

Social studies

Grade 9

The First World War

Understand the causes, the trenches and the legacy of 1914 to 1918.



I can explain the main causes and consequences of the First World War.



1



Match up

Draw a line to match each pair.

☐

Militarism

☐

Alliances

☐

Imperialism

☐

Nationalism



● A. competition for colonies

● B. building up armies and weapons

● C. strong pride in one's nation

● D. agreements to defend each other

2

**Put it in order**

Number the boxes to put them in the right order.

☐

Years of trench warfare on the Western Front.

☐

Archduke Franz Ferdinand is assassinated in Sarajevo (1914).

☐

The armistice ends the fighting (11 November 1918).

☐

Austria-Hungary declares war on Serbia.

☐

Alliances pull the great powers into war.

3

**True or false**

Circle true or false.

1. Trench warfare often led to stalemate.

True

False

2. The war lasted only a few months.

True

False

3. The Treaty of Versailles was signed after the war.

True

False

4

**Two sides**

Write each country in the right box.

Germany

Austria-Hungary

Russia

United Kingdom

Ottoman Empire

Bulgaria

Italy

France

Allied Powers

Central Powers

5

**Pick the answer**

Circle the right answer.

1. Which new weapon was first used in battle during the First World War?

A the tank

B the atomic bomb

C the jet fighter

2. Which country joined the war in 1917?

A Sweden

B the United States

C Switzerland

3. The Western Front ran mainly through...

A Russia and Poland

B Italy and Austria

C Belgium and France

4. Roughly how many soldiers died in the war?

A about 10,000

B about 100,000

C about 10 million

6

**Key terms**

Use the word bank to complete each sentence.

WORD BANK

no man's land

Somme

Versailles

League of Nations

Western

1. The ground between the enemy trenches was called _____.

2. The Battle of the _____ in 1916 was one of the bloodiest battles in history.

3. The peace treaty with Germany was signed at _____ in 1919.

4. The _____ was set up after the war to keep peace between countries.

5. Much of the fighting between Germany and France took place on the _____
Front.

7

**Words of war**

Draw a line from each word to its meaning.

☐**Armistice**☐**Conscription**☐**Propaganda**☐**Reparations****A.** a law that makes people join the armed forces**B.** payments for damage caused by the war**C.** an agreement to stop fighting**D.** information used to shape what people think

8

**Think and write**

Why do many historians say the Treaty of Versailles helped cause later conflict?

How did it go?



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Answer key

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United Kingdom

Ottoman Empire

Bulgaria

Italy

France

Allied Powers

France, Russia, United Kingdom, Italy

Central Powers

Germany, Austria-Hungary, Ottoman Empire,
Bulgaria

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C Armistice •

A Conscription •

D Propaganda •

B Reparations •

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