

The World in Crisis

World War I was sparked when Gavrilo Princip, a member of the Serbian separatist group _____, shot and killed Archduke _____ and his wife of _____.

While the assassination of the Archduke was the spark that started the war, there were underlying reasons that led to the war including _____, _____, _____, and _____.

_____ was a threat to the old Austro-Hungarian and Ottoman Empires. The _____ peoples of the _____ region resent the rule of outsiders and were supported by _____ in their efforts to win independence.

In the late 1800s the German ruler _____ began to compete with England and France for _____. His goal was to secure _____ and _____ for German industries.

In 1900, Germany decided to build a _____ that could challenge British control of the seas. The British and German entered into a naval _____ for control of the seas. The competition increased when the British introduced the _____, the first of a new line of battleships.

Germany also greatly increased the size of its army and equipped it with the latest weapons, including _____ and _____.

In preparation for the possibility Germany would have to fight both Russia and France at the same time, the German High Command developed the _____. It called for a surprise invasion of France through the neutral country of _____. The goal was to defeat _____ before _____ could mobilize and enter the war.

The increasing military threat led countries to form _____. In Central Europe _____, _____, and _____ formed the _____. In response _____, _____, and _____ created the _____. The word _____ means understanding. The hope was that the alliance system would keep peace by creating a _____.

When the Archduke was assassinated Austrians blamed _____ and accused it of supporting the terrorists. _____ agreed to support _____ if it were attacked by Austria. Before invading _____ Austria made sure that Germany would support it. The Kaiser assured Austria that Germany would do whatever was needed to help its ally; this pledge became known as the _____.

Once Russia began to mobilize its army, Germany launched a preemptive attack on _____, which resulted in the violation of _____ neutrality. Because _____ had pledged to defend _____ it declared war on Germany.

In WWI, Germany, Austria-Hungary, and the _____ made up the _____; Britain, France, and Russia made up the _____. Because so many nations would eventually become involved in WW1, it would be called the _____.

When the war broke out it became clear that it would be a new kind of war and that tactics of the _____ were badly outdated. The frontal assault of massed troops used in previous wars was made futile by the introduction of the _____. At the opening of the war most people believed that the war would be _____. In fact, the Kaiser promised his soldiers they would be home before _____.

In many ways, the Europeans made the same miscalculations that the Americans had made at the beginning of the _____.

The German Army marched to within 25 miles of _____ before they were halted at the _____, in which the French suffered _____ casualties. A French journalist note that the bloody soldiers lying on the ground looked like a field of _____. This small flower would become a symbol for the wounded and dead of WW1.

When the German Army failed to take the French capital, it faced the reality of a _____ war with France and Britain in the West and Russia in the East.

Once the war settled into a _____ the soldiers on both side dug _____ to escape the deadly artillery and machine gun fire. The area between the two armies became known as _____. One of the horrors of trench warfare was the use of _____, which was particularly effective because it would seep into the trenches and kill.

In an attempt to break through the German lines the British introduced the _____ in the hope that it's armor would allow soldiers to safely cross the killing zone between the trenches. Another technology introduced in WW1 was the _____, while having limited use attacking ground troops, it did provide targeting information for _____ barrages. The flying _____ of each army engaged in aerial duels called _____. The most notorious German pilot was Manfred von Richthofen, known as the _____.

Analysis Questions

Why might a country that is falling behind in an arms race be willing to go to war?

The Schlieffen Plan required the German Army to defeat France before Russia could mobilize. How did that prevent diplomatic efforts to avoid war?

Some historians believe one of the things that led to WW1 was the belief that war was inevitable. How would such a belief make war more likely?

What lesson about how wars start should we learn from WW1?