

World War 1 – Study Guide

Below is a list of the most important ideas from our unit. You are responsible for all information we covered in class.

Key Terms

1. The Causes of WWI

- a. Militarism: when a country has a strong military spirit/policy
 - i. Building up + making military stronger → militarism
 - ii. Examples:
 - 1. Gathering weapons
 - a. Stockpiling weapons
 - 2. Getting more troops
 - a. Enlistment to join the military
 - iii. Influential to others
 - 1. When one country starts building their military, others start to do the same
 - a. Others start gathering weapons and troops
 - 2. Makes others believe that a war was going to happen
 - a. Scared
 - i. Worried for war
 - b. Need for preparation
 - i. Start building up military power to prepare + protect
 - 3. One European country led to a domino effect of more military building throughout Europe
- b. Alliance: a formal agreement between two or more nations to cooperate with each other for specific purposes
 - i. Agreement to:
 - 1. Avoid going into war with one another
 - 2. Back each other up in the event of war
 - ii. Over time, Europe was full of secret alliances + agreements
 - 1. Alliances would drag everyone into war
 - a. If Country A is Country B's ally and is involved in war, then Country B would have to fight in war as well
 - iii. Triple Entente: France, Britain, and Russia
 - iv. Triple Alliance: Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy
 - v. Serbia
 - 1. Located in the Balkans (Powder Keg)
 - a. Serbia, Austria-Hungary, Bosnia Herzegovina
 - 2. Received help from Russia
 - a. Would join Serbia if Austria-Hungary attacked

- i. If Russia was involved, their alliances would have to join as well
 - 1. France came to help
 - b. Russia had a large Serbian population
 - c. Didn't want the empire of Austria-Hungary to grow in the Balkans
 - 3. Countries friendly with Serbia wanted Serbia to agree to the ultimatum
 - a. Didn't want to be dragged into the war
 - vi. Austria-Hungary
 - 1. Located in the Balkans (Powder Keg)
 - a. Serbia, Austria-Hungary, Bosnia Herzegovina
 - 2. Received help from Germany
 - a. Wanted an ally
 - i. Didn't want to be alone
 - b. Wanted to counterbalance Russia and France's alliance
 - i. Needed to maintain its position in Europe
 - 3. Countries friendly with Austria-Hungary wanted Austria-Hungary to concede
 - a. Didn't want to be dragged into the war
 - vii. Germany
 - 1. In between France + Britain and Russia
 - a. Between the Triple Entente
 - 2. Faced a two front war
 - a. Western front = France + Britain
 - b. Eastern front = Russia
 - 3. Didn't want to fight a two front war
 - a. Meant Germany would have to:
 - i. Divide their resources in half
 - ii. Divide their troops in half
 - b. Would make Germany weaker
 - 4. Came up with the Schlieffen plan
 - a. Plan to avoid fighting a two front war
- c. Nationalism: a political idea that promotes having pride in your nation
 - i. Nationalism's pride → idea of independence + self-government
 - 1. Because of nationalism, people want freedom
 - a. More so for imperialized colonies
 - i. Want independence from Western rule
 - ii. Want to return to being an independent nation with self government
 - 2. Ex. Serbia wanted independence from Austria-Hungary
 - a. Led to resentment + assassination
- d. Imperialism: a policy of extending a country's power and influence through diplomacy or military force
 - i. Powerful and strong Western nations took over weaker nations in:
 - 1. Africa
 - 2. Asia

- 3. Latin America
- ii. When WWI broke out (1914) many countries were already imperialized by Western power
 - 1. Colonies had to go to war if their Western colonizer nation went to war
 - 2. Led to a world war
- iii. Colonies wanted freedom
 - 1. Serbia was previously controlled by the Ottoman empire
 - a. Gained national independence from the Ottomans in the 1800s
 - b. Ended up being under the political and economical control of Austria-Hungary
 - i. Imperialized by Austria-Hungary
 - c. Serbia wanted independence from Austria-Hungary
- e. Assassination: sudden murder of a politically prominent person
 - i. Black Hand Gang assassinated the Archduke
 - 1. Was on a state visit to Sarajevo, Bosnia Herzegovina with his wife, Sophie
 - a. Archduke Franz Ferdinand spent the morning inspecting troops on maneuvers outside the city
 - i. Starting to tour Sarajevo
 - ii. Wanted to drive in a open topped car + have no army
 - 1. Knew that people were hostile
 - 2. Tried to appear friendly
 - b. Assassinated in Sarajevo, Bosnia Herzegovina
 - 2. Archduke and his wife were going to take a route for their parade on June 28, 1914
 - a. Route was released to the public
 - i. Black Hand made a plan based on that route
 - 3. Said to be the event that sparked WWI
 - ii. After the assassination:
 - 1. Austria-Hungary issued Serbia an ultimatum
 - a. Ultimatum: list of demands Austria-Hungary wanted Serbia to meet in order to avoid going to war with each other
 - 2. Serbia agreed to every item on the ultimatum except for one
 - a. Wouldn't allow Austria-Hungary to come into Serbia to investigate the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand
 - i. Refused to compromise
 - 3. On July 28, 1914, one month after the assassination, Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia

2. Archduke Franz Ferdinand

- a. Heir to the throne of Austro-Hungarian empire
 - i. Moderate ruler
 - 1. Wanted to appeal to the Serbians
- b. Was on a state visit to Sarajevo, Bosnia Herzegovina with his wife, Sophie
- c. Assassinated by Gavrilo Princip
 - i. Event that led to the series of events in Europe

3. Black Hand

- a. Secret terrorist organization in Serbia
 - i. Supported by many Serbians
 - 1. Wanted freedom from Austria-Hungary
- b. Wanted the Slavic nations in the region to be united under one rule
 - i. Wanted all Slavic nations to be united under Serbian rule
 - a. Not Austria-Hungary
 - i. Not a Slavic nation
- c. Serbian government knew about the Black Hand's plan
 - i. Didn't say anything against their plans
- d. Had a plan to assassinate the Archduke
 - i. Throw a grenade on their parade route and assassinate them
- e. How it actually went:
 - i. 1st assassin forgot that there was a 10 second delay to the grenade
 - 1. By the time the grenade went off, the Archduke and his wife already drove off
 - 2. Caused the car to veer off of their route
 - a. Wanted to head to the hospital
 - ii. Gavrilo Princip finished his sandwich and was standing outside of the deli
 - 1. The car, carrying the Archduke and Sophie, headed right here
 - 2. Shot the Archduke and Sophie at point blank
 - a. Assassination was successful

4. Powder Keg of Europe

- a. Balkans were known as the Powder Keg of Europe
 - i. Powder keg: barrel filled with gunpowder that can easily be exploded
 - ii. So much political tension in the Balkans
 - iii. Any small event could cause huge chaos
 - 1. Assassination of the Archduke set off a series of events in Europe

5. Triple Entente

- a. Alliance between France, Great Britain, and Russia
- b. Entente = "alliance" in French
- c. 1839: Franco-Russian Agreement
 - i. Belgium gained its independence from the U.K.
 - 1. Treaty of London: name of treaty guaranteeing Belgium's freedom
 - ii. Countries that signed this agreed to Belgium's independence + neutrality:

1. Germany
2. France
3. The Netherlands
4. Russia
5. Austria-Hungary
- d. 1894: Franco-Russian Alliance
 - i. Russia created their own alliance with France to protect itself from Germany and Austria-Hungary
 - ii. Was to remain in place as long as the Triple Alliance existed
- e. 1904: Entente Cordiale
 - i. France and Britain had their own agreement
 1. Settled the many disagreements the two had with each other
 2. Resulted in a friendship between the two nations
- f. 1907: Anglo-Russian Entente
 - i. Britain and Russia created their own alliance
- g. 1907: Triple Entente
 - i. France was included in the alliance
 - ii. Russia, France, and Britain worked together to counter the increasing threat from Germany

6. Triple Alliance

- a. Alliance between Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy
- b. 1879: The Dual Alliance
 - i. Germany and Austria-Hungary formed an alliance between themselves to protect themselves from Russia
 - ii. Partially formed over competing interests that they had with Russia in the Balkans
- c. 1881: Austro-Serbian Alliance
 - i. Austria-Hungary created an alliance with Serbia
 - ii. Wanted to prevent Russia from gaining control over Serbia
 - iii. Austria-Hungary did not annex Serbia until 1908
- d. 1882: Germany and Austria-Hungary added Italy to their dual alliance to prevent Italy from taking sides with Russia
 - i. Became The Triple Alliance

7. Central Powers

- a. One side of the war
 - i. Not the Triple Alliance
 1. Alliance
- b. Countries that fought on the same side as the Triple Alliance
 - i. Located in the center of Europe
 1. Austria-Hungary
 2. Germany

- 3. Ottoman Empire
- 4. Bulgaria
- 5. All of these nations' territories
 - a. Colonies from imperialism
- c. Goal: become the main power in Europe

8. Allies

- a. One side of the war
 - i. Not the Triple Entente
 - 1. Alliance
- b. Countries that fought on the same side as the Triple Entente
 - i. France
 - ii. Great Britain
 - iii. Russia
 - iv. Serbia
 - v. Italy
 - 1. Broke their alliance (Triple Alliance) to join the Allies
 - a. Should have been in the Central Powers if they honored their alliance
 - vi. United States of America
 - vii. Japan
 - viii. All of these nations' territories
 - 1. Colonies from imperialism
- c. Goal: defeat the enemies (Central Powers)

9. Schlieffen Plan

- a. Plan that was developed by Germany in order to prevent having to face a two front war
 - i. Germany would defeat France
 - ii. After defeating France, they would fight and defeat Russia
 - 1. Defeat one first and then defeat another
 - a. Preventing the possibility of fighting two wars at the same time
- b. German General Alfred Graf von Schlieffen developed the plan
 - i. Wanted to help avoid Germany fighting a two front war
 - 1. Would cut the resources + troops in half
 - a. Weaker
 - 2. Eastern front
 - a. Border between Germany and Russia
 - 3. Western front
 - a. Border between Germany and France
 - b. Most of the battles in WWI occurred on the Western front
- c. Wanted to fight France on the Western front before fighting Russia

- i. Once they knocked out France, they would focus on Russia on the Eastern front
 - ii. Germany believed they could easily knock out Russia easily because:
 - 1. Germany had a strong military
 - a. After Britain, Germany had the strongest military out of the world
 - 2. Russia wasn't fully industrialized
 - a. Germany knew it should focus on France first
 - i. France would be ready for war
 - b. Russia would take a longer time to mobilize for war
 - i. Longer to bring troops to the front lines
 - ii. Longer to get supplies
- d. Schlieffen Plan wasn't successful
 - i. 1st problem: instead of Germany directly attacking France, it wanted to make a sneak attack
 - 1. Marched through neutral Belgium
 - a. Belgium didn't have an alliance, but for Britain, it looked like Germany was dishonoring the 1839 Treaty of London
 - i. Treaty of London: declaring Belgium's neutrality
 - ii. Britain came to Belgium's aid
 - 1. Britain had the strongest military in the world
 - b. By attacking France through neutral Belgium, Germany was now fighting France, Belgium, and Britain on the Western front
 - i. Not just France
 - ii. 2nd problem: Germany greatly underestimated Russia
 - 1. Russia mobilized for war much faster than Germany thought
 - e. Schlieffen Plan wasn't successful
 - i. Germany ended up having to fight a two front war anyways

10. Western Front

- a. Western side of Germany
 - i. France + Britain
- b. More battles occurred here
 - i. Battle of Verdun
 - ii. Battle of Somme
 - iii. Third Battle of Ypres

11. Eastern Front

- a. Eastern side of Germany
 - i. Russia

12. Stalemate

- a. When neither side of the war seems to be able to win
 - i. Both the Allies and the Central Powers couldn't gain any advantage
- b. Ex. Battle of Verdun

13. WWI Weapons and Technologies (Why is it important? You do not need to know specific details like how fast they moved.)

- a. Tanks
 - i. Impractical
 - 1. Really slow
 - a. Only goes 2-3 mph
 - ii. People regularly died in the tanks
 - 1. Carbon monoxide poisoning
 - iii. Broke down all the time
 - 1. People could shoot through tanks
 - iv. Still used in battle
 - 1. Had psychological damage to the enemies
 - a. Intimidating
 - 2. Ex. horses for natives during exploration
- b. Airplanes
 - i. Used for:
 - 1. Reconnaissance
 - a. Spying on the enemy
 - b. Seeing where enemies are storing things
 - 2. Drop bombs
 - a. Attacking civilians
 - 3. Dogfights
 - a. Dogfighting: when airplanes fight each other
- c. Machine guns
 - i. Rapidly fired bullets
 - 1. Trying to advance was difficult and costly
 - ii. One of the deadliest weapons in WWI
- d. Rifles
 - i. Most common weapon
 - 1. Standard weapon
 - ii. Used in the Western front
- e. Chlorine gas
 - i. Lighter gas
 - 1. Had to be careful when you used it
 - 2. So light that the wind could change the direction of the gas
 - a. Gas would go back at you
 - i. Would hurt your own team instead of the enemy
 - ii. Kills by suffocation
 - 1. Burns the inside of the body
 - 2. Suffocate to death
- f. Mustard gas
 - i. Heavier gas
 - ii. Kills by burning

1. Most severe chemical burn
 2. Slowly kills
- g. Zeppelin
- i. Zeppelin = German for “blimp”
 1. Moves really slow
 - ii. Used for reconnaissance + dropping bombs
 - iii. Quickly abandoned in WWI
 1. Very obvious
 - a. Big balloons
 2. Easy to shoot down
- h. Unterseeboot
- i. Unterseeboot = German for “submarine”
 - ii. AKA: U-boats
 - iii. Shoots torpedoes
 1. Torpedoes: missiles that ships shoot
 - iv. Used for unrestricted submarine warfare

14. Unrestricted Submarine Warfare

- a. German campaign to attack enemy wartime ships and civilian ships
- b. Attacked unannounced
 - i. A big problem because Germans kept attacking without announcing
 1. At the time, you would announce when you were going to attack
 2. Should have been given time to prepare + take out civilians from the ship
- c. Mainly used by Germany in WWI
 - i. Trying to get an advantage

15. Trench Warfare (What is trench warfare? What were the conditions in the trenches like?)

- a. Warfare where opposing troops fight from trenches facing each other
- b. People thought WWI would end in a month
 - i. Ended much later
 - ii. Developed more weapons and technologies because WWI was taking so long
 1. Ended up making people even better at battling
 2. WWI was even further extended
 - a. Needed new way to protect themselves
 - b. Created trenches
- c. Trench warfare actually ended up extending WWI
 - i. Everyone kept on advancing
 1. Equal position
- d. Trenches were brought in WWI
 - i. Not invented in WWI
 - ii. WWI was taking so long that they needed a new way to protect themselves
- e. Trenches were dug out in parallel zigzag lines
 - i. 3 or 4 parallel zigzag lines were usually dug out

- ii. Zigzags were used because:
 - 1. If a grenade was thrown in the trench in a straight line trench, it would bomb the entire line
 - a. Zigzags would protect from explosions
 - 2. Harder for enemies to shoot straight at others
 - a. Zigzags would protect from enemies
- f. Front line trenches
 - i. First trench in line
 - ii. The less important people went in the front line trenches
 - 1. Front lines are closest to the enemies
 - iii. Most of the fighting occurs in the front lines
- g. Support trenches
 - i. Second trench in line
 - ii. Supported the front lines
 - 1. Had more weapons
 - 2. Had more soldiers
- h. Reserve trenches
 - i. Last trench in line
 - 1. Furthest back you could be
 - ii. Fighting doesn't happen
 - 1. Brainpower
 - 2. Planning
 - iii. Most important people would be in the back
 - 1. Generals, military leaders
 - iv. Medics and medics
 - 1. Injured people would receive protection from the trenches in front
- i. Communication trenches
 - i. Perpendicular trenches
 - ii. Used to:
 - 1. Send supplies back and forth
 - 2. Send messages
 - a. Plans
 - b. War orders
- j. Dug outs
 - i. Big holes in the trenches
 - ii. Used for safety
 - 1. Bomb explosions
 - 2. Breaks for soldiers
- k. No Man's Land
 - i. Area between the two opposing trenches
 - ii. If you were told to run across No Man's Land to attack the enemy's land, you would die
- l. Barbed wires
 - i. Wires to prevent enemies from coming in
- m. Conditions in trenches:
 - i. Dead bodies had to be buried directly into the trenches
 - 1. If bodies weren't buried, they would explode and burst

- a. Gasses in the body would get trapped
- ii. Trenches were filled with mud and water
 - 1. Rain and snow
- iii. If you had to use the bathroom, you would just dig a hole in the trench
 - 1. Trenches were filled with urine and feces
- iv. Trenches were filled with rodents and lice
 - 1. Filled with rodents
 - a. Rodents as big as kittens
- v. Developed trench foot/foot
 - 1. Develops to soldiers if they stand way too long in extremely wet and dirty conditions
 - 2. Results in:
 - a. Swollen feet
 - i. 2 to 3 times its normal size
 - b. Feet goes numb
 - i. So swollen
 - ii. Blood cannot circulate
 - iii. Feet dies
 - 1. Need to amputate it off
- vi. Soldiers wanted to go home
 - 1. If they were going to die, they would rather go home injured
 - a. Would purposely injure themselves to go home

16. Propaganda

- a. The spreading of information by the government to get citizens to support the war or to join against the enemy
 - i. Issued by the government
 - ii. Very one sided information
- b. Related to the war effort and enemy
 - i. Advertisement about the war effort or the war enemy, but it was very exaggerated
- c. Used in the form of posters in WWI
- d. Four main purposes:
 - i. Rile up public opinion against the enemy
 - 1. Get you to hate the other side
 - ii. Pay for the war
 - iii. Recruit men/women to fight/work
 - iv. Conserve resources
- e. Germany:
 - i. Spiky helmet
 - ii. Hun
 - 1. Derogatory term for Germans
 - iii. Kaiser = German for “emperor”
 - iv. Black cross = German’s flag
 - v. Black bird = Germany

17. Women and the war effort

- a. Jobs
 - i. Women took over jobs that were traditionally held by men
 - 1. Men were mostly fighting in war
 - 2. Ex. factories
- b. Supported the War Effort
 - i. War front:
 - 1. Worked as nurses
 - a. Couldn't be a soldier
 - b. Could serve as a nurse
 - ii. Home front:
 - 1. Worked in factories
 - 2. Helped give supplies
- c. Changed Attitudes on Women
 - i. Women are going to be seen as just as capable as men
 - 1. Filled in the roles of men when they left
 - ii. Inspired women's rights
 - 1. Because of WWI, the fight for women's equality boosted

18. Government actions using propaganda

- a. Controlled Production
 - i. Government took control of factories
 - 1. Switched the factories to start producing war-tied goods
- b. Rationing
 - i. Government told the people what resources needed to be conserved
 - 1. Conserved by encouraging people to ration
 - ii. Needed it for military use
 - 1. Soldiers were more important
- c. Censorship
 - i. Government censored a lot of information
 - ii. Told people what to think and believe in wartime
- d. Propaganda
 - i. Propaganda would be issued through posters

19. War Front

- a. Area of direct fighting
 - i. Men = soldiers/military leaders
 - ii. Women = nurses

20. Home Front

- a. Area of supplying
 - i. Helped give supplies to the war front

- ii. Women = worked in factories

21. Total War

- a. Type of warfare used in WWI
 - i. ex. trench warfare, unrestricted submarine warfare
- b. All of the civilians + civilians' resources are used to help with the war

22. Rationing

- a. When you conserve your own resources so the additional resources can be given to the soldiers
 - i. You use less so more can be sent to the soldiers
- b. Ex. planting food
 - i. If you eat the food you grow, the food you would have purchased can go to the soldiers
 - 1. Food is like munition
- c. Rationing helped others
 - i. Soldiers
 - ii. Other allies
 - 1. Ex. America had the most supplies of sugar
 - a. By rationing their sugar, it could be sent to allies that don't have as much food
- d. Needed because of enemies
 - i. Germany practiced unrestricted submarine warfare
 - 1. Could shoot down Allied ships that might carry food resources (wheat)
 - ii. If people rationed → less of a need to transport supplies → less sinking
 - 1. Becoming more independent

23. Important Battles of WWI (Why is the battle important? You do not need to know specifics like dates.)

- a. Battle of Verdun
 - i. In: Verdun, France
 - 1. Western front
 - ii. Creator of battle plan: German General Erich von Falkenhayn
 - iii. Purpose of battle plan: attack Verdun
 - 1. Verdun was a symbol of France's military strength
 - iv. Importance of battle: Germans were not able to conquer Verdun
 - 1. Seen as the start of Germany's downfall of WWI
 - a. Unsuccessful in capturing Verdun
 - v. Victor: Stalemate
 - 1. Tie between Germany and France + Britain
- b. Battle of Somme
 - i. In: Somme River, France
 - 1. Western front
 - ii. Creator of battle plan: British General Douglas Haig
 - iii. Purpose of battle plan: Open up another battlefront at the Somme to weaken Germany

1. Would force the Germans to take some of their troops
 - a. Send them over to Somme
 2. Would weaken Germany's resources and strength
 - iv. Importance of battle: Created to alleviate the pressure on France in the battle of Verdun
 1. Germany was forced to split up their resources
 2. Weakened them
 - v. Victor: Britain
 1. Britain + France vs. Germany
- c. Third Battle of Ypres
 - i. In: Ypres, Belgium
 1. Western front
 - ii. Creator of battle plan: British General Douglas Haig
 - iii. Purpose of battle plan: Capturing Ypres would be turning point for the Allies
 - iv. Importance of battle: First time anyone used chemical warfare in WWI
 1. Ex. mustard gas, chlorine gas
 2. Germans used it
 - a. Used the gasses to force soldiers out of trenches
 - b. Shot the soldiers
 - v. Victor: Britain
 1. Britain + France vs. Germany

24. Armenian Genocide

- a. Took place in the Ottoman Empire
 - i. Ruled by the Young Turk government
 - ii. Full of xenophobia
 1. Xenophobia: irrational fear and dislike towards a specific group of people
 2. Ottomans were xenophobic to Armenians
 - iii. Purposely allied with Germany to get into WWI
 1. Germany had a strong military
 - a. Respected them
 2. Used the guise of war to kill Armenians
 - a. War = deaths
 - b. Would cover up genocide
- b. Armenians cooperated with their removal
 - i. Thought it was for their own protection
 1. Since Ottoman empire was part of WWI, it was going to war with Russia
 - ii. Armenian men were drafted into military or sent to labor camps
 - iii. Armenian, children, women, and elderly were sent to relocation camps in the middle of deserts
- c. Armenian Death March
 - i. Women, children, and elderly were forced to relocation camps in the middle of deserts
 1. Forced to walk to death

- a. Had to walk in the middle of the desert without food, water, or shelter until you slowly died
- 2. Children:
 - a. If you were young, you would be put into non-Armenian non-Christian families
 - b. If you were old, you would be forced to convert to Islam
- d. International community failed the Armenian people
 - i. No laws were there that said countries had to protect people from their own country
 - 1. There were already international laws about how if one country did something to another country's citizens, nations would come and help
 - 2. No international laws about nations having to help/intervene if citizens were being attacked/hurt by their own government
 - a. Countries took full advantage of this
 - i. Avoided + ignored Armenian genocide
 - ii. Didn't want to get involved
 - e. Led to Hitler believing he could conduct genocides as well
 - i. Saw that the entire world ignored the genocide
 - ii. Realized he could do the same with the Jewish people in Germany
 - 1. For most of WWII, Hitler got away with genocide

25. Lusitania

- a. British passenger cruise/ship
 - i. Carrying British and American passengers
 - 1. Germany advertised an article on American newspapers
 - a. Warned Americans to not travel on Allied ships
- b. On May 7, 1915, Germany's U-boat sank Lusitania in Ireland
 - i. Torpedoed the ammunition cargo area of the Lusitania
 - 1. Germany's reason for sinking the ship
 - a. Claimed the Allies were using passenger ships to bring supplies to teach other
 - i. Allies shouldn't be providing war supplies on passenger ships
 - 1. Before, navy ships that carried war supplies always got shot down
 - a. Trying to find a new way
 - ii. Example of unrestricted submarine warfare
 - 1. Attacking a passenger ship
- c. Angered many Americans
 - i. 1,198 out of 1,959 died
 - 1. 128 were Americans
 - ii. Americans wanted the president to declare war on Germany
 - 1. President forced Germany to promise not to practice unrestricted submarine warfare
- d. Importance:
 - i. First event in WWI that involved Americans

- ii. Not the event that brought America into war

26. Zimmerman Note

- a. On January 16, 1917, Arthur Zimmerman, a German general, sent a message to a German minister in Mexico
 - i. British intercepted the message
 - 1. Stopped it from reaching the German minister
 - 2. Decoded the message
 - 3. Sent it to the U.S.
 - a. President took the note and gave it to Congress
 - i. Congress officially declared war on Germany
 - 1. President can't declare war
- b. Note included how Zimmerman:
 - i. Told the German minister to create an alliance between Germany and Mexico
 - 1. Mexico was close to the U.S.
 - 2. In the event the U.S. joined WWI, Germany needed an ally that was physically close to the U.S.
 - ii. Planned on bringing back unrestricted submarine warfare
 - 1. Originally stopped after the event of Lusitania
 - 2. Wanted to finally win and end WWI
 - iii. Instructed the German minister to promise Mexico for their compromise
 - iv. Would give Mexico the land it lost to the U.S. from war
 - 1. Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas
- c. Germany was able to make these bold promises
 - i. For most of WWI, it looked like Germany was going to win
- d. Americans were angered
 - i. Planned on bringing back unrestricted submarine warfare
 - ii. Germany was trying to bring Mexico against the U.S.
 - iii. Declared war on Germany
 - 1. April 6, 1917

27. Russia's involvement in the war – What was its significance?

- a. Originally joined to help Serbia
 - i. Agreed to help Serbia if Austria-Hungary attacked
 - 1. Russia had a large Serbian population
 - 2. Russia didn't want Austro-Hungarian power to spread
 - a. Wanted power in the Slavic nations
- b. Wasn't fully industrialized
 - i. Faced revolutions
 - 1. Weakened their supply
 - ii. Russia was not industrialized, so it could not easily prepare for war and produce things
 - 1. War time production, boots, weapons, transportation
 - a. Russia was always short on supplies
 - 2. They were able to stay in the war, regardless of supplies, because of their people

- a. Had a lot of soldiers
 - i. Large population
 - iii. Germany thought it would take Russia a long time to mobilize, so they fought France first
 - 1. Thought it would take:
 - a. Longer to bring troops to the front lines
 - b. Longer to get supplies
- c. Battle of Gallipoli
 - i. Battle that Allies fought to try and get the Dardanelles Strait
 - 1. Wanted to get it because if the Allies gained control of the waterway, they could easily get supplies to Russia to keep them in the war
 - a. Didn't have a lot of supplies
 - i. Not very industrialized
 - b. Needed to keep Russia in the war
 - i. Force Germany to fight a two front war
 - ii. If the British knew that the Central Powers were low on supplies and ready to surrender, they would have probably gone forward with the plan and not given up
 - 1. British actually ended up giving up and surrendered first
 - a. Central Powers won
 - b. Could not gain control of the Dardanelles Strait
- d. Eastern front
 - i. Allies wanted to keep Russia in the war to force Germany to fight a two front war
- e. Russia left WWI early
 - i. Vladimir Lenin signed the Treaty of Brest Litovsk
 - 1. Russia was taken out of the war
 - a. People agreed with Lenin because if they were taken out of war → less hardships → happy people
 - ii. Punished
 - 1. Could not join the Paris Peace Conference

28. Russian Revolution

- a. In 1905, Russia experienced a small revolution that intensified food + fuel shortages and death of soldiers
 - i. Once Russia entered WWI, Russia wasn't in a good position
 - ii. Smaller revolution
 - 1. Precursor to the 1917 revolution
 - iii. Made the government shaky
- b. Russian Revolution = events of 1917 that overthrew the czar and implemented communism under the Bolsheviks
 - i. Imperial empire came to an end
 - 1. Emperor was forced to abdicate
 - ii. Turned to a communist country
 - 1. Instituted communism to the country

- c. Russia was originally ruled by an emperor
 - i. Russia overthrew the emperor (imperial regime)
 - 1. Czar/Tsar Nicholas II
 - a. Emperor of Russia
 - b. Wasn't helping Russia to make the situation better
 - 2. March 1917, Czar was forced to step down
 - a. Provisional (temporary) government took place
- d. Instituted communism to the nation
 - i. Russian Social Democratic Workers' Party (Bolsheviks) were able to gain power
 - 1. Soviet = "council" in Russian
 - 2. Bolsheviks were radical socialists
 - 3. The Czar is forced to step down
 - a. Kept Russia in WWI
 - 4. Provisional government took power
 - a. Kept Russia in WWI
 - 5. Once the Bolsheviks (new communist party) came into power, they faced a lot of social unrest
 - a. People were very unhappy with the situation they were in
 - i. Food shortages
 - ii. Fuel shortages
 - iii. Intensified problem because previous rulers kept Russia in war
 - b. Didn't like how the imperial + provisional government kept Russia in WWI
 - i. Similar opposition
 - 6. Made it easy for the Bolsheviks to take over
 - a. Promising civil rest
 - b. Took Russia out of WWI
 - ii. Became a communist country
- e. Once in power, the Bolsheviks:
 - i. Signed a peace treaty with Germany
 - 1. Treaty of Brest Litovsk
 - a. Treaty between Russia and Germany that allowed Russia to peacefully withdraw from WWI
 - i. Russians are eager to leave WWI
 - 1. All the shortages are amplified because of WWI
 - 2. Experiencing more hardships because of the war
 - b. Russia was punished by the Allies for leaving WWI
 - ii. Remained Russia as the USSR
 - 1. Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
- f. Allies did not want the communists to come into power/revolution to happen
 - i. Britain, France, the U.S., and Japan tried to help Russia and stop the revolution from happening
 - ii. Wanted:

1. To keep Russia in WWI
 - a. Wanted Germany to keep on fighting a two front war
2. To stop communism from spreading
- iii. Wasn't helpful
 1. Bolsheviks came to power
 - a. Made a lot of changes
 - i. Took Russia out of WWI
 - ii. Renamed Russia as the USSR
- g. Bolsheviks:
 - i. Bolsheviks are in power in Russia
 1. Promising more civil rest
 - ii. Russians want Russia out of the war
 1. Once Bolsheviks came into power, it was very easy for Germans to convince Russia to leave the war
 - iii. Germany was very eager for Russia to sign the Treaty of Brest Litovsk
 1. Did not want a two front war
 - a. Russia = east front
 2. Tried to get this done before the U.S. entered WWI
 - a. U.S. has not entered the war
 - b. Once they entered the war, the Allies are going to have a huge advantage
 - c. Need to get rid of one Ally
 - iv. Vladimir Lenin
 1. Head of Bolshevik party
 2. Germany made a deal with Vladimir Lenin
 - a. If Germany helped Lenin get back into Russia (get back into power), he would sign the Treaty of Brest Litovsk
 - i. Took Russia out of WWI

29. American Expeditionary Force

- a. Newly designated force from the U.S.
 - i. Troops sent to Europe to help fight in WWI

30. Armistice

- a. Agreement to stop the physical fighting
 - i. Not the end of the war
 - ii. Peace treaty needs to be signed to officially end the war
- b. Ex. Chancellor of German Republic signed an armistice to France in 1914
 - i. Stop physically fighting

31. Big Four

- a. Leaders of the four dominating countries at the time
- b. Britain
 - i. David Lloyd George
- c. America
 - i. Woodrow Wilson
- d. Italy

- i. Vittorio Orlando
- e. France
 - i. Georges Clemenceau

32. Fourteen Points

- a. Woodrow Wilson's 14 ideas that he brought to the peace conference to create a framework for peace
 - i. Goals he wanted to achieve
- b. Wilson brought these ideas to the peace conference
 - i. Wanted to create the treaty that they were going to force onto Germany to sign based off of the Fourteen Points
 - 1. Germany expected a treaty based on these ideas
 - ii. Most of the ideas were not enforced
 - 1. In France's/other countries' eyes, Germany was the villain
 - a. Wanted to get revenge on Germany
 - iii. Main goal: framework for peace
- c. Ideas:
 - i. Need for open diplomacy
 - 1. No more secret treaties
 - 2. Countries need to know what other countries are doing
 - 3. Secret alliances is what brought the entire world into WWI
 - ii. Need to put an end to unrestricted submarine warfare
 - 1. Freedom of navigation for all countries
 - iii. Free trade
 - 1. All countries should be able to freely trade with each other
 - iv. Get rid of taxes
 - 1. Custom duties
 - v. No more militarism
 - 1. Countries should be disarmed if they are at peace
 - a. No armies + no building armies if they are at peace
 - 2. If country A is building up their armies, country B would believe that they were preparing for war
 - a. Country B would also start building their army to prepare for war
 - 3. Militarism → continuous cycle of war
 - vi. Self determination
 - 1. Idea that countries should be allowed to govern themselves
 - a. Trying to end imperialism
 - vii. Countries should be allowed to choose their form of government
 - 1. If Russia wanted to be a communist party, they should be allowed to be a communist party
 - viii. Territorial changes:
 - 1. Germany should give up Alsace-Lorraine and any lands they took during the war
 - 2. Italian frontier should be readjusted
 - 3. Belgium should be evacuated
 - 4. Poland should be given an outlet to the sea

- ix. Defeated nations shouldn't have to pay the whole price of war
 - 1. Austria-Hungary and Serbia started WWI
 - a. Because Germany was an ally, they did most of the fighting for Central Powers
 - i. Germany had the strongest army
 - b. Germany shouldn't be forced to pay/be blamed for WWI because they didn't start it
- x. A League of Nations should be formed to protect world peace in the future
 - 1. Need something like the modern-day United Nations
 - a. Organization that would police the world to try to prevent things like WWI from happening

33. League of Nations

- a. Only thing that Woodrow Wilson got from his Fourteen Points
- b. A group of nations that would work together to keep world peace
 - i. Like today's United Nations
- c. The US never joined the League of Nations
 - i. Did not want to sign the Treaty of Versailles
 - 1. Didn't want to get U.S. involved in European affairs
 - 2. Meant that they wouldn't join the League of Nations either
 - a. Part of the Treaty of Versailles
 - ii. If the most powerful country did not join the League of Nations, no one else would

34. Treaty of Versailles

- a. Treaty of 5 points that was enforced on Germany
 - i. Germany would have to be forced to pay for the damages of WWI
 - 1. Lost their industrial territory
 - a. Lands with coal etc.
 - b. Land that could make money were taken away
 - 2. Had to pay financial penalties for starting the war
 - a. Reparations
 - i. Because they "started" the war they had to pay for the damages
 - 3. Forbidden from combining with Austria to form one super state
 - a. Attempt to keep economic potential down
 - ii. League of Nations were to be set up
 - 1. Only point in Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Points that got accepted
 - 2. A group of nations that would work together to keep world peace
 - a. Like today's United Nations
 - iii. All of the Central Powers and Russia had to have their land taken away
 - 1. Allies have to punish Russia as well because they left the war
 - 2. Colonies under Germany's control because of imperialism would have to be handed to other nations
 - a. Other people got Germany's land
 - b. Lands and colonies put under control of League of Nations

- i. Given to Allies or other nations in the League of Nations
 - c. Some lands were made into new countries
 - d. Rhineland
 - i. Area in Germany that was demilitarized zone to increase the security of France, Belgium, and the Netherlands against future German aggression
 - 1. Trying to prevent another attack between the countries
 - ii. Became a demilitarized zone
 - 1. No German soldier or weapons allowed into the area
 - 2. No country's military was allowed to enter this area
- iv. Germany war making power had to be greatly reduced
 - 1. No more airforce and submarine
 - a. Not allowed to have tanks or air-force
 - 2. Could only have a small army and navy
 - a. Only 6 navy ships allowed, no submarines
- v. War Guilt Clause
 - 1. Germany had to admit full responsibility for starting the war
 - a. Even though Germany did not start the war
 - 2. Responsible for all damage caused during war
 - a. \$33 Billion in reparations to be paid over a period of 30 years
 - i. Took 50-70 years
- b. Germany was forced by the Big Four to accept the Treaty of Versailles
 - i. Whether they liked it or not, they had to accept the terms

35. Paris Peace Conference

- a. Meeting in Versailles, France, with the main Allies on how to punish the Central Powers
 - i. Unsuccessful
 - ii. Treaty was never signed by the U.S.
- b. From the start of the Paris Peace Conference, Britain and France showed little sign of agreeing to Wilson's vision of peace
 - i. Both nations are concerned with national security
 - ii. Wanted to strip Germany of its war-making power
 - 1. Wanted revenge on Germany even though it didn't start the war
- c. Allies took most of the control of the meeting
 - i. Faced the most damages due to the war
- d. Despite numerous representatives from numerous countries, major decisions were made by Big Four
 - i. Britain, America, Italy, France
- e. A Peace Built on Quicksand
 - i. In the end, the Treaty of Versailles did little to build a lasting peace
 - 1. Did not last

- a. Extremely flawed
 - ii. The US: considered the most powerful nation after the war
 - 1. Ultimately rejected the treaty
 - 2. Congress rejected the treaty
 - a. Didn't want to involve the U.S. into another world war
 - b. Americans believed its best chance of peace was to stay out of European affairs
 - 3. The US never joined the League of Nations
 - a. If the most powerful country did not join the League of Nations, no one else would
 - iii. Treaty was viewed as faulty
 - 1. Harshness on Germans
 - 2. U.S. not wanting to sign
 - 3. Absence of important powers
 - a. Central Powers
 - b. Russia
 - iv. War Guilt Clause
 - 1. Germans were particularly angered by this
 - a. Germany became solely responsible for the war, even though they did not start the war
 - i. Germany did the bulk of the fighting for the Central Powers
 - v. Europeans imperialism possessions (colonies) in Africa in Africa and Asia were angry with treaty
 - 1. Germany's territories were given to Allied nations
 - 2. Allies disregarded their desire for independence
 - a. Colonies wanted independence
 - i. Many countries were very upset because they thought they would have gotten freedom
 - b. Westerners only talked about self determination
 - vi. Members of the Allies were also bitter with outcome of WWI
 - 1. Japan and Italy - both entered WWI to gain territory
 - a. Thought they would be given more land
 - b. Got less than they wanted.
 - i. Wasn't enough land
- f. The Treaty of Versailles was just 1 of 5 treaties negotiated by the Allies
- i. Only for Germany
 - ii. Separate treaties were made with other Central Powers nations
 - 1. Each Central Power got their own peace treaty
 - iii. Led to land losses for Central Powers
 - 1. Austro-Hungarian Empire:
 - a. Austria
 - b. Hungary
 - c. Czechoslovakia
 - d. Yugoslavia
 - 2. Ottoman Empire:
 - a. Turkey

- b. British Control:
 - i. Palestine
 - ii. Iraq
 - iii. Transjordan
 - c. French Control:
 - i. Syria
 - ii. Lebanon
- 3. Russia was an Ally but lost land
 - a. Left WWI early (Bolsheviks + Lenin)
 - i. Treaty of Brest Litovsk
 - 1. Signed treaty with Germany
 - ii. Punished
 - b. Not at the Paris Peace Conference
 - i. Could not attend
- 4. Romania and Poland gained Russian Territory
- 5. Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania became independent states
 - a. Buffer nations
 - i. Trying to create a buffer zone to prevent war
- 6. New countries made
 - a. Latvia
 - b. Lithuania
 - c. Czechoslovakia
 - d. Yugoslavia
 - e. Estonia