After Napoleon was defeated, the Congress of Vienna met in 1814. The group wanted to create peace and a balance of power in Europe. The Congress took apart the French Empire and gave monarchs back their thrones. However, a new political ideal was taking shape. Nationalism swept through Europe.

Nationalists thought nations should be formed based on people who shared common heritage, language, and customs. Monarchs had gained their land by winning wars, signing treaties, and arranging marriages. As a result, Europe had empires that each included many nationalities: The Austro-Hungarian Empire, Russian Empire, and Ottoman Empire each included many ethnic groups. For example, in addition to ruling over Russians, the Russian czar ruled over Ukrainians, Poles, Jews, and Turks. Each of these groups had its own culture. Nationalists thought each of these ethnic groups deserved its own country.

Nationalism tore apart empires, but it built nations. By 1870, Italy was a unified nation. Germany also achieved national unity in the mid-1800s. People felt patriotic and devoted to their countries. However, nationalism also set the stage for war because it caused competition between nations. European nations competed for materials to use in their factories and for markets to sell their goods in. The nations competed with each other for colonies in Africa and Asia. For example, Germany and France nearly went to war twice over who would control Morocco in Northern Africa. When most of Europe supported France, Germany backed down.

As distrust between countries grew, the European powers built up their militaries. The rivalries led to the creation of military alliances. Countries had alliances that would back each other up if one of their allies was attacked. In the 1880s, Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy formed the Triple Alliance. Britain, France, and Russia joined together under the Triple Entente in the early 1900s. The French word “entente” means “alliance” or “agreement.”

The alliances were designed to keep peace. However, a disagreement between two rival powers could now drag the whole continent to war. In 1914, a chain reaction would lead to World War I. It would be the largest war Europe and the world had ever seen.
CAUSES OF WWI

Start of the Great War

M

- glorification of military power
- nations began to fear one another and become suspicious of national goals
- arms race (most significant – Britain and Germany)

A

- Triple Alliance – Germany, Austria-Hungary, Italy
- Triple Entente – Britain, France, Russia

I

- competition for colonies and economic power
- Germany and France compete for colonies in Africa
- Britain and Germany compete industrially
- Britain and France drawn closer due to competition with Germany

N

- Germany – proud of its growing industrial and military strength
- France – wants to regain lands lost in Franco-Prussian War and return to its status as the leader of Europe
- Pan Slavism – Russia wanted all Slavic peoples to work together and they backed Serbia (Slavic nation in the Balkans)
- A-H against Slavic national movements
- Ottoman Empire slowing dying due to Nationalism (Massacre Armenians)
ASSASSINATION OF ARCHDUKE FRANZ FERDINAND

Eyewitness Account #1: Borijove Jevtic, one of the conspirators

"When Francis Ferdinand and his retinue drove from the station they were allowed to pass the first two conspirators. The motor cars were driving too fast to make an attempt feasible and in the crowd were many Serbians; throwing a grenade would have killed many innocent people.

When the car passed Gabrinovic, the compositor, he threw his grenade. It hit the side of the car, but Francis Ferdinand with presence of mind threw himself back and was uninjured. Several officers riding in his attendance were injured.

The cars sped to the Town Hall and the rest of the conspirators did not interfere with them. After the reception in the Town Hall General Potiorek, the Austrian Commander, pleaded with Francis Ferdinand to leave the city, as it was seething with rebellion. The Archduke was persuaded to drive the shortest way out of the city and to go quickly.

The road to the maneuvers was shaped like the letter V, making a sharp turn at the bridge over the River Nilgacka [Miljacka]. Francis Ferdinand's car could go fast enough until it reached this spot but here it was forced to slow down for the turn. Here Princip had taken his stand.

As the car came abreast he stepped forward from the curb, drew his automatic pistol from his coat and fired two shots. The first struck the wife of the Archduke, the Archduchess Sofia, in the abdomen. She was an expectant mother. She died instantly.

The second bullet struck the Archduke close to the heart.

He uttered only one word, 'Sofia' -- a call to his stricken wife. Then his head fell back and he collapsed. He died almost instantly.

The officers seized Princip. They beat him over the head with the flat of their swords. They knocked him down, they kicked him, scraped the skin from his neck with the edges of their swords, tortured him, all but killed him."
Eyewitness Account #2 - Memoir of Count Franz von Harrach

As the car quickly reversed, a thin stream of blood spurted from His Highness's mouth onto my right cheek. As I was pulling out my handkerchief to wipe the blood away from his mouth, the Duchess cried out to him, "For God's sake! What has happened to you?"

At that she slid off the seat and lay on the floor of the car, with her face between his knees.

I had no idea that she too was hit and thought she had simply fainted with fright. Then I heard His Imperial Highness say, "Sophie, Sophie, don't die. Stay alive for the children!"

At that, I seized the Archduke by the collar of his uniform, to stop his head dropping forward and asked him if he was in great pain. He answered me quite distinctly, "It is nothing!"

His face began to twist somewhat but he went on repeating, six or seven times, ever more faintly as he gradually lost consciousness, "It's nothing!"

Then came a brief pause followed by a convulsive rattle in his throat, caused by a loss of blood. This ceased on arrival at the governor's residence.

The two unconscious bodies were carried into the building where their death was soon established.

1) According to the first document, why didn't the first conspirators throw a grenade at the car?

2) According to the first document, why did the car have to slow down?

3) According to the first document, how many shots were fired at the Archduke and his wife?

4) According to the first document, what was done to Princip the assassin?

5) According to the second document, after the Duchess said her last words, what happened to her body?

6) According to the second document, why did the Archduke want his wife to stay alive?

7) According to the second document, where they both dead when they got to the governor's residence?
World War I was called the Great War because so many countries were involved. When the war started in 1914, Germany and Austria-Hungary made up an alliance called the Central Powers. Great Britain, France, and Russia made up the Allied Powers. Countries joined each side as the war went on and on. Germany and Austria-Hungary were located in the center of Europe, between France and Russia. For this reason, the war was fought on two fronts, or battlefields. The Eastern Front was along the Russian and German border. The Western Front was in France, near the German border.

Early in the war on the Western Front, Allied troops stopped the Germans from invading Paris, France. But they ended up in a standoff with German troops. Neither side would back down. The two armies dug miles of trenches that were deep enough for soldiers to stand in. The trenches were protected by barbed wire and concrete machine-gun nests. Strips of land, known as no-man's-land, separated Allied trenches from the trenches of the Central Powers.

In the trenches, soldiers ate, tried to sleep, and waited for the next attack. When a commander gave the order to attack, a group of soldiers would climb out of their trench. Then, they worked their way across no-man's-land toward the enemy's trenches. The attacks did not work very well because the men had to move across open fields. Soldiers could easily be shot by the enemy's machine guns. The other side would then launch a counterattack, with the same results. Often, thousands of soldiers died in order to win a few hundred yards of territory.

Modern weapons added to the horror of the war. Rapid-fire machine guns made it nearly impossible for soldiers to advance across no-man's-land. Poisonous gas was used as a weapon by both sides. It caused soldiers to choke or suffer burns and blisters.

New military vehicles were used in World War I. Armored tanks could move across barbed wire. U-boats, or submarines, were used to sink enemy supply ships. Large, gas-filled blimps called zeppelins dropped bombs from the sky. Airplanes armed with machine guns fought each other.

World War I turned into a war of attrition. This means the war was based on wearing the other side down. By constantly attacking and killing soldiers, each side caused its enemy to suffer heavy losses. This type of warfare had a huge price. When the Allies won the war in 1918, over nine million soldiers had died in battle. Millions more were wounded.
The Causes of World War I

Global History and Geography II

While the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife, Sophie, served as the “spark” that ignited the First World War, there were various ideas and policies (Imperialism, Nationalism, Militarism, and Alliances) that led to war. As the nations of Western Europe scrambled for colonies, tensions inevitably increased. When various ethnic groups wanted their own nation-states, tensions also increased. Of course, as the nations of Western Europe built increasingly larger and more powerful armies and navies, the possibility for conflict grew. Finally, a system of alliances ensured that if one nation declared war, other nations would follow.

Yet ideas and policies were not the “spark” that ignited the powder keg. The “spark” was an event that triggered a series of reactions. This event was the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife, Sophie. The Archduke was the heir to the throne of the Austro-Hungary Empire. At the time of his assassination, he was visiting Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia. The Slavs in Bosnia were culturally similar to the Serbs. Bosnian Slavs wanted unity with the Serbs. To achieve this goal, a member of a Serbian nationalist group shot and killed the Archduke and his wife during their visit.

Austria-Hungary blamed Serbia and presented a series of demands to Serbia. Germany backed Austria-Hungary (alliance). Serbia rejected the demands. On July 28, 1914, Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia. Russia quickly came to the aid of Serbia on July 30th. Germany declared war on France and Russia. When German troops marched through neutral Belgium, Britain declared war on Germany on August 4, 1914. Italy did not support Germany (although they shared an alliance). Italy remained neutral until 1915 when it joined the Allied Powers (Great Britain, France, and Russia), in hopes of obtaining Italian-speaking areas in Austria-Hungary. The spark that started in the Balkans exploded into World War I and lasted four years.

Explain the causes of World War I:
The Alliances of World War I

The Central Powers (an alliance that evolved from Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria, and Turkey)

The Allies (an alliance that evolved from Britain, France, Russia, Italy, and the U.S.A.)

Of course, these nations had colonies. Therefore conflict.

Map from nationalarchives.gov.uk

Questions:
1. List the nations of the Central Powers.

2. List the nations of the Triple Entente (the Allies).

3. How did imperialism increase the battlefield of the war?

4. What are the benefits of an alliance system?

5. What are the disadvantages of an alliance system?
6. Define Balkans.

Excerpt adapted from BBC.co.uk

"World War I was a war without parallel - all previous wars were eclipsed by its scale of destruction. It was a struggle between Europe's great powers, which were grouped into two hostile alliances.

The number of men mobilized by both sides: the central powers (Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria and Turkey), and the allied powers (Britain and Empire, France, Belgium, Russia, Italy, USA), totaled over 65 million...it is estimated that up to 10 million men lost their lives on the battlefield - and another 20 million were wounded.

As well as all the great powers of Europe being involved, the war also extended into Asia and Africa...The catalyst for the war was the death of Austria's Archduke Franz Ferdinand, who was assassinated while he was visiting Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia, which was then part of the Austro-Hungarian empire.

Explain the statement: "None of the states that went to war realized how long it would last or how terrible the cost might be."
The MAIN causes

**Glossary**
- Alliances - agreements or promises to defend and help another country.
- Imperialism - trying to build up an Empire.
- Empire - where a powerful country controls several less powerful countries.
- Militarism - building up armed forces, getting ready for war.
- Nationalism - having pride in your country, willing to defend it.

Complete the following sentences:

- Germany built up the armed forces. This is known as ____________.
- Germany wanted more colonies. This is known as ________________.
- Citizens were very proud of their countries and would defend their countries. This is known as ________________.
- Britain made an agreement with France. These nations would defend each other in the event of an attack. This is known as ________________.

Europe was divided into two ____________. These were called the Triple ________ and the Triple ________. Members of each alliance promised to fight for the other members if they were attacked. It would only take a small incident to spark a war that involved the whole of ________.

Germany had been trying to build up her navy and her empire. B______ was ________ about this. Both countries raced each other to build the best navy. There was tension between the two countries. This cause was ________.

The area south and south-east of ________-______ was known as the Balkans. This whole area was very unstable. The European Alliances had different ideas how to deal with the problems.

France was keen for ________ on Germany. The French had been defeated in 1871 and wanted their land back! They said it had been ________ from them by Germany.
WWI Soldier's Equipment

Use this information sheet to make notes on the type of equipment that a soldier used in the trenches on the Western Front and also carried into battle with him during WWI. These notes will be useful for your trench letter.

When a British soldier went 'over the top' to attack the enemy he had to carry all of this equipment through the mud, barbed wires and crater holes made by mines. They had to make sure that they did not get shot at the same time.

www.weatherheadhistory.ik.org

By Miss Doughey
www.SchoolHistory.co.uk
Dulce Et Decorum Est
By Wilfred Owen

Bent double, like old beggars under sacks,
Knock-kneed, coughing like hags, we cursed through sludge,
Till on the haunting flares we turned our backs
And towards our distant rest began to trudge.
Men marched asleep. Many had lost their boots
But limped on, blood-shod. All went lame; all blind;
Drunk with fatigue; deaf even to the hoots
Of disappointed shells that dropped behind.

GAS! Gas! Quick, boys!—An ecstasy of fumbling,
Fitting the clumsy helmets just in time;
But someone still was yelling and stumbling
And floundering like a man in fire or lime.—
Dim, through the misty panes and thick green light
As under a green sea, I saw him drowning.

In all my dreams, before my helpless sight,
He plunges at me, guttering, choking, drowning.

If in some smothering dreams you too could pace
Behind the wagon that we flung him in,
And watch the white eyes writhing in his face,
His hanging face, like a devil’s sick of sin;
If you could hear, at every jolt, the blood
Come gurgling from the froth-corrupted lungs,
Obscene as cancer, bitter as the cud
Of vile, incurable sores on innocent tongues,—
My friend, you would not tell with such high zest
To children ardent for some desperate glory,
The old Lie: Dulce et decorum est
Pro patria mori.

DULCE ET DECORUM EST - the first words of a Latin saying (from an ode by Horace). The words were often quoted at the start of the First World War. The full saying ends the poem: Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori - it is sweet and right to die for your country.

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Caption for Punch Cartoon:
New Arrival at the Front:
“What’s the Programme?”

Old Hand:
“Well, you lay down in this water, and you get peppered all day and night, and you have the time of your life!”

New Arrival:
“Sounds like a bit of all right. I’m on it.”

Explain the meaning of the poem and cartoon.
Stalemate on the Western Front...Excerpt adapted from bbc.co.uk

"The Schlieffen Plan (German plan for a swift German victory over France to avoid fighting on two fronts)...failed to achieve the quick and decisive victory over France that Germany had hope for. The Germans' initial advance was met with strong resistance from Belgium giving Russia and Britain time to mobilize their troops. Then the French and British halted the German attack on Paris at the Battle of the Marne. The German Army was forced to retreat behind the River Aisne where they dug in to protect themselves against the advancing Allies. Faced with an impenetrable German line the Allies themselves dug in.

...By the end of 1914, the offensive approach had been abandoned in favor of a defensive line of trenches that stretched along the Western Front from the North Sea to the Swiss border. The conflict, which had started out as a war of mobility, quickly developed into a war of attrition, ruining any hope of a quick war that would be over by Christmas."

Excerpt adapted from the War Diary of Victor Silvester

"That night I had been asleep in a dugout about three hours when I woke up feeling something biting my hip. I put my hand down and my fingers closed on a big rat. It had nibbled through my haversack, my tunic and pleated kilt to get at my flesh. With a cry of horror I threw it from me."

Questions:

1. What was the Schlieffen Plan?

2. Why did it fail?

3. Why were trenches built on the Western Front?

4. Why did the war become "a war of attrition"?

5. Describe life in a trench.
While the Central Powers experienced many victories on the Eastern Front, the Russian people tired of war. By 1917, the Russians had overthrown their tsar, established a provisional government, and eventually experienced a Communist Revolution. The Communists negotiated the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk (1918) with Germany as Russia withdrew from the war. Germany gained a great deal of Russia’s land and resources. However, the Germans angered the Americans.

The U.S. had tried to stay neutral. However, the German policy of unrestricted submarine warfare led to the loss of American lives. When the British passenger ship, the Lusitania, was sunk, over one hundred American lives were lost. Ignoring their own promises, the Germans continued to engage in unrestricted submarine warfare.

In addition, in January 1917, German foreign secretary, Arthur Zimmerman, sent a secret telegram to Mexico. He asked Mexican officials to help the Germans in the event that the Germans and the Americans went to war. Germany promised the Mexicans land in return for their help. If the Mexicans helped Germany, Texas, Arizona, and New Mexico would be returned to Mexico. The British discovered the note and told American officials. Newspapers printed information about the whole affair in 1917. At Wilson’s urging, Congress declared war.

Questions:
1. What happened in Russia in 1917?
2. What was the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk?
3. What was the U.S.A.’s position at the start of World War I?
4. Why were Americans upset with Germany during WWI?
5. What was the Zimmerman telegram?
6. What did Germany promise Mexico?
7. How did the Zimmerman telegram become public knowledge?
8. What did Congress declare?
"Mustard Gas (Yperite) was first used by the German Army in September 1917. It was one of the most lethal of all the poisonous chemicals used during the war. It was almost odorless and took twelve hours to take effect...

The skin of victims of mustard gas blistered, the eyes became very sore and they began to vomit. Mustard gas caused internal and external bleeding and attacked the bronchial tubes, stripping off the mucous membrane. This was extremely painful and most soldiers had to be strapped to their beds. It usually took a person four or five weeks to die of mustard gas poisoning. One nurse, Vera Brittain, wrote: ‘I wish those people who talk about going on with this war whatever it costs could see the soldiers suffering from mustard gas poisoning. Great mustard-colored blisters, blind eyes, all sticky and stuck together, always fighting for breath, with voices a mere whisper, saying that their throats are closing and they know they will choke.’"
The text of the message read:

"We intend to begin on the first of February unrestricted submarine warfare. We shall endeavor in spite of this to keep the United States of America neutral. In the event of this not succeeding, we make Mexico a proposal of alliance on the following basis: make war together, make peace together, generous financial support and an understanding on our part that Mexico is to reconquer the lost territory in Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona. The settlement in detail is left to you. You will inform the President of the above most secretly as soon as the outbreak of war with the United States of America is certain and add the suggestion that he should, on his own initiative, invite Japan to immediate adherence and at the same time mediate between Japan and ourselves. Please call the President's attention to the fact that the ruthless employment of our submarines now offers the prospect of compelling England in a few months to make peace."

Signed, Zimmerman

Zimmerman Telegram Translation Questions:

1) What was Germany's original goal in regards to the United States?

2) What was Germany promising Mexico for help in their military effort against the United States?

3) What did Germany think the effect of their submarine warfare was?
Twilight in the Ottoman Empire

Global History and Geography

Excerpt adapted from wsu.edu

“The Ottomans... built...the largest and most influential of the Muslim empires of the modern period... (However), Ottoman history in the nineteenth century was dominated by European wars and expansion. The Europeans madly scrambled for territory throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth century... The end result for the Ottomans was the loss of Empire, and, finally, the loss of the Ottoman dynasty itself...The first major Ottoman war, the Crimean War (1854-1856), came with Russia... Russia was primarily interested in territory...The war soon became a European war when Britain and France allied with the Ottomans in order to protect their lucrative trade interests in the region. The war ended badly for the Russians... From this point onwards, the Ottoman Empire saw itself as being heavily controlled by Europeans ... As a result of ... the Treaty of Versailles in 1919; the Ottomans lost all their territory in Syria, Palestine, Arabia, and Mesopotamia... In 1922, Ottoman rule officially came to an end when Turkey was declared a republic...nationalists called...the "young Turks"...began an open revolt against the Ottoman government... The goal ...was to modernize and westernize Turkey, and the primary theoretician of that change was Mustafa Kemal who is called in Turkish history, Ataturk, or ‘Father of the Turks.”

Questions:
1: In the cartoon above, several men are holding a map of the Ottoman Empire. Each holds a pair of scissors in his hand. Explain the meaning of the cartoon.

2: Describe the Ottoman Empire in the nineteenth century.

3: What happened during the Crimean War?

4: What territories did the Ottomans lose as a result of the Treaty of Versailles?

5: When and why did the Ottoman Empire come to an end?

6: Who was Mustafa Kemal?
Mustafa Kemal, known as Ataturk ("Father of the Turks"), was the founder and first president (1923-1938) of the Republic of Turkey. Ataturk was a nationalist and a reformer. He modernized the nation’s legal and educational systems. He also encouraged westernization or the adoption of a Western European way of life. Turkish was written in the Latin alphabet and citizens adopted last names and European fashions. He also encouraged secularism or the idea that civil policy should be conducted without the introduction of a religious element. Ataturk also abolished the wearing of the fez or a cone-shaped, flat-crowned hat that had a tassel and was made of red felt.

The following excerpt is from Ataturk’s "Speech to the Assembly, October, 1924":

“Gentlemen, it was necessary to abolish the fez, which sat on our heads as a sign of ignorance, of fanaticism, of hatred to progress and civilization, and to adopt in its place the hat, the customary headdress of the whole civilized world, thus showing, among other things, that no difference existed in the manner of thought between the Turkish nation and the whole family of civilized mankind.”

(McNeill, page 446)
Questions:
1: What is genocide?
2: What was the Armenian genocide?

“...This was in the service of a grander vision of 'cleansing' Turkey and her neighbors of their Armenian populations as part of the process of creating a new Turkish empire. Even outside the zones of armed conflict, Armenians were deported from their homes during the first half of 1915. In their tens of thousands they were driven - men, women and children - over hundreds of miles, into the deserts of Syria. This was said to be a program of resettlement, but these Armenians were forced with great brutality to walk all the way, and it was clear that these were death convoys...In addition to these death marches there were mass killings of Armenians. Most of the able-bodied Armenian men folk had already died in forced labor details, or were simply split up into groups and executed. They had often been tortured first.

Excerpt adapted from bbc.co.uk

(The) Ottoman Empire gradually conquered the whole of Asia Minor...and probably peaked in the 16th Century under the Ottoman Sultan Suleiman I (1494 - 1566), known as Suleiman the Magnificent...After the death of Suleiman, however, decline gradually set in...The land of Armenia had been carved up between the Ottomans and the Russians, and the Armenian nation had been scattered and dispersed throughout the Ottoman Empire...the decline in the Ottoman Empire...created huge internal upheavals which inevitably contributed to jealousy, suspicion and hatred of the Armenians. Massacres by the Ottomans took place in Armenia...These massacres were designed to demoralize and terrorize the Armenian population. They took some 300,000 lives and left hardly any Armenian family unscathed...In 1908 a new political grouping of nationalist reformers, called the Young Turks, seized power by means of a revolution...and pursued a policy of the massacre of Armenian civilians wherever their battles were being fought...”
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Questions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1: What right do all Ottoman subjects have upon completing their twentieth year?</td>
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<tr>
<td>2: What is the official state language?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3: What do all citizens enjoy?</td>
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<tr>
<td>4: Were the Young Turks religiously tolerant? Explain your answer.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5: Can the children of peasants attend school? Explain your answer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6: Why were roads, railways, and canal built?</td>
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<tr>
<td>7: How did the Young Turks change the region?</td>
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<td>8: How did the Young Turks differ politically from the Ottoman sultan?</td>
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<tr>
<td>9: How were the Young Turks similar to the philosophers of the Enlightenment?</td>
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Excerpt adapted from Primary Source: Proclamation of the Young Turks, 1908

3. It will be demanded that all Ottoman subjects having completed their twentieth year, regardless of whether they possess property or fortune, shall have the right to vote. Those who have lost their civil rights will naturally be deprived of this right.

7. The Turkish tongue will remain the official state language. Official correspondence and discussion will take place in Turkish.

9. Every citizen will enjoy complete liberty and equality, regardless of nationality or religion, and be submitted to the same obligations. All Ottomans, being equal before the law as regards rights and duties...

10. The free exercise of the religious privileges which have been accorded to different nationalities will remain intact.

16. Education will be free. Every Ottoman citizen, within the limits of the prescriptions of the Constitution, may operate a private school in accordance with the special laws.

18. Steps shall also be taken for the formation of roads and railways and canals to increase the facilities of communication and increase the sources of the wealth of the country...
The Treaty of Versailles

Global History and Geography II

**ARTICLE 119 of Treaty of Versailles**
Germany renounces in favour of the Principal Allied and Associated Powers all her rights and titles over her overseas possessions.

**ARTICLE 231 of Treaty of Versailles**
The Allied and Associated Governments affirm and Germany accepts the responsibility of Germany and her allies for causing all the loss and damage to which the Allied and Associated Governments and their nationals have been subjected as a consequence of the war imposed upon them by the aggression of Germany and her allies.

Questions:
1. How did U.S. participation in the First World War affect the outcome?

2. Why did Kaiser Wilhelm II flee to the Netherlands?

3. What was the armistice and when was it signed?

4. Why did Germans hate the Treaty of Versailles?

- "You've got to swallow it whether you like it or not!"
- Germany had to accept the peace terms

With the presence of fresh fighting men from the U.S., the Allies' spirits were lifted while the Germans were discouraged. Finally, the German people revolted against their government as Kaiser Wilhelm II resigned and fled to the Netherlands. Germany became a republic. The new leaders asked for peace. The armistice (agreement to stop fighting) of November 11, 1918 ended the First World War.

In 1919, Allied leaders met in France to draw up the official peace treaty. The Treaty of Versailles was signed in June and set forth the conditions for peace between the Allies and Germany. The treaty included a war guilt clause and made Germany responsible for the war. Germany lost portions of its land as well as its colonies and was forced to pay huge reparations. The Germans hated the treaty.
To prevent future wars through peaceful solutions, the League of Nations was formed. Unfortunately, the League had no way of enforcing its solutions. In addition, the United States refused to participate in the League of Nations. The U.S.A.'s decisions weakened the power of the League. Finally, the peace agreements that ended the First World War paved the way for future conflicts. The end of the war should have been a time of celebrations but an ominous cloud of future disagreements and resentments hovered over the peace treaty.

Question:
Why did this “War to End All Wars” not end all wars?

Excerpt adapted from bbc.co.uk (Versailles and Peacemaking-Dr Ruth Henig)

“The peace settlement was drawn up at the end of a long and grueling war which cost over eight million lives...The Fourteen Points, delivered by the President of the United States to the American congress in January 1918...represented an ambitious and idealistic bid by Woodrow Wilson to ... offer moral leadership to the world...In stark contrast to Wilson’s peace proposals, the Germans concluded an extremely harsh treaty with Russia at Brest-Litovsk in March 1918...In the American mid-term elections held in November 1918, the American people voted not for Wilson...but for his Republican opponents, resulting in a Republican-dominated Senate...This serious challenge to Wilson within the United States increased the determination of the British Prime Minister, Lloyd George, and the French Premier, Clemenceau, to push forward the demands of their own electorates...in calling for security against future German aggression and for reparations for all the damage caused by the German...Germany's army and navy were drastically cut in size...In the frenzied post-war atmosphere, politicians from all parties agreed that the treaty, and in particular its despised 'War Guilt' clause, was vindictive, unfair and impossible to execute...It was the total failure of the victorious powers to work closely together after 1919 to contain German power...which was one of the contributing factors to the outbreak of a second world war 20 years later.
Article 11 (League of Nations)

"Any war or threat of war, whether immediately affecting any of the Members of the League or not, is hereby declared a matter of concern to the whole League, and the League shall take any action that may be deemed wise and effectual to safeguard the peace of nations. In case any such emergency should arise the Secretary General shall on the request of any Member of the League forthwith summon a meeting of the Council. It is also declared to be the friendly right of each Member of the League to bring to the attention of the Assembly or of the Council any circumstance whatever affecting international relations which threatens to disturb international peace or the good understanding between nations upon which peace depends."

Caption: "The Rabbit says ‘My offensive equipment being practically nil, it remains for me to fascinate him with the power of my eye.’"

Question: What problems faced the League of Nations?

Excerpt adapted from nps.gov

The following passage reveals the reality of the League’s power:

“Between 1920 and 1925, the organization helped diffuse a border dispute between Sweden and Finland, prevented Austria from economic collapse, prevented the outbreak of a war in the Balkans, and had successfully begun the administration of the German Saar region. Despite these successes, however, the league had been forced to cope with some very serious handicaps that would ultimately undermine its effectiveness. Seeking to preserve their national power, the organization’s creators had deprived the league of any real ability to enforce decisions that were controversial. For example, when the league ruled that the city of Vilnius actually belonged to Lithuania, the Polish government simply refused to abide by the league’s decision...the league was a relatively weak organization from the outset, and its chances for success were made even worse when the United States had refused to participate as a full member in 1920.
The Treaty of Versailles
June 1919

Opinions were different of how harshly to treat Germany:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FRANCE</th>
<th>GREAT BRITAIN</th>
<th>AMERICA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Georges Clemenceau</td>
<td>Lloyd George</td>
<td>Woodrow Wilson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make Germany pay! Germany has to be stopped from invading again. Revenge.</td>
<td>Similar to French but worried that too harsh a treaty might cause more hostility in future</td>
<td>Put forward the use of 'the 14 points' designed to establish a lasting peace in Europe</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At the treaty of Versailles, Germany agreed to:
1. Accept the new map of Europe
2. Accept the decisions made by the new League of Nations
3. Limit the size of its army and navy
4. To give up its Empire
5. To accept blame for the war and to pay reparations to countries that suffered damage during the war

The treaty was a compromise between all the victorious nations. Germany was weakened a great deal, and many Germans were angry at their treatment. Many historians argue that mistakes made at this treaty - by treating Germany too harshly - caused the Second World War. The size of the reparations threatened to make every German poor.

The 'War guilt clause' blamed the war entirely on Germany. In 1921 Germany was given the bill of £6600 million to repair the damage. Yet the British and French had probably done as much damage as the Germans.

Question:
Why are the terms of peace as important as the costs of war?

German cartoon: Versailles sends Germany to the guillotine
From bbc.co.uk
World War I
Review Sheet

Causes:
- **M** Militarism: military buildup across Europe
- **A** Alliances: Foreign affairs are often based on a balance of power
  (Triple Alliance, Triple Entente were established in the decades just prior to WWI)
- **I** Imperialism: conflict over colonies in Africa, Asia
- **N** Nationalism: Eastern Europeans desire for self-determination, “the Balkan Powder Keg,”
  assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand, nationalism to motivate citizens to serve in the war

War:
- Conditions in the trenches were awful resulting in low morale among troops on both sides
- Major battles of WWI include Ypres, Somme, and Marne

Effects:
- World War I led to the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia, the signing of the Treaty of Versailles, and the
  rise of fascism in Europe
- President Wilson’s *Fourteen Points* directly advocated the idea of national self-determination
- The success of the women’s suffrage movement in 20th-century Europe resulted in part from women
  working in factories during World War I
- Decline in unemployment rates in Britain between 1914 and 1918 resulted from World War I generating
  jobs at home in England and in the military.
- One action that many governments took during World War I was to regulate their economic systems to
  increase production

Treaty of Versailles:
- Germany takes full responsibility for WWI and is forced to pay large war reparations as well as losing
  some of her colonies and lands in Europe
- As a result, resentments about these provisions contributed to the growth of Nazism in Germany.
- Treaties at the end of WWI led to many new nations in Eastern Europe
- Austria-Hungary loses huge amount of territory