Headings		Notes			
THE CAUSES OF WO	RLD	• In the years before 1914, Europe was dominated by empires that were competing for power ar			
WAR I		territory as well as deteriorating international relations. There were a number of issues that were			
		driving these European powers apart:			
		Disagreements over colonies in Africa and Asia.			
		Military arms races – particularly between the rapidly industrialising Germany and the			
		industrialised Britain over their naval fleets.			
		Competition between the Habsburg Empire (Austria-Hungary) and the Romanov Dyna			
		(Russia) for influence in the Balkans (south-east Europe) as the Ottoman Empire slowly			
		collapsed which resulted in the emergence of new states such as Serbia.			
		• These issues saw the creation of a system of alliances (an agreement between states to aid			
		each other in wartime).			
		The Entente Powers	The Central Powers		
		Britain (and Ireland)	Germany		
		• France	The Austro-Hungarian (Habsburg) Empire		
		Russia (until October 1917)	The Ottoman Empire (Turkey)		
		• Italy (from 1915)			
		The United States (from 1917)			
		On the 28 <sup>th</sup> June 1914, the heir to the Austro-	Hungarian Empire, the Archduke Franz		
		Ferdinand ,and his wife Sophie were assassinated by Gavrilo Princip, a Serbian na			
		Sarajevo (capital of modern day Bosnia-Herze	govina).		
		1.The Austrians blamed the Serbia for his deat	h and declared war on them in August.		
		2.Russia, an ally of Serbia, declared war on Au	stria.		
		3. <b>Germany</b> , who had encouraged Austria to tak	te a hard line on <b>Serbia</b> , declared war on <b>Russia</b>		
		4.France, an ally of Russia, went to war with Ge	ermany.		
		5.When Germany invaded Belgium to get to Fra	ance, Britain (who had promised to protect		
		Belgium) declared war on Germany.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
		All the Imperial superpowers of Europe were n	ow at war.		
		Gummary			
Habsburg Empire Gavrilo	Princip	· ·			
Romanov Dynasty Serbia					
Ottoman Empire German	ıy				
Entente France					
Central Powers Britain					
Alliances Belgium					
Archduke Franz Ferdinand					
Policono					

**Balkans** 

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Headings	Notes
WORLD WAR I	Both sides expected the war to be over within months with British soldiers telling their families
LIFE IN THE TRENCHES	they would be home by Christmas. However, the war quickly developed into a stalemate
	(neither side could win) that would drag on for <b>four years</b> .
	The Germans, who had almost defeated the French in the first few weeks, had to split their
	forces between the Eastern Front (Russia) and the Western Front (France and Britain) so they
	could not defeat either. Nor were the French and British able to drive the German army out of
	Northern France.
	• Along the Western Front, soldiers dug networks of deep trenches to protect themselves from
	enemy fire and shelling. The strip of land between the opposing armies (no man's land) was
	quickly churned up, with many locations turning into a deep, sticky, dangerous mud which would
	last for the entire war. Trenches and shell craters were often full of foul water which led to the
	quick spread of diseases.
	• To take enemy trenches, soldiers had to climb up and out of their trenches (go 'over the top')
	and march across No Man's Land; these men were met with barbed wire, machine-gun fire and
	shelling, making World War I battles incredibly bloody.
CONDITIONS IN THE	Disease spread easily especially in wet weather and due to lack of toilets.
TRENCHES	Weather such as rain, snow and freezing fog made it very difficult for soldiers to live and fight
	as trench foot and frostbite kicked in.
	Rats carried diseases and ate the dead bodies of soldiers who had yet to be buried.
	Soldiers were also suffering from mental health issues due to what they witnessed fighting.
CONDITIONS AT HOME	Men were gone to war so women worked in the factories making clothes and weapons.
	Birth rates dropped.
	Shortages of food were caused by the war at sea and over land.
	Deliveries could not reach their destination and over 2 million Russians died of starvation.
	After the war nations hated each other because of the war. This affected the punishments
	received in post-war negotiations.
 Keywords	Summary
Stalemate	
Eastern Front	
Western Front	
Trenches	
No Man's Land	
Over the top	
Trench foot	
Frostbite	

Headings	Notes		
THE BATTLE OF THE	• The Battle of the Somme took place in France, near the Somme River. The Battle started on the		
SOMME	1st June 1916 and lasted until the 18th November 1916. The armies involved were:		
	• The <i>British Empire</i> (Military commander: Douglas Haig)		
	The French Third Republic (Military commander: Ferdinand Foch)		
	• The German Empire (Military commander: Max von Gallwitz and Fritz von Bellow)		
	General Haig was highly criticized for so long, because he carried on with the battle when		
	20,000 people had already died on the first day of the battle.		
	The aim of the attack was to break through German lines and defeat the German army. It was		
	also hoped that the attack, started by the British, would allow the French Army to strike back on		
	its own front.		
	<ul> <li>About 1,738,000 shells were fired at the Germans before gun fire fighting in hopes to destroy</li> </ul>		
	the German trenches and barbed wire placed in front of the trenches.		
	It is estimated that 1.1 million soldiers lost their lives, out of the 3 million soldiers who fought.		
	• The French lost 200,000 men, the British lost 420,000 while the Germans lost 500,000.		
	• The Battle of the Somme symbolised the horrors of warfare during World War I. This was the		
	battle that involved the new advanced technologies including gassing, machine guns & shelling.		
	3 3 3, 3		
A NEW ERA IN WARFARE	World War I saw the introduction of new military technology, including the first use of		
	aeroplanes for reconnaissance, aerial combat and bombing.		
	German submarines (U-boats) attacked any ships (military or civilian) in enemy waters.		
	The British invented the tank to try to break the stalemate on the Western Front.		
	The first use of chemical weapons:		
	Phosgene – six times more deadly than chlorine gas. Responsible for 85% of chemical weapons fatalities during WWI. (slow acting poison)      Chlorine Gas – first used 22 April 1915. A greenish-yellow cloud that smelled like bleach. Killed soldiers by asphyxiation.      Mustard – caused severe blistering on it's victims. Caused blindness (slow acting poison)		
	• Within six months of fighting, medics observed a set of symptoms among the trenches that they		
	called 'shell shock', now known as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Symptoms		
	included: anxiety, nightmares, tremors, confusion, memory loss and sudden hearing/sight loss.		
Keywords	Gummary		
The Battle of the Somme			
British Empire Mustard Gas			
French Republic Tanks			
German Empire Shell Shock			
Aeroplanes PTSD			
Phosgene Gas			

Chlorine Gas

Headings	Notes
THE END OF THE WAR	The bloody conflict dragged on for over four years.
	Attempts by the Entente Powers to break the stalemate by attacking in 1915 failed during the
	Battle of Gallipoli.
	• The Russian government was overthrown in October 1917 by the Bolsheviks (communists) led
	by Vladimir Lenin – ending Russian involvement in the war.
	However, the US entered the war on the Entente's side in 1917.
	The arrival of one million American troops eventually turned the tide in their favour.
	Germany and its allies surrendered in November 1918.
THE PARIS PEACE	• The Entente Powers dictated the terms of the peace treaty to Germany and its allies when they
CONFERENCE 1919	met for a 'peace' conference at Versailles, outside Paris, throughout 1919.
	• The Big Three leaders were: Woodrow Wilson (US President), Georges Clemenceau (Frenc
	Prime Minister) and David Lloyd George (British Prime Minister). All three wanted different
	results from the negotiations.
	Wilson wanted a just peace to prevent future wars which outlined his views in his 'Fourteen'
	Points' speech when the US entered the war, seeking to reduce the size of armies, establishing
	the right to self-determination (the right of a people or nation sharing a common language and
	culture to govern themselves independently).
	Wilson also wanted a new organisation, the League of Nations, set up to maintain peace.
	Clemenceau blamed the Germans for starting the war, therefore wanting to punish Germany.
	France lost 1.4 million men in the war and suffered billions in damages, therefore demanding
	compensation for all they lost. They also sought to prevent Germany becoming a threat again
	• Lloyd George also wanted Germany punished to appease people at home in Britain. He saw the
	peace treaty as an opportunity to expand the British empire and boost the British economy
	both at the expense of Germany.
	Negotiations lasted six months before the Treaty of Versailles was agreed in June 1919. The
	German representatives were not given a chance to seek any changes; they were given the
	ultimatum of sign the Treaty or return to war.
	Gummary
Bolsheviks	
Vladimir Lenin	
Woodrow Wilson	
Georges Clemenceau	
David Lloyd George	
Fourteen Points	
Self-determination	
Treaty of Versailles	

Headings		Notes		
TERMS OF THE TREATY OF VERSAILLES	The War Guilt Clause placed blame solely on Germany for starting the war.	<ol> <li>Germany would pay £6.6 billion (€350 billion in today's money) in reparations to the victors.</li> </ol>		
		3. Germany surrendered all its colonies.	4. Germany lost territory in Europe.	
	5. The German armed forces were reduced to 100,000 men and only six naval ships and they were <b>banned</b> from having an <b>air force</b> ,	Germany and Austria were forbidden to unite.		
		tanks or submarines.	7. The League of Nations was set up.	
		8. To protect France's security, the Rhineland (	the border area between the two countries)	
		became a <b>demilitarised zone</b> (Germany was	s banned from putting troops in the Rhineland).	
CONSEQUEN		The Habsburg (Austro-Hungarian) and Ottom	an (Turkish) Empires were abolished, resulting in	
WORLD WAR	R I	the creation of new states in Central & Eastern	Europe and the Middle East due to Wilson's	
	NEW STATES	belief in the right to self-determination. These new states included: Poland, Czechoslovakia		
		Yugoslavia, Turkey and Finland.		
RISE OF	NAZISM AND	The German people humiliated and betrayed by the signing of the treaty, rejecting the idea that		
	FASCISM	they were solely responsible for the war and resenting the loss of territory & military limitations.		
		There was also a lot of anger in Italy as they did not receive the land they had been promised		
		when entering the war.		
		This anger and resentment in Germany and Ita	aly would lead to the rise for new extreme	
		nationalist ideologies of <b>Nazism</b> and <b>fascism</b> .		
ECONOMIC	C PROBLEMS	The reparations imposed on Germany crippled	lits economy, taking <b>92 years</b> to pay off.	
		• There was mass unemployment across Europe as Germany was Europe's largest economy,		
		meaning wider Europe took a long time to recover.		
		• Coupled with the Great Depression of 1929, the ongoing economic hardships added to the		
		bitterness felt at the end of the war.		
RISE OF	COMMUNISM	Russia had been devasted by the war. In 1917	, the Russian Tsar was overthrown. The world's	
	first communist government came to power	under Vladimir Lenin.		
Keywords		Gummary		
War Guilt Claus	se			
Reprations				
League of Nat	tions			
Demilitarisatio	n			
Nazism	Communism			
Fascism				
Great Depress	sion 1929			

Headings	Notes
THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS	Wilson had hoped that the League of Nations would prevent future wars by settling disputes
	peacefully and encouraging collective security, meaning to work together to stop aggression.
	• However, the US refused to join while Russia and Germany were not allowed to join. This
	meant that three of the world's most powerful states were not members, making it difficult for the
	League to operate and eventually leading to the failure of the League.
IRELAND AND WORLD	Carson and the Unionists supported the war to maintain their union with Britain and hopefully
WAR I	receive special treatment after the war. Thousands of Ulster Unionists joined the British army.
SPLIT IN THE IRISH	John Redmond, the leader of the Irish Parliamentary Party, made a speech in Woodenbridge,
VOLUNTEER FORCE	Co. Wicklow where he asked IVF members to join the British army in the hope that this would
	benefit Ireland during negotiations after the war. The IVF split into two factions over the issue.
	National Volunteers – 175,000 men agreed with Redmond and felt that supported Britain
	would benefit Home Rule.
	• Irish Volunteers – 11,000 men disagreed and were led by Eoin MacNeill. They intended to
	stay in Ireland and make sure Home Rule happened.
IRISH SOLDIERS OF WORLD WAR I	• About <b>250,000 Irishmen</b> (nationalist and Unionist) fought on Britain's side in World War I with between 30,000 and 50,000 killed.
	Aside from political and religious beliefs, many Irishmen went to war because times were
	hard at home and they needed to earn money.
	Nationalists joined the 16 <sup>th</sup> (Irish) Division in regiments such as the Irish Guards, the Royal
	Dublin Fusiliers and the Royal Munster Fusiliers.
	Unionists joined the 36 <sup>th</sup> (Ulster) Division.
	Irish soldiers fought at the Battle of the Somme in France, Passchendaele in Belgium and
	Gallipoli in Turkey.
	Gampon in Turkey.
Keywords	Gummary
League of Nations	
John Redmond	
Woodenbridge	
National Volunteers	
Irish Volunteers	
16 <sup>th</sup> Division	
36 <sup>th</sup> Division	

Keywords	Definition
Alliance	An agreement between states to aid each other in wartime
Archduke Franz Ferdinand	Prince of Austria-Hungary (Habsburg Empire) who was assassinated in 1914
Armistice Day	Germany surrendered on November 11th, 1918 at 11am
Battle of the Somme	Deadliest battle of WW1
Central Powers	Germany, Austro-Hungarian Empire, Ottoman Empire
Grenades	Hand held bombs which could be thrown at an enemy
Imperialism	a policy of extending a country's power and influence through colonization, use of military force, or other means; usually ruled by a monarch or emperor
League of Nations	Set up to try to keep peace in Europe. America pulled out while Germany and Russia not allowed to join. No army
Machine Guns	developed to shoot multiple bullets in a minute at an enemy line
Nationalism	identification with one's own nation and support for its interests.
No Man's Land	The strip of land between the opposing armies' trenches
November Criminals	The German people blamed the German government
Paris Peace Conference	Meeting after WW1 to decide how to avoid a future war
Poison gas	Chloride gas which would burn enemies from the inside out
Reparation	compensation payments paid by the loser to the victors after a war
Self-Determination	The right of a people or nation sharing a common language and culture to govern themselves
Stalemate	Neither side could win
The Entente	Britain (and Ireland), France, Russia (left Oct 1917), Italy (from 1915), United States (from 1917)
Treaty of Versailles	Treaty that blamed for World War I, forced to pay for the war, lost its colonies and army capped
Trenches	Deep pits in a narrow line dug into the ground so that soldiers could shelter from gun fire
U-Boats	German submarines
Yugoslavia	Set up after WW1; made up of modern-day Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Slovenia