set sail again and required major repairs which led to the British declaring victory.

	Losses	
	Britain	Germany
Warships	14	9
Men	6,100	2,550

U-BOAT CAMPAIGNS

AIM

Prevent supplies and imports from reaching Britain from the Empire and the USA.



With no radar, U-boats could sneak up on vessels and attack from beneath the surface of the water.

DEVELOPMENTS

- **February 1915;** Germany declared any ship in British waters (even neutral ones) would be attacked. An average of 1.9 ships were being sunk daily. (**UNRESTRICTED SUBMARINE WARFARE**).
- **May 1915;** German U-boat **sunk** the British passenger ship the **'Lusitania'**. Killing 1,198 people, 128 of whom were American. Britain uses this for anti-German propaganda.
- US President warned Germany over the attack and Germany scaled back their U-boat campaign for a while.
- **February 1917;** Germany **resumed USW** in a desperate effort to end the British Blockade.

RESULTS

- Amount of shipping destroyed in 1917 was more than double 1916. In March 1917, 25% of all British-bound shipping was sunk.
- In May 1917 Britain only had 6 weeks worth of basic goods left.
- America entered the war against Germany.
- Britain used Q-ships (warships disguised as supply ships) to trick the Germans.
- The Convoy System was developed where slow-moving supply ships were guarded by destroyer ships.

Conflict and Tension, First World War 1894-1918: The entry of the USA and the Russian Revolution

The events of 1917 saw crucial turning points in the development of the First World War. The United States was finally drawn into the war as a result of successive provocations by Germany. However, in the same year, a key ally in Russia left the war as a result of a revolution. What caused these events to happen, and what were the results?

ENTRY OF THE USA – APRIL 1917

AT THE START OF THE WAR...



The USA didn't take sides and followed **ISOLATIONISM**. They were officially neutral.



US banks lent billions of dollars to the Allies. This included the sale of food and weapons.



Ships transporting American supplies to Britain were a target for U-boats.

WHY DID THE US ENTER THE WAR?



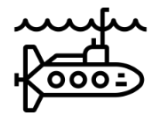
MAY 1915 – Sinking of the Lusitania

- German U-boat torpedoed British passenger ship off the coast of Ireland and sunk it.
- 1,200 passengers died, 128 were American – sparked anti-German riots.
- US President warns Germany to stop USW.



JANUARY 1917 – Zimmerman Telegram

- German foreign minister Zimmerman sent a message to Mexico.
- Proposing Mexico attack the US and Germany would support them in gaining lost land through financial and military aid (New Mexico, Arizona and Texas).
- Intercepted by the British and passed on to US government.



February 1917 – Resumption of USW

- The blockade had pushed Germany to desperation with starvation rife.
- Germany gambled and resumed USW to try and break the blockade.
- This angered the US as their ships were now targeted by the U-boat campaign.

The US declared war on Germany in April 1917.

WHAT WAS THE IMPACT OF US INVOLVEMENT?



Fresh Troops

- Fresh troops were now available for the Western Front.
- 10,000 a day by mid 1918.



Supplies & Money

- The US supported the Allies with new supplies of weapons and food.
- US Navy supported the convoy system.
- US contributed money to the war effort.



RUSSIAN REVOLUTION – FEBRUARY 1917

WHY DID RUSSIA REVOLT?



Poor leadership by the Tsar and his advisors. Appeared unable to deal with problems.



Widespread food shortages led to starvation and disease.



By 1916 over 1 million Russians had been killed in the fighting.

WHAT HAPPENED IN 1917?



- Riots and strikes against the war broke out all over Russia.
- Soldiers were ordered to fire on protesters but refused and joined in with the protesters.



- Soldiers on the Russian front line mutinied and deserted their posts.
- In Petrograd, a worker's council (Petrograd Soviet) was established to organise a full-scale revolution.



- With no remaining support, the Tsar abdicated on 15 March.
- A provisional government was created but the war continued – after another serious military defeat, thousands of soldiers deserted.



- In October 1917, a group called the Bolsheviks overthrew the provisional government and took control of Russia. These were led by Lenin who had been smuggled back into Russia by the Germans.
- The Bolsheviks promised to end the war quickly.

WHAT WAS THE RESULT OF THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION?

- The Bolsheviks signed the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk in March 1918. For leaving the war, Russia gave up huge amounts of land and resources to Germany;



- 26% of Russia's population.
- 27% of Russia's agricultural land.
- 74% of its coal and iron ore.

This temporarily lessened the impact of the blockade.

- Germany was no longer fighting a 2-front war and 500,000 soldiers were redirected to the Western Front.
- Britain and France were worried as they lost a major ally.



Conflict and Tension, First World War 1894-1918: Events of 1918 - The Spring Offensive & Hundred Days

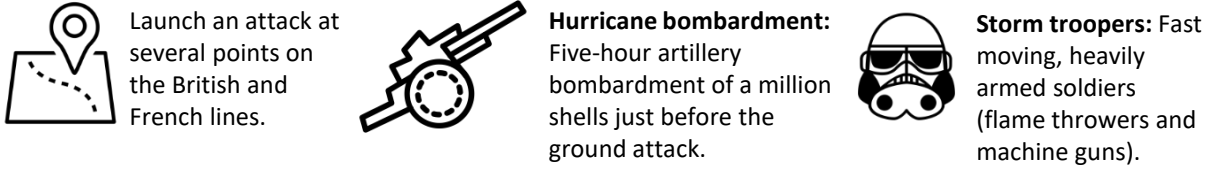
Spring 1918 saw Germany's last ditch effort to win the war before American troops arrived en masse and would contribute to the war effort. By August, the Allies (supported by fresh American troops and supplies) had launched their counterattack to push Germany back and attempt to secure a victory against the Germans close to defeat.

THE SPRING OFFENSIVE (LUDENDORFF OFFENSIVE) – SPRING 1918

WHY DID GERMANY ATTACK IN SPRING 1918?



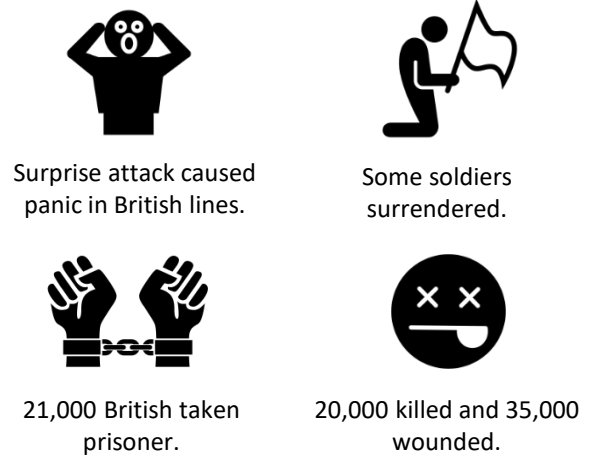
LUDENDORFF'S PLAN



GERMAN RESULTS



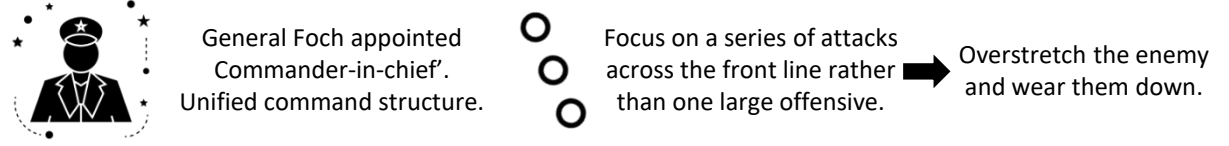
ALLIED RESULTS



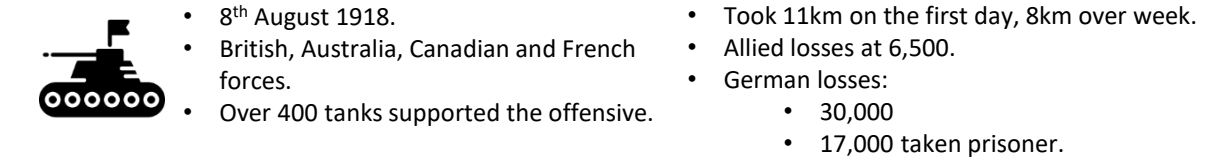
WHY DID THE SPRING OFFENSIVE FAIL?



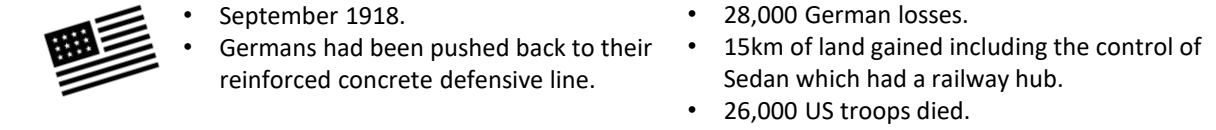
HUNDRED DAYS OFFENSIVE – AUGUST-NOVEMBER 1918



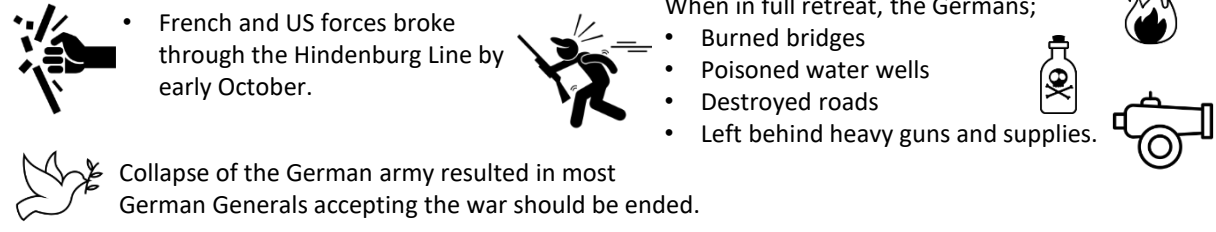
BATTLE OF AMIENS



BATTLES OF THE HINDENBURG LINE



ALLIED BREAKTHROUGH & GERMAN RETREAT



Conflict and Tension, First World War 1894-1918: The home fronts & The Armistice

Although the main conflict of the First World War was fought on the battlefields of the Western Front and in the North Sea, the conflict was still impacting the lives of civilians on both the British and German home fronts. How did the First World War impact the lives of people at home?

IMPACTS ON THE HOME FRONT – 1914-18



Government control increased.



Rationing was introduced in Britain 1918 to make sure that food was equally shared out.



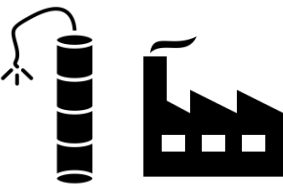
Women introduced into the workforce.



Mines, railways, munitions factories and shipyards were all controlled by the government.



Women were needed in agriculture in Russia and Germany.



700,000 women in Britain worked in the munitions factories.



Germany introduced price limits on food.



September 1915 there was a Zeppelin attack on London killing 22 civilians including 6 children.



Anti-war protests German women said they wanted their men back.

In 1916, 10,000 German workers protested and shouted 'down with war'. The British Socialist Party organised strikes.



Landscape where the fighting had taken place was ruined. In France, over 2 million people were made homeless, 750,000 houses, 20,000 factories, 1,000 bridges, 48,000km of road and 1,600km of railways were destroyed.

END OF THE WAR – AUTUMN-NOVEMBER 1918



Autumn 1918

Situation for Germany is hopeless, widespread anti-war feeling with soldiers in full retreat on the Western Front.



Kiel Mutiny – October 1918

Sailors at Kiel were ordered to make a last ditch attempt to attack the British fleet. They refused and revolted.

Revolutions spread across Germany over the next few days.



9 November 1918

Revolutions reach Berlin and the government ask the Kaiser to abdicate (resign), but he refuses.

By noon on 9 November 1918 the Kaiser abdicates as German Emperor, the German Republic is declared.

New government declare that they are willing to sue for peace.

11 November 1918

Armistice signed – the new German government meet with the Allied forces and sign an armistice. The Allies did not wish to negotiate.



Terms of Peace:

- Cease all hostilities
 - Leave the occupied territories
 - Repatriate allied prisoners of war
 - Establish a demilitarized zone
 - Surrender all heavy arms, airplanes and trains.
- This was to prevent any attempt by Germany to continue the war.

Conflict and Tension, First World War 1894-1918: The development of tactics and technology in WW1

The First World War saw a revolution in technology and tactics. Both sides of the conflict learnt from experience how to make weaponry and technology more effective for their own gain, but what were the significant advances as a result of the war?

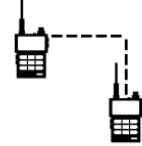
ADVANCES IN THE AIR






Aircraft were first used for reconnaissance.


During the war, planes were made of stronger materials.

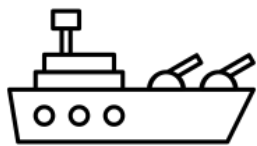

Interrupter mechanism weaponized planes.


Improved radio communication between pilots & ground.



Fighter & bomber planes supported troops (Amiens 1918).


Groups of 2/3 at the start of the war changed into formations.


ADVANCES AT SEA




Hydrophone had been developed by 1918, able to detect submarines several miles away.


Dazzle camouflage distorted U-boat abilities to see target ships.


Aircraft carriers launched small 'floatplanes' using catapults.

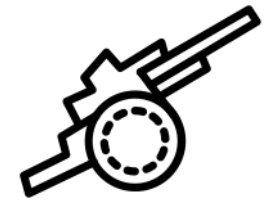

Q-ships used to trick the Germans, first in 1915. These were military ships disguised as merchant ships.

ADVANCES ON THE BATTLEFIELD



TANKS

- Battle of Cambrai in 1917; 400 tanks crossed no man's land.
- 1918; Germans developed guns that penetrated tanks, also used anti-tank trenches.



ARTILLERY

- Shells to destroy barbed wire developed.
- Creeping Barrage perfected.
- Accuracy and size improved, by 1918 the Germans could fire 106kg shell 130km.
- Anti-aircraft guns were developed to shoot down planes.



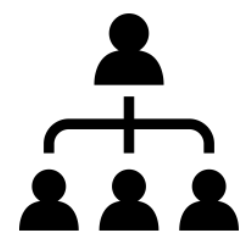
TACTICS

- Specially trained team of elite soldiers, armed with light machine guns, grenades and flame throwers.
- Advanced ahead of the main attack to locate German machine gun posts.

ADVANCES IN COMMAND



Ferdinand Foch appointed Commander-in-Chief.



Unified Command Structure: Direct all British (and Empire), French and American troops.

