

# *The Great War*

## **World War I**

**1914 – 1918**

**The United States**

**Enters the War on April 6, 1917**

**U.S. Tried to remain neutral... *But couldn't***

Students will demonstrate knowledge of the changing role of the United States from the late nineteenth century through World War I by explaining the reasons for the United States' involvement in World War I and its international leadership role at the conclusion of the war.

**Reasons for United States involvement in World War I**

- Inability to remain neutral
- German submarine warfare: Sinking of the *Lusitania*
- United States economic and political ties to Great Britain
- The Zimmerman Telegram

**United States leadership as the war ended**

- At the end of World War I, President Wilson prepared a peace plan known as the Fourteen Point Plan that called for the formation of the League of Nations, a peacekeeping organization.
- The United States decided not to join the League of Nations because the United States Senate failed to ratify the Treaty of Versailles.

**Major Allied Powers**

- Great Britain
- France
- Russia
- Serbia
- Belgium
- United States

**Vocabulary Test**

---

**Unit Test**

---

**Central Powers**

- German Empire
- Austro – Hungary Empire
- Bulgaria
- Ottoman Empire

## **WWI – Vocabulary Practice**

1. During World War I, there were two different

\_\_\_\_\_ that worked together to win the war.

2. Both the Central Powers and Allied Powers used

\_\_\_\_\_ to influence the thoughts and actions of their citizens.

3. At the end of the war, Germany was forced to pay

\_\_\_\_\_ for all of the damages caused by the war.

4. At the end of the war, President Wilson \_\_\_\_\_ for the creation of the League of Nations.

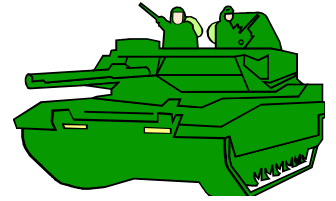
5. The United States Senate did not \_\_\_\_\_, or approve, the Treaty of Versailles.

6. The U.S. Senate believed that the League of Nations went against the Constitution, meaning it was \_\_\_\_\_.

7. Leaders of the Allied Powers met to discuss \_\_\_\_\_ between European countries after World War I.

# World War I

THE GREAT WAR



<i>Word</i>	<i>Definition</i>	<i>Key Words</i>
<b>advocate</b>		
<b>alliance</b>		
<b>diplomacy</b>		
<b>propaganda</b>		
<b>ratify</b>		
<b>reparations</b>		
<b>unconstitutional</b>		

## World War I Anticipation Guide

What I thought before the unit			What I know after the unit	
T	F	The two alliances of World War I were called the Allied Powers and the Axis Powers. (USII.5c)	T	F
T	F	The United States entered WWI when it began in 1914. (USII.5c)	T	F
T	F	The United States fought as part of the same alliance as the French and Germans. (USII.5c)	T	F
T	F	Militarism and imperialism were two of the causes of World War I. (USII.5c)	T	F
T	F	World War I began in the year 1914. (USII.5c)	T	F
T	F	The United States was unable to stay neutral in the war because they were selling war supplies to both alliances. (USII.5c)	T	F
T	F	The United States had economic and political ties to the country of Germany. (USII.5c)	T	F
T	F	The British used submarine warfare and sunk a passenger ship named the Lusitania. (USII.5c)	T	F
T	F	The Zimmermann Telegram was one reason the U.S. became involved in World War I. (USII.5c)	T	F
T	F	The Zimmermann Telegram urged Mexico to declare war on the United States. (USII.5c)	T	F
T	F	Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria and the Ottoman Empire were on the same side during World War I. (USII.5c)	T	F
T	F	Woodrow Wilson was the President of the United States during WWI. (USII.5c)	T	F
T	F	The Allied powers claimed the victory for World War I. (USII.5c)	T	F
T	F	The British created a peace plan called the 14 Points Plan. (USII.5c)	T	F
T	F	Part of the 14 Points Plan was to create a peacekeeping organization called the United Nations. (USII.5c)	T	F
T	F	The treaty that ended World War I was called the Treaty of Versailles. (USII.5c)	T	F
T	F	The Senate did not ratify the Treaty of Versailles. (USII.5c)	T	F
T	F	The United States was a member of the peacekeeping organization formed after WWI. (USII.5c)	T	F
T	F	The United States joined World War I in 1917. (USII.5c)	T	F
T	F	The United States was part of the Allied Powers. (USII.5c)	T	F

Main ideas

Although one event sparked the beginning of World War I, its causes had existed for many years. These causes were nationalism, imperialism, militarism, and alliances.

Nationalism is the pride that people feel for their country. It is also the desire for independence. In the years before World War I, this pride started huge rivalries and hatred among countries. In addition to these rivalries, many groups wanted their independence. Slavs, Czechs, and others wanted to free themselves from Austria-Hungary. Poles, Finns, and Latvians were unhappy under Russian rule. Bulgarians, Greeks, Albanians, and others had already broken free from Turkish rule and others wanted to do the same.

Another cause of World War I was imperialism. This is a policy where strong countries take control of weaker, small areas. There was great competition among European countries to take colonies in Africa, Asia, and the Middle East.

European countries had started to form alliances before the start of World War I. These countries promised to help each other in times of trouble. These alliances caused tension among the European countries.

Militarism was another cause of World War I. Nations competed to build the strongest armies and navies, and by 1914 Europe had become an armed camp. At this point, it would only take one incident to send the countries of Europe into a big war.



The incident that sparked World War I happened on Jun 28, 1914 in the Bosnian capital of Sarajevo. Archduke Francis Ferdinand, who was heir (next in line) to the Austro-Hungarian throne, had gone to Bosnia to check on troops that were stationed there. The trip was dangerous. Bosnia was an Austrian territory that had a large Serbian population. Many Serbian people believed Bosnia should be part of Serbia. As the Archduke and his wife were traveling by car, they were assassinated by a young terrorist named Gavrilo Princip.

The Austria-Hungarian government blamed Serbia for the murders and declared war. When Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia, the alliances took action. Russia had promised to protect Serbia. Germany had promised to fight on the side of Austria-Hungary. France had promised to help Russia, so they prepared to fight Germany. Great Britain helped Russia and France when Belgium was attacked by Germany. Eventually, most of the European countries were brought

Allies: Color the Allied countries Yellow: Great Britain, France, Russia, Serbia, Belgium, (U.S. joined the Allies but not included on the European map)

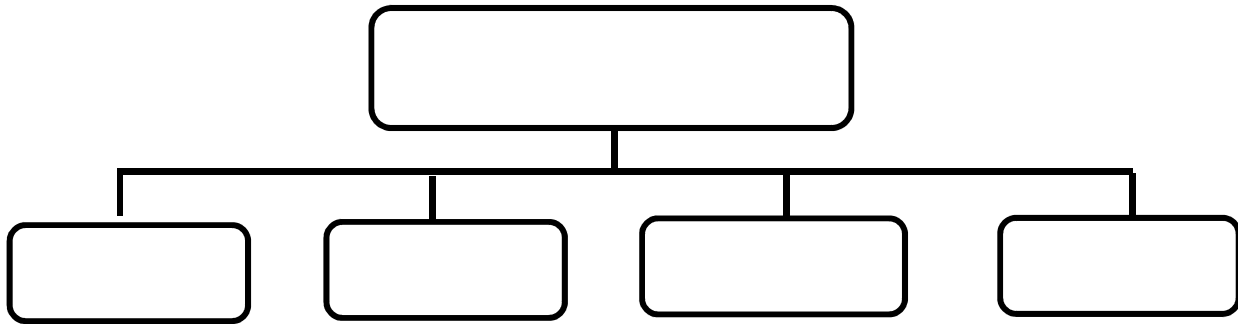
Central Powers: Color the Central Powers Green

German Empire, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria, Ottoman Empire (Turkey)

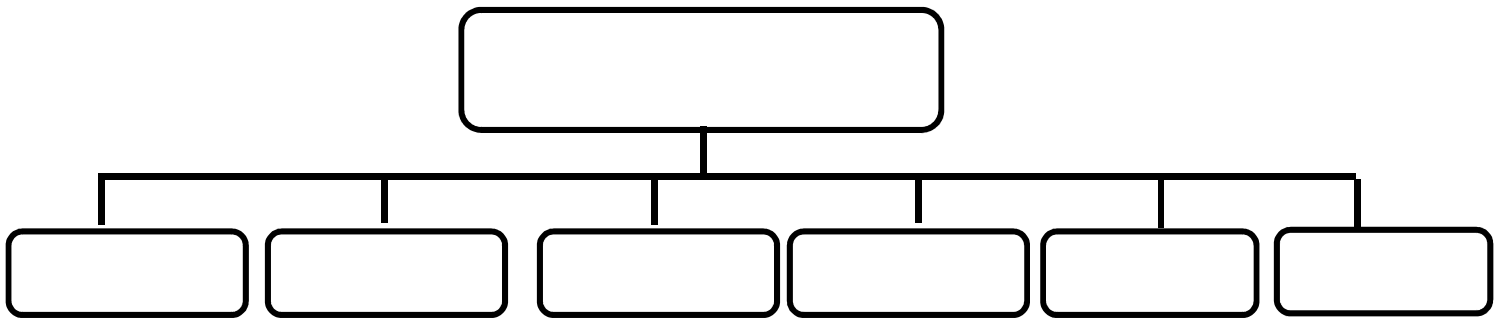


**Eventually, 27 countries would join sides with the Allies**

# War In Europe



Against the



8

The *“Explosion”* that set off the beginning of **World War I** was.....



The \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

during a visit to Serbia on **June 28, 1914.**



# America and the War - 1917

In 1917, President Wilson realized the United States could not stay out of the war any longer. He asked Congress to declare war with the following goal:

---

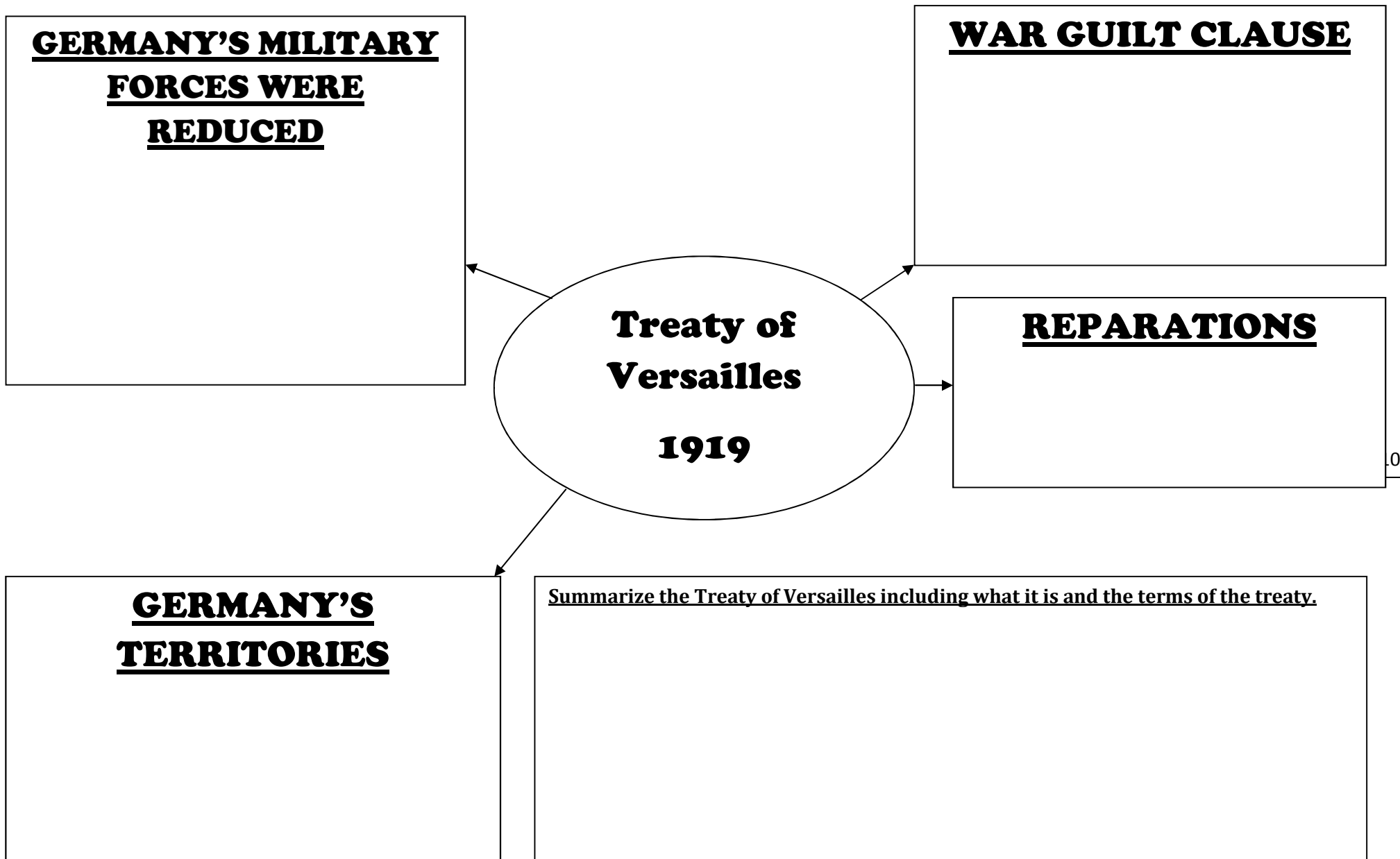
---

Below are the 3 reasons why the United States finally entered the war.



Write a Three Sentence Summary:

# The End of WWI



# Study Guide – World War I

- World War I began in **1914**. There were several reasons why problems existed in Europe for years before World War I started. These reasons included **MILIATARISM, ALLINACES, IMPERIALISM and NATIONALISM**. The spark that led war to break out in Europe was the **ASSASSINATION of Archduke Franz Ferdinand**.
- There were 2 major alliance groups that developed during WWI. One group was called the **CENTRAL Powers, and the countries included were GERMANY, AUSTRIA-HUGARY, BULGARIA and the OTTOMAN EMPIRE**. The other group was called the **ALLIED Powers, or Allies for short. This group included GREAT BRITAIN, FRANCE, SERBIA, RUSSIA, BELGIUM and the UNITED STATES**.
- The United States stayed **NEUTRAL** for the first few years of the war. One reason was because we had an immigrant population that supported both the Central and Allied Powers, depending on where they came from. Also, **we were supplying the ALLIED POWERS and making lots of money**.
- The United States finally entered the war in **1917**. One reason the United States entered was because of the **economic and political ties to GREAT BRITAIN**. Another reason was the **sinking of the LUSITANIA, which was a passenger ship torpedoed by German U-boats**. The final reason was the **ZIMMERMAN TELEGRAM, in which Germany bribed Mexico to declare war on the U.S.** to keep the U.S. too busy to enter WWI.
- WWI finally ended on November 18, **1918**. Leaders from the Allied Powers met to discuss the details of the **TREATY OF VERSAILLES**. The country that was **punished the most was GERMANY**. They had to accept blame for the whole war, reduce their military, pay reparations, and give up a lot of their territory. Germany was not happy.

**President WOODROW WILSON proposed a peace plan called the 14 POINTS PLAN**. His 14<sup>th</sup> point called for the creation of the **LEAGUE OF NATIONS**, which would promote world peace. When Wilson brought the treaty back to Congress to ratify, **Congress REJECTED the League of Nations**. Therefore, the United States never ratified the treaty, and we were never part of the League of Nation