

World War I | Year 6 | Autumn Term

Timeline (1914-1918)

The Two Sides

Vocabulary

1	June 28th 1914: Prince of Austria Hungary, Archduke Franz Ferdinand, assassinated by a Serbian man, Gavrilo Princip.
2	July 28th 1914: Austria-Hungary declare war on Serbia.
3	August 1st – 3rd 1914: Germany declares war on Russia. Germany declares war on France as part of the Schlieffen Plan.
4	August 4th 1914: Germany invades Belgium. Britain declares war on Germany.
5	September 1914: The advancing German army is stopped before Paris by the British and French at the First Battle of the Marne. The Germans dig in and four years of trench warfare begins.
6	December 24th 1914: The two sides put down their weapons, sing carols together, and play football for Christmas. Known as the Christmas Truce.
7	February 4th 1915: The Germans begin to use submarines against Allied merchant ships around the island of Britain.
8	April 25th 1915: The Allies attack the Ottoman Empire at the Battle of Gallipoli. This campaign will last over eight months and will end as a victory for the Ottomans and the retreat of the Allies.
9	May 31st 1916: The largest naval battle of the war, the Battle of Jutland, is fought between Britain and Germany in the North Sea.
10	July 1st 1916: The Battle of the Somme begins. Over 1 million soldiers will be wounded or killed.
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12	March 8th 1917 - The Russian Revolution begins. Tsar Nicholas II is removed from power on March 15.
13	April 6th 1917 - The United States enters the war, declaring war on Germany.
14	December 17th 1917 : The Russians agree to peace with the Central powers and leave the war.
15	July 15th 1918: The Second Battle of the Marne begins. This battle will end on August 6 as a decisive victory for the Allies.
16	November 11 1918- Germany agrees to an armistice and the fighting comes to an end at 11am on the 11th day of the 11th month
17	June 28 1919 - The Treaty of Versailles is signed by Germany and World War I comes to an end.

The Allies
(Triple
Entente)

Britain, France,
Russia, Italy and the
United States

The Central
Powers

Germany, Austria-
Hungary, Ottoman
Empire, Bulgaria

Why did British men go to war?

Patriotism: British men were brought up to love their King and country

Social pressure: Conscientious objectors were known as cowards and were humiliated through ways such as having a white feather placed on them.

Sense of adventure: many British men had never travelled abroad – this was a chance to see the world!

Propaganda: British propaganda posters used very persuasive techniques. Such techniques are also known as white, black or grey propaganda.

Belief in a quick victory: many men thought that the war would be ‘over by Christmas’

Trench Warfare: when both sides dig trenches facing each other so they can't be easily shot.

Attrition: The process of beating the opposition by gradually wearing them down.

Schlieffen Plan: The German plan to invade and defeat France.

Treaty: A formal agreement or promise between two or more countries.

Bayonet: A long dagger fixed to the end of a rifle.

No-man's-land: The empty area of land in between two trenches.

U-boat: A German submarine.

Armistice: An agreement by both sides to stop fighting during a war.

Nationalism: Feeling extremely proud of your country, sometimes believing it is better than other countries.

Western Front: The long stretch in France where most of the fighting took place.

Censorship: information was censored (hidden) in letters and the media so that people at home didn't know the true events of war.