



World War I, also known as the First World War, was a global war centered in Europe that began on 28th July 1914 and lasted until 11th November 1918. The war lasted exactly four years, three months and 14 days. Before World War II began in 1939, World War I was called the Great War, the World War or the War to End all Wars. 135 countries took part in World War I, and more than 15 million people died.

★ World War 1 was a military conflict lasting from 1914 to 1918, which involved nearly all the biggest powers of the world. It involved two opposing alliances – the Allies and the Central Powers. The countries of the Allies included Russia, France, British Empire, Italy, United States, Japan, Rumania, Serbia, Belgium, Greece, Portugal and Montenegro. The countries of the Central Powers included Germany, Austria-Hungary, Turkey and Bulgaria.

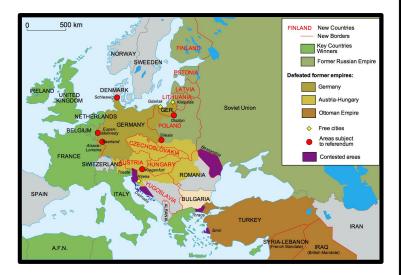
- ★ World War I began on June 28, 1914. World War 1 was triggered on 28 June 1914 by the assassination of the Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria and his pregnant wife Sophie. Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria was the nephew of Emperor Franz Josef and heir to the throne of Austria and Hungary. The assassination was planned by a Serbian terrorist group, called The Black Hand, and the man who shot Franz Ferdinand and his wife was a Bosnian revolutionary named Gavrilo Princip.
- ★ The Americans joined World War 1 after 128 Americans were killed by a German submarine. In 1915, the British passenger ship Lusitania was sunk by a German submarine. In all, 1,195 passengers, including 128 Americans, lost their lives. Americans were outraged and put pressure on the U.S. government to enter the war.
- ★ President Woodrow Wilson wanted a peaceful end to the war, but in 1917, when the Germans announced that their submarines would sink any ship that approached Britain, Wilson declared that America would enter the war and restore peace to Europe. The United States entered the war on April 6, 1917.



Sinking of RMS Lusitania as published in the newspaper The Daily Mirror.



- ★ 8 million soldiers died in WW1 and 21 million were injured. 65 million troops were mobilized during the war. Almost 58,000 British soldiers were lost on the first day at the Battle of the Somme. Chemical weapons were first used in World War I. The chemical was mustard gas.
- ★ The United States only spent seven and a half months in actual combat, during which time 116,000 soldiers were killed and 204,000 were wounded. In the Battle of Verdun in 1916, there were over a million casualties in ten months.
- ★ By 1918, German citizens were striking and demonstrating against the war. The British navy blockade German ports, which meant that thousands of Germans were starving, and the economy was collapsing.





Then the German navy suffered a major mutiny. After German Emperor Kaiser Wilhelm II abdicated on November 9th, 1918, the leaders of both sides met at Compiegne, France.

The peace armistice was signed on November 11th. By the end of the war, four empires — the Russian empire, the Ottoman empire, the German empire, and the Austro-Hungarian empire — had collapsed because of the war.

- ★ In 1919, The Treaty of Versailles officially ended WW1. The Treaty required that Germany accept full responsibility for causing the war; make reparations to some Allied countries; surrender some of its territory to surrounding countries; surrender its African colonies; and limit the size of its military.
- ★ The treaty also established the League of Nations to prevent future wars. The League of Nations helped Europe rebuild and fifty-three nations joined by 1923. But the U.S. Senate refused to let the United States join the League of Nations.



★ Germany joined the League of Nations in 1926, but many Germans were very resentful of the Treaty of Versailles. Germany and Japan withdrew from the League of Nations in 1933. Italy withdrew three years later.



- Plastic surgery was invented because of WW1. One of the earliest examples of plastic surgery came during World War I when a surgeon by the name of Harold Gillies helped shrapnel victims with terrible facial injuries.
- Blood banks were developed during World War I. It was during WW1 that the routine use of blood transfusion was used to treat wounded soldiers. Blood was transferred directly from one person to another. In 1917, a U.S. Army doctor by the name of Captain Oswald Johnson established the first blood bank on the Western Front.

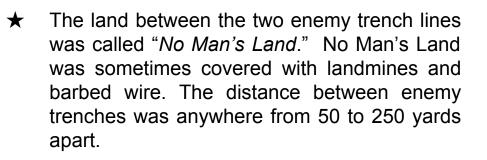
- ★ WW1 was one of the world's deadliest conflicts and changed the course of history for a number of reasons:
- ★ Technology It was the first war in which tanks, airplanes, submarines, motorcycles, machine guns, poison gas, landmines, and grenades were used. Injuries were often severe because helmets and uniforms were no match for the weapons.
- ★ Military strategy Trench warfare led to soldiers fighting in terrible and unsanitary conditions causing trench foot and cholera outbreaks.
- ★ Medicine Penicillin had not yet been discovered, causing thousands of deaths from wound infections and surgery. Thousands of soldiers suffered partial or complete amputations.
- ★ Psychological impact WW1 was the first real recognition of post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). In 1917, Medical Officer Charles Myers coined the term "shell shock" to describe soldiers mentally affected by periods of intense bombardment and prolonged conflict.
- ★ Women involvement The human cost of WW1 was of such magnitude that women were required to enter the workforce to fill the spots of men who were fighting or killed in the war.





- The Germans first used flamethrowers during the war. ★
- ★ Two-thirds of the soldiers died in battle while one-third was due to Spanish flu.
- The first prototype tank named Little Willie was introduced.
- ★ ★ World War I reigning monarchs King George V of Great Britain, Tsar Nicholas II of Russia, and Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany were cousins and grandchildren of Queen Victoria.
- Pigeons and dogs were used to transmit messages placed in ★ capsules attached to their body.
- ★ In 1914, the Christmas Truce was observed by both factions. The unofficial truce marked the ceasefire on Christmas Eve and men emerged from the trenches to exchange gifts and play football with each other in No Man's Land.
- The 48 ton gun named Bertha was first used. It could fire shells over ★ 9 miles in distance.





Name:

# Mapping WWI

World War I also known as the Great War was an international conflict that happened in Europe. Locate the countries involved using the flags below.