

Year 8 History: Causes and Consequences of WW1

Core Knowledge from Lockdown Learning

- Causes of the First World War
- Impact of Armistice on Germany
- Rise of Hitler

Causes of WW1

<p>Militarism</p>	<p>In 1905, Britain built a new type of warship - the Dreadnought. It was far more powerful than any other ship on the sea.</p> <p>By 1908, Britain had three Dreadnoughts in her Navy. In 1908, she had built two more. However, Germany managed to build four Dreadnoughts in a single year. These Dreadnoughts were used to threaten the French Empire in North Africa. This led to an arms race breaking out in Europe.</p>
<p>Alliances</p>	<p>In 1882 Austria-Hungary, Germany, and Italy formed an alliance known as the Triple Alliance.</p> <p>By 1907 Great Britain, France, and Russia formed an alliance known as the Triple Entente.</p> <p>The alliance system led to Kaiser Wilhelm and Germany feeling even more surrounded. In 1897, the Schlieffen Plan was made in case Germany ever found herself fighting against France and Russia at the same time.</p>
<p>Imperialism</p>	<p>In the late 1880s, European powers competed to grow their empires. This was easiest for countries with a powerful navy. European countries were particularly keen to gain colonies in Africa. This became known as the Scramble for Africa.</p>
<p>Nationalism</p>	<p>Bosnia was a huge region which Austria-Hungary had taken over. Many of the people there were Serbian. In 1908 the Austrians had forced Bosnia to be part of the Austria-Hungary. The Serbs who lived there were furious as they wanted Bosnia to break free and to become part of Serbia, which was already an independent nation.</p> <p>The Austrians had no intention of giving in to Serb nationalists as this could lead to their whole empire breaking up. Russia, however, wanted the Balkans to remain independent so that they didn't have the Austro-Hungarian Empire at their doorstep. On 28 June Gavrillo Princip, a Bosnian Serb Nationalist, shot the heir to the Austrian Hungarian throne, Archduke Franz Ferdinand.</p>

Alliance System



The Balkans



Aftermath of Archduke Franz Ferdinand's Assassination

- 23rd July** Austria sent Serbia an ultimatum, a list of ten very harsh demands which included the Austrians to come into Serbia to investigate the assassination. They have 48 hours to agree or face war. Russia tells them not to accept.
- 25th July** Austria mobilizes (moves and prepares its troops) along the border with Serbia
- 30th July** Russia mobilizes along the border with Austria.
- 31st July** Austria mobilizes along the border with Russia.
- 1st August** Germany mobilizes and declares war on Russia.
- 3rd August** The Schlieffen plan began to go wrong on 30 July 1914, when Russia mobilised its army, but France did not. Germany was forced to invent a pretext to declare war on France.
- 4th August** Britain declared war on Germany because, in a Treaty of 1839, Britain had promised to defend Belgium.

Scramble for Africa



Schlieffen Plan



Year 8 History: WW1 and the Aftermath

Treaty of Versailles (1919)

On the 11 November 1918 Germany signed an armistice (an agreement for peace) which caused the fighting to stop. The leaders of the USA, Great Britain and France met in Versailles in June 1919 to decide what should happen next. These discussions resulted in the Treaty of Versailles.

Land	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Germany lost their overseas colonies Alsace Lorraine was returned to France. The Saar, with its rich coalfields, given to France for 15 years Germany was forbidden from uniting with Austria.
Army	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> German army restricted to 100,000 men German navy restricted to 6 battleships and no submarines Germany was not allowed an air force The Rhineland was demilitarised - the German army was not allowed to go there
Money	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Germany had to pay £6.6 billion in reparation (to compensate for the damage and loss caused by the war)
Blame	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 231 stated that Germany was solely responsible for the outbreak of the war.

Rise of Hitler

- 1889** Born in Austria
- 1907** Mother dies. Goes to Vienna. Fails to gain a place at Academy of Fine Art. Struggle to make money and lives almost as a down and out.
- 1914** Joins the German army. Fights in the First World War, winning a medal for bravery.
- 1919** Employed to spy by the army. Sent to meetings of the German Workers' Party. Finds himself agreeing with many of their ideas. Joins as the 55th member..
- 1920** Helps to write their political programme. The party is renamed the National Socialist German Workers' Party.
- 1921** Hitler becomes leader of the Nazi Party. He sets up the SA, the Nazi's Party's private army.
- 1923** The Munich Putsch. The Nazi's attempt to overthrow the government by force. The putsch fails but the trial and publicity that follow give Hitler the chance to make a name for himself.
- 1924** In prison, he writes Mein Kampf. This book outlines his main ideas about how Germany should be ruled. Hitler is released from prison early. He starts to rebuild the Nazi Party, improving the way it is organised and changing his tactics. His aim is now to use democratic means, rather than force, to get into power.
- 1929** Wall Street Crash led to a world economic depression and mass unemployment of this period. This led to calls for a strong leader. There were fears of a communist take-over. Over 6 million people were out of work at one point. Some starved. The Nazi party rapidly grew in popularity.

Hyperinflation (1923)

Germany struggled to keep up with the reparation payments. In 1922 Germany announced that it could not afford to pay reparations for the next three years. In 1923 60,000 French and Belgium troops marched into the Ruhr, an important industrial centre in Germany. They seized control of all mines, factories and railways. They took supplies from shops and set up machine gun posts in the streets. The German government told workers not to cooperate with the French. All workers went on strike. This was called passive resistance. The German government printed more money to pay the workers and pay their debts. However, the more money that is printed, the less it is worth. This is called hyperinflation.

Group	Impact of hyperinflation
Old People	Fixed pensions became worthless.
The Middle Class	These people had worked hard to put savings into the bank and many had started small businesses in the hope that they would grow larger and more profitable over time. These savings were now wiped out and their businesses destroyed.
Workers	Wages did not keep up with rising food prices so they found it difficult to feed their families.
The Rich	The richest in society, who had not just money in the bank, but land, possessions and investment in foreign currency, were also protected. These wealthier members of society often had foreign bank accounts and could always sell off some of their business interest and possessions. Wealthier businessmen could even afford to buy up smaller business ventures that had gone bankrupt.
Farmers	The farmers and those that lived in the countryside were also in a different position to those in the towns and cities. They could grow and eat their own food and slaughter their own animals for food.

