World History

World War One

“The Great War”
1. Label the following countries:
   - Russia
   - Germany
   - France
   - Austria-Hungary
   - Britain
   - Italy
   - Serbia

2. Highlight the two alliances with different colors (be sure to indicate which color represents each alliance) – The two alliances were the *Central Powers* and the *Triple Entente*.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The BIG questions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Use the following space to take notes, draw pictures, and add information that answers the BIG Questions</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What were the causes of WWI?</th>
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<th>In what ways was WWI a new kind of war?</th>
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<th>What were some of the outcomes of WWI?</th>
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**Summary:**
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What Were the Underlying Causes of World War I?

A Document Based Question (DBQ)
World History
What Were the Underlying Causes of World War I?

Directions: Over a four-year period from 1914 to 1918 Europe was beset by one of the most terrible wars in human history. This DBQ asks why such a catastrophe took place.

It is suggested that you follow these steps:

1. Read the Background Essay.
2. Skim through the 11 documents to get a sense of what they are about.
3. Read the documents slowly. In the margin or on a Document Analysis Sheet record the main idea of each document.
4. Organize the documents by analytical category. Given the question, it would make sense for documents to be organized into cause categories. Initial documents might provide context.
5. Drawing from the documents, clearly state how each cause candidate contributed to the war.
6. Prioritize the causes and explain your priorities.

The Documents:

Document 1: Emile Zola and the Reason for War, 1891
Document 2: French, British and German Optimism on the Eve of War
Document 3: European Alliances, 1914 (map)
Document 5: Russian National Anthem and “Rule Britannia”
Document 6: The Black Hand Supports War Between Serbia and Austria, 1912
Document 7: Growth in Armaments, 1890-1914 (chart)
Document 8: “The hammer or the anvil,” 1899
Document 9: “The Fool and His Folly,” 1913 (cartoon)
Document 10: The British Octopus (cartoon)
Document 11: Colonial Possessions (map and chart)
What Were the Underlying Causes of World War I?

Introduction

At the turn of the 20th century Europe was feeling pretty darned good! True, it was the smallest continent in the world, but it controlled vast empires that circled the globe. The standard of living for the average person was high. European technology was unsurpassed. Even its culture of art and music were the envy of the rest of the world. In 1900 Europeans believed the world was their oyster.

But this feeling was not to last. By the end of 1918, after four long years of war, European confidence was badly shaken. Ten million soldiers had died on the battle fields and in the military hospitals; another twenty million soldiers had been wounded. Empires that had lasted for centuries lay in tatters. Writers wrote of broken dreams. Europe had entered the Great War riding on a song. Now, in November of 1918, no one was singing. What had gone wrong?

Creating a Balance of Power

In the late 19th century European leaders believed that by creating a balance of power they could prevent large-scale war. The idea was that if the major powers of Europe — countries like England, France, Russia, and Germany — were balanced in strength, no one country could dominate the rest.

Otto von Bismarck, the Chancellor of Prussia who led the unification of the German states, had a special stake in peace because Germany was sandwiched between Russia and France. The last thing Bismarck wanted was to fight a war on two fronts. His solution was to make an alliance with at least one of these nations. This proved to be difficult to do. When negotiations failed, he developed an alliance with Austria-Hungary and Italy, which became known as the Triple Alliance. In response, France and Russia and Great Britain formed an alliance known as the Triple Entente.

Tensions Build

On the surface, these alliances could be seen as a way to maintain the balance of power and thereby preserve peace. But suspicions ran high. Political and military leaders spent countless hours developing plans in case a war might break out. Countries built up their arms adding ships, guns, and men to their arsenals.

The tension between countries was matched by tension within countries. Especially in southeastern Europe, in an area known as the Balkans, the spirit of nationalism and independence ran high. Some ethnic groups revolted. Two large powers, Austria-Hungary and Russia, stood by to collect the pieces. The region was a powder keg. All it lacked was a spark to set it off.

The Spark

Otto von Bismarck had predicted in the late 1800s that “some damned foolish thing in the Balkans” would ignite the next big war. In June, 1914, the Archduke Francis Ferdinand, the heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne, visited Sarajevo. At that time, Sarajevo belonged to Austria-Hungary. Seven assassins had been sent to Sarajevo to kill the Archduke by the Serbian nationalist group, the Black Hand. The Black Hand wanted all the Serb people to be in one nation. And it wanted Austria-Hungary out.
On the morning of June 28, the Archduke’s car was instructed to take an unannounced route, but the driver of the car got confused and drove down a main road where Gavrilo Princip, one of the Serbian assassins, happened to be walking. Princip was unmarried, unemployed and afflicted with tuberculosis; he expected to die in a year or two. As the car stopped to turn around, Gavrilo Princip shot and killed the Archduke and his wife.

**Chain Reaction**

The Black Hand assassins hoped to use the killing to trigger a rebellion that would lead to a larger Serbian nation. But they triggered a lot more than that. The Austrian government was furious at the assassination. They blamed the Serbian government for not controlling groups like the Black Hand. On July 5, an Austrian ambassador met with the Kaiser of Germany. The ambassador got what he hoped for—a promise of full support.

One thing quickly led to another.

- On July 23 Austrian leaders demanded apologies from Serbia.
- On July 24 an angry Serbia sought help from Russia, and received a promise of support if Austria were to attack.
- On July 28 with no further response from the Serbian leaders, Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia.
- In the next several days:

  **Europe was at war!**

  - Russia declared war on Austria-Hungary,
  - Germany declared war on Russia,
  - France declared war on Germany and Austria-Hungary,
  - Britain joined France and Russia.

Four long years and ten million lives later, Europe looked for answers. What should be blamed? Who should be punished? What had been the cause of this catastrophe?

**About Causes and the Question**

A useful way to think about causes in history is to see the difference between immediate and underlying causes. Take, for example, the causes of the American Civil War. Historians generally agree that the immediate cause of the Civil War was the decision by South Carolina soldiers to start firing on federal troops at Fort Sumter. However, historians do not believe that Fort Sumter explains why the Civil War was fought. For that one has to look for deeper, underlying causes like slavery, or the South’s right to secede from the Union.

This DBQ is concerned with identifying deeper causes. Examine the eleven documents that follow and answer the analytical question before us: What were the underlying causes of World War I?
Would not the end of war be the end of humanity? War is life itself. Nothing exists in nature, is born, grows or multiplies except by combat. We must eat and be eaten so that the world may live. It is only warlike nations which have prospered; a nation dies as soon as it disarms. War is the school of discipline, sacrifice and courage.


How many times in the last two years have we heard people repeat "Better war than this perpetual waiting!" In this wish there is no bitterness, but a secret hope.


I spent the evening (of August 3, 1914) walking round the streets, especially in the neighbourhood of Trafalgar Square, noticing cheering crowds, and making myself sensitive to the emotions of passersby. During this and the following days I discovered to my amazement that average men and women were delighted at the prospect of war.


You will be home before the leaves have fallen from the trees.

European Alliances, 1914

Source: Map created from various sources.

Document 4

Source: John T. McCutcheon, cartoonist, Chicago Tribune, August 5, 1914.
God Save The Tsar!

God save the noble Tsar!
Long may he live, in power,
   In happiness,
   In peace to reign!
Dread of his enemies,
   Faith's sure defender,
   God save the Tsar!
(repeat previous three lines)

Rule Britannia

When Britain first at Heaven's command
   Arose from out the azure main;
   This was the charter of the land,
   And guardian angels sang this strain;

Rule Britannia! Britannia, rule the waves:
   Britons never will be slaves.

   The nations not so blest as thee,
   Shall in their turns to tyrants fall;
   While thou shalt flourish great and free,
   The dread and envy of them all.

Rule, Britannia! Britannia, rule the waves:
   Britons never will be slaves.
The war between Serbia and Austria ... is inevitable. If Serbia wants to live in honor, she can only do this by war. This war is determined by our obligation to our traditions and the world of culture. This war derives from the duty of our race which will not permit itself to be assimilated. This war must bring about the eternal freedom of Serbia, of the South Slavs, of the Balkan peoples. Our whole race must stand together to halt the onslaught of these aliens from the north.

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**The Growth in Armaments, 1890–1914**

in British pounds (£)

![Chart showing growth in armaments from 1890 to 1914]

**Note:** By 1914 the Entente Powers could field 2.23 million men, Germany and Austria-Hungary 1.2 million.

*Prince Bernhard von Buelow, German Chancellor, speech to the Reichstag December 11, 1899*

...we realize that without power, without a strong army and a strong navy, there can be no welfare for us. The means of fighting the battle for existence in this world without strong armaments on land and water, for a nation soon to count sixty millions, living in the centre of Europe and at the same time stretching out its economic feelers in all directions, have not yet been found. In the coming century the German nation will be either the hammer or the anvil.

*Document 9*


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**THE FOOL AND HIS FOLLY!**

Germany has suddenly announced her determination to increase her already monstrous armaments by a special and additional expenditure of fifty million pounds.
The British Octopus

Freiheit Der Meere = Freedom of the Seas
Engländ Der Blutsauger der Welt = England is the Bloodsucker of the World
Source: Map created from various sources.


**Size of Colonial Empires in 1913**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area (sq. km.)</th>
<th>Population of Colonies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Britain</td>
<td>33,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>11,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>2,950,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>2,400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>2,100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holland</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>1,500,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>324,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>250,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Austria-Hungary</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>0</td>
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</table>
ESSAY THESIS:

Content Paragraph 1

Thesis / Main idea (M of “MEAL”) ~ Remember to not only restate the thesis but also add a little historical information as well:

M - Thesis statement:

1st source chosen / Evidence 1:

1st source chosen / Analysis 1:

2nd source chosen / Evidence 2:

2nd source chosen / Analysis 2:

3rd source chosen / Evidence 3:

3rd source chosen / Analysis 3:

L. Linking sentence (to the M and the overall)
Content Paragraph 2

Thesis / Main idea (M of “MEAL”) ~ Remember to not only restate the thesis but also add a little historical information as well:

M - Thesis statement:

1st source chosen /Evidence 1:

1st source chosen /Analysis 1:

2nd source chosen / Evidence 2:

2nd source chosen / Analysis 2:

3rd source chosen / Evidence 3:

3rd source chosen / Analysis 3:

L. Linking sentence (to the M and the overall)
Content Paragraph 3

*Thesis / Main idea (M of “MEAL”) ~ Remember to not only restate the thesis but also add a little historical information as well:*

**M - Thesis statement:**

1st source chosen / Evidence 1:

1st source chosen / Analysis 1:

2nd source chosen / Evidence 2:

2nd source chosen / Analysis 2:

3rd source chosen / Evidence 3:

3rd source chosen / Analysis 3:

L. Linking sentence (to the M and the overall)
Introduction Paragraph (that includes your ESSAY THESIS)

Conclusion Paragraph:
Is Germany to blame for the start of World War I?

Step 1: Google search “sas curriculum” – it is the first one, click on it.

Step 2: Login is - numeral7rhythm – that is: (numeral 7 rhythm) all as one word (There is no password)

Step 3: search “WWI” – we will be doing the one titled, “World War I: Failure of European Diplomacy” QL # 933
   Click on it
   Put your name in, click “go”

Step 4: Watch videos and take notes
   Read primary sources/Highlight/comment
   you need 2 highlights and analysis/document --- You MAY have a research partner to share source analysis with

*** *** you must watch the videos! Take video notes! – see writing expectations below! *** ***

IMPORTANT: You must click “save, print, send” AT THE END OF EACH TIME YOU USE THE PROGRAM
   Put your class period in “class” then click “create a pdf”
   At the top of the pdf, there is a place for an email. Email this to: YOURSELF and your partner

   REMEMBER where you stopped, as that will be where you pick up tomorrow.

*if you are experiencing technological problems or having problems understanding something, you must ask and advocate for yourself. “This and that wouldn’t work” or “I didn’t understand, so I didn’t do it” are NOT acceptable. *

Writing expectations:
Write your own paper.
1. Five paragraph paper. Done as per our five paragraph rubric – rubric shared on google docs
2. You must include some sort of definition or description of Two of the video notes of YOUR OWN CHOOSING as well as Alliance systems and Militarism in your intro paragraph
3. You must use/include 5 of the 6 different sources in your paper
4. Share your paper with your partner and have them proof read/edit it – I will be looking in the revision history
5. Share your FINAL DRAFT with Mr. Brenner using Google Docs

This is a pretty tough question. You will have to be a critical thinker and evaluator!

This is how colleges will expect you to read & write – USING YOUR BRAIN!
### WWI

#### Who are these people?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Afghanistan Empire</th>
<th>Czechoslovakia</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kaiser Wilhelm II</td>
<td>Czar Nicholas</td>
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#### Why is this important?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Imperialism</th>
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<td>Nationalism</td>
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<td>Alliance Systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>Militarism</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crisis in the Balkans</td>
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| Summary of What I learned from the videos |  |
ESSAY THESIS:

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3rd source chosen / Analysis 3:

L. Linking sentence (to the M and the overall)
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2nd source chosen / Analysis 2:

3rd source chosen / Evidence 3:

3rd source chosen / Analysis 3:

L. Linking sentence (to the M and the overall)
The "Concert of Europe" Loses Harmony

Fifty years of relative peace between the European powers came to an end in the late 1860s. The creation of the North German Confederation in 1867 unified most of Germany under the Prussian king. But this new organization hardly served to stabilize western Europe. The small independent states of southern Germany felt that they had to choose between membership in the new confederation and being caught in a conflict involving Germany, France, and Austria. To add to the instability, Germany and France quarreled over the planned assumption of the throne of Spain by a member of the Prussian nobility.

In the diplomatic exchange that followed, the German chancellor, Otto von Bismarck, created the impression that a French ambassador had insulted the German king. Bismarck also made it appear that the French ambassador had been snubbed by the Germans. Bowing to public outrage over these seemingly minor events, on July 19, 1870 the French government foolishly declared war on Germany.

The Franco-Prussian War

The French army was no match for the well-armed, well-trained Prussian and German forces. Following the French defeat at the Battle of Sedan in early September, Napoleon III was captured and Paris surrounded. A revolution in Paris overthrew the French government and declared the Third Republic. For four months the city refused to surrender to the Germans. But on January 28, 1871, the starving and cold revolutionaries finally gave up.

The victorious Germans demanded that France pay a huge war debt and give up the border provinces of Alsace and Lorraine. On January 18, 1871, the Prussian king was crowned as the hereditary emperor of the German Empire. Germany had transformed itself from a weak collection of independent states to the most powerful nation on the continent.

The Entente Cordial

The new German Empire quickly began a massive industrial and military buildup. By 1900 Germany was producing more steel than France and Great Britain combined. Meanwhile, competition for colonial empires kept France and England at odds for the next 20 years. France allied herself with Russia while Germany allied with Austria and Italy (The Triple Alliance). By 1894 the European continent resembled an armed camp.

Great Britain stayed out of these power struggles—until Germany decided to build a navy in 1898. Great Britain had always counted on its naval strength to protect the British Isles and its colonial empire. Germany's naval buildup threatened this security. In 1904 Great Britain and France put aside their conflicts and agreed to support each other against other nations. There was no formal agreement of what to do in time of war, but Germany saw the entente cordial as a threat.
**The Problem of Mobilization**

As World War I approached, most European countries were unprepared for the task of mobilizing large armies. While the Russians had the largest army on the continent, Russia's geographical expanse and lack of a modern railroad network meant that it would take months to deploy its massive forces. France, though less hampered by long distances, faced similar problems of mobilization. But Germany had carefully built an extensive railroad network. This gave the Germans the clear advantage of being able to quickly move troops and equipment to its borders and maintain a steady flow of supplies.

**Step 2- Documents**

Read from the following sources to help you better understand and answer the question. Highlight or underline important information as you read. Answer the questions as you read.

**Schlieffen Plan**

In 1904 France and Britain signed the Entente Cordiale (friendly understanding). The objective of the alliance was to encourage co-operation against the perceived threat of Germany. Negotiations also began to add Russia to this alliance. As a result of these moves the German military began to fear the possibility of a combined attack from France, Britain and Russia.

Alfred von Schlieffen, German Army Chief of Staff, was given instructions to devise a strategy that would be able to counter a joint attack. In December, 1905, he began circulating what later became known as the Schlieffen Plan. Schlieffen argued that if war took place it was vital that France was speedily defeated. If this happened, Britain and Russia would be unwilling to carry on fighting. Schlieffen calculated that it would take Russia six weeks to organize its large army for an attack on Germany. Therefore, it was vitally important to force France to surrender before Russia was ready to use all its forces.

Schlieffen's plan involved using 90% of Germany's armed forces to attack France. Fearing the French forts on the border with Germany, Schlieffen suggested a scythe-like attack through Holland, Belgium and Luxembourg. The rest of the German Army would be sent to defensive positions in the east to stop the expected Russian advance.

When Helmuth von Moltke replaced Alfred von Schlieffen as German Army Chief of Staff in 1906, he modified the plan by proposing that Holland was not invaded. The main route would now be through the flat plains of Flanders. Moltke argued that Belgium's small army would be unable to stop German forces from quickly entering France. Moltke suggested that 34 divisions should invade Belgium whereas 8 divisions would be enough to stop Russia advancing in the east.

On 2nd August 1914, the Schlieffen Plan was put into operation when the German Army invaded Luxembourg and Belgium. However, the Germans were held up by the Belgian Army and were shocked by the Russian Army's advance into East Prussia. The Germans were also surprised by how quickly the British Expeditionary Force reached France and Belgium.
Question 1: What was the Entente Cordial and what effect did it have on Germany?

Question 2: Who was Field Marshal Alfred von Schlieffen?

Question 3: The Germans assumed that in case of war they would have to fight on two fronts, to the East and to the West. Which two countries did they plan to fight?

Question 4: According the Schlieffen Plan, which country should be attacked first and why?

The Schlieffen Plan

Most important of the war plans was Germany's Schlieffen Plan. This had been developed by Count Alfred von Schlieffen, Chief of the German General Staff from 1891 to 1905. German military planning occurred within the context of Germany's geographical position and the alliance system in Europe. Even before Schlieffen, German military leaders had been faced with the prospect of a two-front war in which Germany faced enemies to east (Russia) and west (France). Schlieffen decided that, in the event of a war in Europe, Germany's first priority should be to concentrate on a crushing offensive against France in the west.

In December 1905 Schlieffen set out his plan in a detailed memorandum. Its key features were:

- a bold and decisive initial move against France in the west
- violation of Dutch and Belgian neutrality as the strong German right wing of 35 army corps swept westwards to enter France from its northern borders
- use of German reserve troops along with the regular army
- envelopment of the French left flank, pushing the French forces across France against their own eastern frontier
- capture of Paris as the German right flank extended west and south of the city and enveloped it
- a small holding operation with just five army corps to contain the French on their eastern border in Lorraine (that is, a weak German left wing).

Schlieffen assumed that a rapid victory - within six weeks - would be achieved against France; after this Germany would turn her attention to Russia in the east. It was expected that Russia would take six weeks to mobilise fully, so the French danger would be neutralised during this time.

Historians have both praised and criticised Schlieffen's plan. It has been called "a conception of Napoleonic boldness", but criticised for failing to take account of the development of railways. Thus, while the German
troops would have "to march on their own feet round the circumference of the circle, the French would be able to switch troops by rail across the chord of the circle".\[1\] It has been praised from a military and strategic point of view as it "offered a real prospect of forcing a decision in the west and avoiding the agonizing trench war deadlock of 1914-18" and accurately predicted French strategy in 1914. However, from a broader perspective it has been condemned for its "immorality..., the political folly of violating Belgian neutrality, and the almost reckless indifference to British intervention."\[2\]

In any event, the plan was not put into operation in exactly the form in which Schlieffen had prepared it. Schlieffen retired as Chief of the General Staff on the last day of 1905 and was succeeded by General Helmuth von Moltke. Schlieffen died in 1913. In a final memorandum in the year before his death he expressed concern about the role of the British in a European war, and he continued to stress the need for an immensely powerful right wing to sweep westward. He declared: "The whole of Germany must throw itself on one enemy - the strongest, most powerful, most dangerous enemy: and that can only be the Anglo-French!"\[3\]

Schlieffen's successor, von Moltke, was a courageous soldier but not a bold or daring Chief of the General Staff. He once stated, "I lack the capacity for risking all on a single throw...." He proceeded to modify the Schlieffen Plan, with disastrous consequences for Germany in 1914.

- He abandoned the planned German advance through Holland and the violation of Dutch neutrality.
- He changed the relative weight of the German armies moving against France, reducing the size of the right wing and increasing the left wing on the Franco-German border.

In 1914 these changes had important implications.

First, because Moltke abandoned the wide sweep through Holland, the German advance was through Belgium alone. Two German armies had to capture and move through the Belgian fortified town of Liege within the first days of the war. This created a huge bottleneck and a chronic supply problem. It also had the most serious political consequences. It meant that any possibility of negotiation to prevent war disappeared. At the very beginning of mobilisation Germany took an irrevocable step, violating neutral Belgian territory and virtually ensuring that Britain would enter the war against Germany. Thus German mobilisation in 1914 effectively meant war, with no 'going back'.

In the diplomatic crisis of July 1914 the need to capture Liege swiftly at the beginning of war led Moltke to exert pressure for rapid military action by Germany's ally, Austria, and for early declarations of war by Germany. The German historian, Gerhard Ritter, commented in the 1960s that "Germany was therefore obliged by purely technical necessities to adopt, before the whole world, the role of a brutal aggressor - an evil moral burden which...we have not got rid of even today." Turner concludes on the role of Germany's military plan in the diplomatic crisis of 1914: "the Moltke-Schlieffen Plan not only stamped Germany into committing gross political errors in 1914, but it also accelerated the whole tempo of the crisis in eastern Europe and went far to make a peaceful solution impossible."\[4\]

Second, Moltke's redeployment of German military strength meant that he had changed the ratio of right to left wing from Schlieffen's approximate 100:15 to 100:42. Schlieffen's original plan had anticipated that the weak German forces on the Franco-German border would lure the attacking French toward the Saar and then counter-attack at an appropriate moment. Moltke, by placing powerful German armies in Lorraine, drove the French back on their own fortress barrier, and effectively destroyed German chances of victory.

In August 1914 the German army achieved initial victories in the west against both French and British forces (the small British Expeditionary Force was sent to France at the beginning of the war) at Charleroi and Mons. By the beginning of September the German army was only 48 kilometres from Paris. However, it did
not have the strength that Schlieffen had originally envisaged to make a sweeping encirclement of the city. In addition to his pre-war changes to the Schlieffen Plan, during August 1914 Moltke detached two army corps from the German right wing and sent them across Germany to the eastern front against Russia, further weakening the army in the west.

The commander of the German First Army, General von Kluck, decided not to encircle the French capital. Instead he chose to go east, moving past Paris and temporarily halting on the River Marne. This further modification in practice of the plan had disastrous consequences for the German military effort. It not only meant that Paris was not captured - very significant for French national morale - but it also gave the French a chance to counter-attack. The result was the Battle of the Marne from 6 to 9 September. Here the apparently invincible German armies were defeated. Von Moltke ordered a retreat to the River Aisne, where the German forces dug a line of defensive positions which they were to hold for the remainder of the war. This was the beginning of the trench warfare which characterised the Western Front.

Thus the Schlieffen Plan, in the form in which it was implemented in 1914, made a diplomatic solution of the crisis virtually impossible. It did not achieve the decisive German victory against France in the west. It did not solve Germany's problem of a two-front war. The Battle of the Marne signalled the end of the war of manoeuvre; this gave way to static warfare and the long line of trenches across France from the Swiss frontier to the English Channel.

http://hsc.csu.edu.au/modern_history/core_study/ww1/stalemate/page83.htm#anchor253382

**Question 5:** Involving Belgium and Holland (the Dutch) was considered a bold move. Why?

**Question 6:** How do historians assess the Schlieffen Plan?

**Question 7:** Who was von Moltke?

**Question 8:** What changes did he make to Schlieffen's plan?

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**The First Battle of The Marne**

In August, 1914, German forces march south through Belgium, to begin the invasion of France. With two German armies fighting on the eastern border of France, and allied forces occupied, the Germans would march five armies through Belgium, and on to France. Then something came up, that the Germans did not anticipate. The Belgians began to fight the German armies advancing to France. This was costly to the Germans, as they lost a week as well as many lives. With the French and British expeditionary forces in retreat, or on the border stretch between Belgium and Switzerland, the Germans planned to encircle the allied forces on the eastern border, and from the west, and then take Paris. The German's plan, the von Schlieffen
plan, was to strike quickly, and take the capital, thus knocking France out of the war. Knowing an attack was coming, the French government, as well as about 500,000 French citizens fled the city of Paris, anticipating the German capture. It seemed that all was falling in place for the German's on the western front, until the German commander, von Moltke began siphoning off troops from the western front, to aid in the battle against the Russians. This cost the Germans another week, as well as weakening the already weakened German forces, after the fighting in Belgium. As a consequence in doing this, the Germans no longer had the strength to attack Paris from the west, and were forced to march south, on to Paris.

*a map of the river Marne, and the battlegrounds of the first battle of the Marne*

http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/FWWmarne.htm

With the German offensive coming, French forces retreated 60 km south of the Marne, to a line along the river Seine, where they would counterattack the Germans, in an attempt to stop the attack on Paris. On September 6, 1914, the German 1st army was attacked by the French 6th army, which successfully forced a wedge in the German line, forcing the Germans to divide into two forces. With the German offensive slowed, and weakened, the gap between the German forces soon filled with French and British troops, in an attempt to weaken the already divided German army. German forces battled against the allied forces for three days, and were close to beating the French, before, out of desperation, the French conscripted taxis, and reserves were raced to the battle, via taxis. Finally, on Sept. 9th, 1914, the Germans began the retreat. The British and French forces were now able to advance to the Marne, and although they faced little more opposition, the advance was slow, only gaining about 12 miles at first. This slow advance allowed the German forces to reunite, and make a stand against the allied attack. Unfortunately, for the Germans, this failed, and by Sept.10th 1914, the fighting of the first battle at the Marne was over, and the French managed to regain lost territory. Each side had its high casualties. The allies suffering 262 733 casualties, and the Germans, an estimated 250 000 casualties.

http://hrsbstaff.ednet.ns.ca/macquekl/History%20Web%20Page/History/WorldWar1site/battleofthemarne.htm

**Question 9:** Once the Germans attacked France through Belgium in August 1914, they were surprised by three events. Explain them:

a.

b.

c.
**Question 10:** What effect did these events have on the German advance?

**Question 11:** What circumstances contributed to the allied victory at the Battle of the Marne?

**Part Three**
Write a letter to Count Alfred von Schlieffen explaining the outcome of the plan he worked so long to perfect. The letter should answer the Focus Question: Why did the Schlieffen Plan fail? Be sure to include **THREE notated quotes** and **THREE vocabulary words**.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word I did not know (Vocabulary)</th>
<th>In your own words, define the word that you did not know</th>
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</table>
Use the following organizer to take notes about the new kinds of weapons used in World War I:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weapon AND Small picture to help you remember it</th>
<th>How the weapon worked</th>
<th>How the weapon was used during the war</th>
<th>How the weapon affected soldier and/or citizens</th>
</tr>
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On the back of the page, draw an educational representation of one of the weapons. Be sure to show how the weapon worked, how it was used, and how it affected the lives of the soldiers and/or citizens of the time. Use speech bubbles, labels, or captions to fully illustrate what your picture is representing.
World War I – “The War” Name  
Ch 28 Section 3

The Schlieffen Plan  
What was the main problem that Schlieffen tried to address in his war plan?  
What kind of vehicles did the French fighters use to get to the battle of the Marne?  
What was the end result for Paris at the battle of the Marne?  

What about the Russians surprised the German military?  

Years of Deadlock  
Define Belligerent  

Define War of Attrition and Trenches  

Define Propaganda  

Use your two definitions to write a short summary about trench warfare  

What were two differences in the war on the Eastern front, as compared to the war on the Western Front?  

What was Winston Churchill in charge of?  

What was the British goal for fighting “on the seas?”  

What happened to the Lusitania?  

What was the German goal for fighting “on the seas?”  

What was the American view on what happened to the Lusitania?  

What was the German view on the Lusitania?
United States Enters War
Explain how the population of the United States was divided in their thinking about the war.

What ultimately caused the United States to enter the war?

Look back at the Trench Warfare section. Answer the following question in a paragraph.

Why did trench warfare cause such a stalemate in the fighting? Be sure to include “no man’s land, machine guns, and poison gas” into your paragraph.
Turning the Tide
In your own words, define “the principle of total war”

What did women do to help the war effort?

List three things that the warring nations got from their empires to help fight the war.

Define Armistice

Effects of the War
How many soldiers were killed?
How many soldiers were injured?
How many civilians were killed?

Restoring the Peace
What were three of Woodrow Wilson’s points in his “Fourteen Points?”

How many separate treaties were worked out in Paris?

Which of the treaties was the most important?

What did this treaty do to Germany?

What new nations came out of other settlements that happened after the war?

Bitter Fruits
Why did Germany feel a “deep sense of resentment?”
World War I

The Great War caused human suffering and loss of life on a scale that had never before been experienced. When the war ended, the peace settlement included the payment of heavy reparations. This caused resentment and anger that eventually led to further conflict among European neighbors. Use the chart below to review the causes, progress, and outcomes of World War I. Complete each item by filling in the blank spaces in the columns.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Causes</td>
<td>1882</td>
<td>Triple Alliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1907</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>June 1914</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Progress on Western Front</td>
<td>August-September 1914</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>September 5, 1914</td>
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<td>stalemate</td>
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<td>Verdan</td>
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<td>later in 1916</td>
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<td>Somme</td>
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<td></td>
<td>April 1917</td>
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<td></td>
<td>spring-September 1918</td>
<td>Allied offensives</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>November 11, 1918</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Progress on Eastern Front</td>
<td>end of August 1914</td>
<td>30,000 dead, 92,000 prisoners taken</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>mid-1915</td>
<td>Allied attempt to put Turkey and Austria-Hungary out of the war falls</td>
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<td>Russian losses continue</td>
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<td></td>
<td>March 1918</td>
<td>signals Russia's withdrawal from the war</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outcome</td>
<td>January 1919</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>June 28, 1919</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
All Quiet on the Western Front

*All Quiet on the Western Front* describes the horrors of World War One from the perspective of the main character, Paul Baumer, a German recruit. The movie is divided into four parts: the pre-war education of Paul and his friends and their training, the arrival of the recruits at the front lines of the war, the gruesome conditions of trench warfare, and Paul’s homecoming and return to the front lines.

**Main Characters:**
- Himmelstoss – Postman and eventual drill sergeant
- Paul Baumer – main character
- Professor Kantorek – School teacher
- Kropp, Leer, Muller, Kemmerick – Friends and new recruits
- Westhus, Detering, Tjaden – veteran soldiers
- Sergeant Katczinsky – “Kat”

**Answer the following Q’s as you watch the movie:**
1. How does Paul Baumer introduce the soldiers in his troop?

2. What is Professor Kantorek trying to convince Paul and his friends to do? What does he say about their duty to Germany?

3. Describe the hospital scene. How many deaths has this one hospital seen in one day?

4. What does Himmelstoss say to the recruits? How is he preparing them for war?

5. What are the young recruits noticing as they are about to head onto the train?

6. How does Sergeant Katczinsky approach the recruits?

7. Describe the reaction of a soldier who gets hit by poison gas.

8. Who dies like flies? Why?

9. How old are the newest recruits?
10. Now, how do the veteran soldiers react to the bombardment? How do the new recruits respond?

11. How does Himmelstoss react to the bombardment? How is this ironic?

12. How does Paul react to the French soldier that he just stabbed? Why do you think he reacts this way? What is Paul battling with inside his head at this moment?

13. What does Himmelstoss receive? How is this ironic?

14. What happens to Paul?

15. Why does he return to his hometown?

16. What is happening with Paul’s family?

17. What does Paul tell Professor Kantorek about the war? How does he react?

18. What happens to Sergeant Katczinsky?

19. What happens just before “all is quiet on the western front?”

20. Describe the attitude of this movie towards World War I and all wars.