

Kendra Casey
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Murphy

Tanks

_____The tank had a significant role in World War 1 as it helped end trench warfare and freed the western front. Tanks during the war made a big impact on everything and the war wouldn't have been as efficient without them. The first tank was used in the Battle of Flers and it was also successful in the Battle of the Somme. Most of the battles with the tank were successful even though sometimes they would break down.

The tank was used so that it could get up and through anything but their main concern was that they needed to get through barbed wire. Originally before the war tanks were going to be used to help farmers on their land, that was until 1914. Even though they only had a top speed of 4 mph (on flat land) they were still able to turn sharply at top speed, climb a 5 feet parapet, cross a 8 foot gap and work for 20 miles. They did not perfect the tank until the end of the war in 1918 but it still was a big improvement. Lancelot de Mole was the inventor of the tank in 1912 even though it was designed two years before World War 1 started. The first tank went to action in France in 1916 and they wanted it to be secret. The early models of the tank made by France and Britain often broke down on battlefields. There was at least 4 members in the tank at all times. There were the members which could vary, the commander, the gunner, and the loader. The members would look for enemies and when they spotted one they would tell the commander through the intercom telephone (worn by everyone). Once the commander spots the target he

decides on a action and gives his orders to the gunner. The loader loads the gun and the gunner aims at the enemy.

The first tanks ever made were really unreliable. The first tank ever made was called “Little Willie”. It held three men, traveled at three mph and could not cross a trench wider than five feet. Later versions held ten men and traveled four mph. As they improved it was a way to save more men and it made the war more successful. They made such a big impact because of the how all the machinery on it was being modernized and how it was becoming more mobile over time. The tank was safer for transport because the whole outside was made of strong material and the only way the enemies could hurt the people in the tank is throwing the hand grenade into the hole on the top. Even though there would be down falls to the tank such as the speed, the capacity, and safety. It still got them places in a group and they were able to get across places that you usually couldn't on foot.

The tank over all made a huge impact on war because it helped the troops transport faster and safer and the tanks have really modernized to become one of the greatest war weapons. The biggest impact the tank made on war was ending trench warfare and freeing the western front.