



1917: The Turning Point!

Why does this year represent a major turning point in WWI and for which side?



**U.S.
entry
into
The
War!**

The United States in World War I

The Main Idea
The United States helped turn the tide for an Allied victory.

Section Focus

- Why did the United States try to stay neutral in the war?
- Which events showed that America was heading into war?
- What contributions did Americans make in Europe?
- How did the war end?

"Doughboys" (outdated slang for American Soldiers) in the trenches.

From Neutrality to War

Remaining Neutral

Below, a German U-boat prowls the seas. President Wilson opposed the use of unrestricted submarine warfare, but he campaigned for re-election in 1916 (right) with promises to keep America out of the war.



From Neutrality to War, continued

Fighting in the War

In June 1918, Belleau Wood, France, became the proving grounds for American soldiers (below). Although a U.S. victory, 8,000 American casualties at the Battle of Belleau Wood made it America's bloodiest battle thus far in the war.



The United States Stays Neutral

- Americans thought of World War I as strictly a European conflict.
- President Wilson declared that the U.S. would stay **neutral**—not support or attack either side.
- Wilson's decision reflected the U.S.'s longstanding policy of **isolationism**, or not being involved in foreign affairs.
- Privately, Wilson favored the Allied because:
 - 1) Germany had aggressive tactics.
 - 2) The U.S. also had greater political, cultural, and commercial ties to Great Britain and France than to Germany.
 - 3) Financially, the U.S. did more business with the Allies.
 - By 1917 Britain purchased nearly \$75 million worth of war goods each week from the U.S.

German Submarine Warfare

U-Boats

- Germany suffered because of the British blockade, so it developed small submarines called U-boats to strike back at the British.
 - U-boats are named after the German for "undersea boat."
 - In February 1915 the German government declared the waters around Great Britain a war zone, threatening to destroy all enemy ships.
 - Germany warned the U.S. that neutral ships might be attacked.
- The German plan for unrestricted submarine warfare angered Americans, and Wilson believed it violated the laws of neutrality.
- Wilson held Germany accountable for American losses.

America's Involvement

- In 1915, Germany sank a luxury passenger ship to Great Britain called the **Lusitania**, killing many, including 128 Americans
- Americans were outraged, and Wilson demanded an end to unrestricted submarine warfare. ☐
- The Germans agreed to attack on ☐ supply ships but later sank the French passenger ship **Sussex**, killing 80 people.
- Wilson threatened Germany again, and Germany issued the **Sussex pledge**, promising not to sink merchant vessels "without warning and without saving human lives."

Activity (Handout): THE U-BOAT WAR IN CARTOONS

- **Introduction:** By the winter of 1914-1915 it became clear to both the Allies and the Central Powers that the war they were engaged in was not going to end with a few quick land campaigns. Germany was aware that it simply could not compete with Britain's surface navy. In February 1915 the Kaiser proclaimed that merchant ships bound for England could be destroyed without warning.
- Like it or not, a neutral country like the United States would have difficulty conducting trade with either side. In fact, the United States was trading with both sides. British ships were stopping American ships bound for German ports, forcing them to sail to Allied ports, and confiscating their cargoes.
- The nature of the U-boat, however, was such that it could not escort a large merchant ship to port. Rather, U-boats, being vulnerable on the surface, had to sink their quarry or risk their own safety. Consequently a neutral merchant ship engaged by a U-boat might experience loss of crew and passenger lives as well as the cargo it was carrying. It was precisely this difference that ended up drawing the United States into war with Germany.
- **Requirements:** Read the article "Uboat Attack, 1916" and "The Sinking of the Lusitania" from Eyewitnesshistory.com. Analyze the political cartoons that follow and answer the accompanying comprehension questions.



Political Cartoon Analysis Examples



This cartoon refers to the practice taken up by the British of flying a neutral flag (especially American) when in the declared war zone. The artist chose to depict one of the most well known British merchant ships, the Lusitania, to represent the entire merchant navy.

Question: What is so ironic about this cartoon, based on historical events?

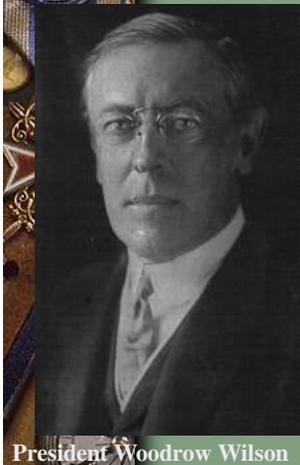


Political Cartoon Analysis Examples



THE MISTRESS OF THE SEAS.
 "Shall we attack, Sir?"
 "Oh, no! First we must signal for help! We are hardly three times
 as strong as the Germans."
 —D. L. (Berlin).

- Is this cartoon pro or anti-German?
- What is the purpose of this cartoon?
- What is the purpose of propagandist cartoons in times of war?



President Woodrow Wilson

Short Writing Activity: If you were President Woodrow Wilson's advisor, would you encourage him to declare war on Germany? Or is there another solution?

- Imagine that it is spring of 1917. The war has been ravaging Europe for three years now, and the U.S. has remained neutral up to this point. You are Wilson's foreign policy advisor. **In a proposal of 150 words, do the following:**
 - Describe the immediate events leading up to America's decision to enter the war.
 - Form a position and defend it, either for or against war!
 - Predict the likely effects of America's decision to declare war or remain neutral.



1917



- February 1, 1917 Germany resumes **unrestricted submarine warfare.**
- February 3, 1917 America breaks off diplomatic relations with Germany



Arthur Zimmermann,
German ambassador
To Mexico

- March, 1917 7 American vessels are sunk by German submarines.
- The **Zimmermann Telegram** is made public, revealing an alleged plot—In return for Mexican support, Germans promised to help Mexico regain Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona from the U.S.



The above cartoon pokes fun at the Zimmerman Note.

1. According to the cartoon, what are Germany and Mexico planning to do?
2. How did the discovery of the Zimmerman Note motivate the United States to enter the War?

The United States in World War I

Understanding Goal:

Nations compete in the global arena for political and economic power.

A DOUGHBOY'S LETTER TO KAISER WILHELM

.... On the high seas you instituted the practice of sinking without warning the vessels of non-combatants, sending to a watery grave both little children and You instructed the commanders of your submarines even to fire upon the crews

and passengers of torpedoed ships while they were in open boats, in heavy seas ... In diplomacy, you, through your foreign minister, openly urged Mexico and Japan, two countries with which our nation was at peace, to make war upon us.



Investigative Question:

How did the United States benefit from its involvement in World War One?

Explore: Why do you think the United States got involved in the first world war?

Connect: What were the consequences of American involvement in World War I?

Learn: To learn more about World War I, visit [The Stars and Stripes: The American Soldier's Newspaper of World War I, 1918-1919](#), and [U.S. Participation in the Great War \(World War One\)](#) from the [American Memory Timeline](#) at the Library of Congress.



President Woodrow Wilson



General Pershing

- **April 6, 1917 America declares war** on Germany, mobilizes and sends troops to France under General "Blackjack" Pershing



SUMMARY: WHY DID THE US GET INVOLVED IN WWI (1917-1918)?

- 1) Inability to remain neutral
- 2) German “unrestricted submarine warfare” – the sinking of the Lusitania
- 3) U.S. economic and political ties to Great Britain

 A historical poster titled "The Home Front" featuring Uncle Sam and the text "First Call". The poster is a recruitment advertisement for the U.S. Navy during World War I. It shows Uncle Sam in a top hat with a star on the front, looking directly at the viewer. The background is a light yellow color with a faint image of Uncle Sam. The text is in various colors and fonts, including blue, red, and black.

The Home Front

First Call

The Main Idea
The U.S. mobilized a variety of resources to wage World War I.

Section Focus

- How did the government mobilize the economy for the war effort?
- How did workers mobilize on the home front?
- How did the government try to influence public opinion about the war?

Navy Recruiting Stations:

34 East 23rd Street
New York

115 Flatbush Ave.
Brooklyn

The American Army

Raising an Army

- In May 1917, Congress passed the **Selective Service Act**, requiring men between 21 and 30 to register for a draft.
- Some filed as **conscientious objectors**, or religious people against fighting, but were rejected.
- In the summer of 1917, new recruits reported for training but found almost nothing ready.
- Soldiers slept in tents until barracks were built, and supplies hadn't yet arrived.
- New recruits learned military rules with sticks and barrels instead of rifles and horses.



Discrimination

- African American soldiers were segregated and trained in separate camps.
- Many white officers and southern politicians feared African Americans would pose a threat after the war so only trained a few black regiments.
- Latino soldiers faced scorn from other troops and were often assigned menial tasks.
- The federal government did accept non-English-speaking soldiers.
 - The military had programs in New Mexico and Georgia to help Hispanic soldiers learn English.



American Military Women

- The majority of Americans who served in the military were men, but some women also signed up to serve overseas.
- During the war, more than **20,000 nurses** served in the U.S. Army in the United States and overseas.
- Women also served in the navy and marines, usually as typists and bookkeepers.
 - Still, some women became radio operators, electricians, or telegraphers.
- The U.S. Army Signal Corps recruited French-speaking American women to serve as switchboard operators.

Known as the **Hello Girls**, they served a crucial role in keeping communications open between the front line and the headquarters of the American Expeditionary Forces.



Mobilizing the Economy

- Going to war was extremely expensive, and President Wilson needed to find ways to pay for it.

Taxes

- Congress passed the **War Revenue Act of 1917**, which established very high taxes.
- It taxed wealthy Americans up to 77 percent of their incomes.
- It increased federal revenue by 400 percent within two years.

Loans and Liberty Bonds

- Wilson sparked an intense campaign to sell **Liberty Bonds**--a form of loan to the government from American people.
- The national debt grew from \$1.2 billion to \$25.5 billion in three years.

Regulating Industry

- Congress created administrative boards to prepare industries for war.
- **The War Industries Board (WIB)** regulated all war materials.
- It increased industrial production by 20 percent.



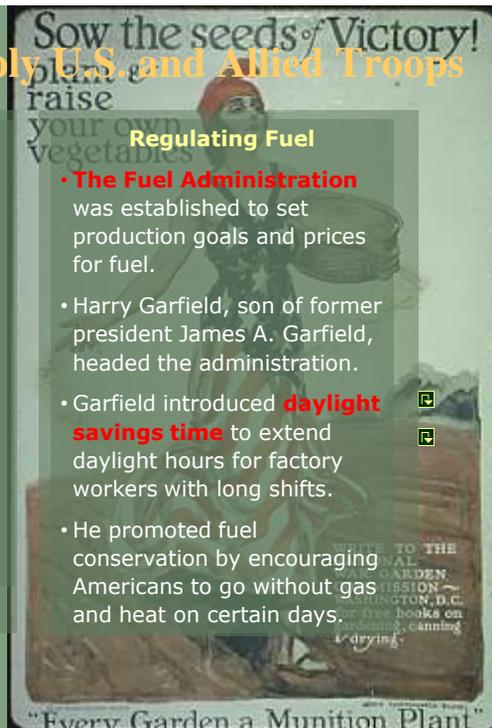
Regulations to Supply U.S. and Allied Troops

Regulating Food

- **The Lever Food and Fuel Control Act** --let the government set prices and establish production controls.
- Herbert Hoover's **Food Administration** promised farmers higher prices for crops.
- He also asked Americans to eat less and to plant food gardens.
- Prohibition also helped the war, as alcohol is made using food crops like grapes and wheat.
- The **1919 Volstead Act** -- prohibited the sale of alcohol.

Regulating Fuel

- **The Fuel Administration** was established to set production goals and prices for fuel.
- Harry Garfield, son of former president James A. Garfield, headed the administration.
- Garfield introduced **daylight savings time** to extend daylight hours for factory workers with long shifts.
- He promoted fuel conservation by encouraging Americans to go without gas and heat on certain days.



The New 7th Grade Seating Chart

Mr. C's Desk

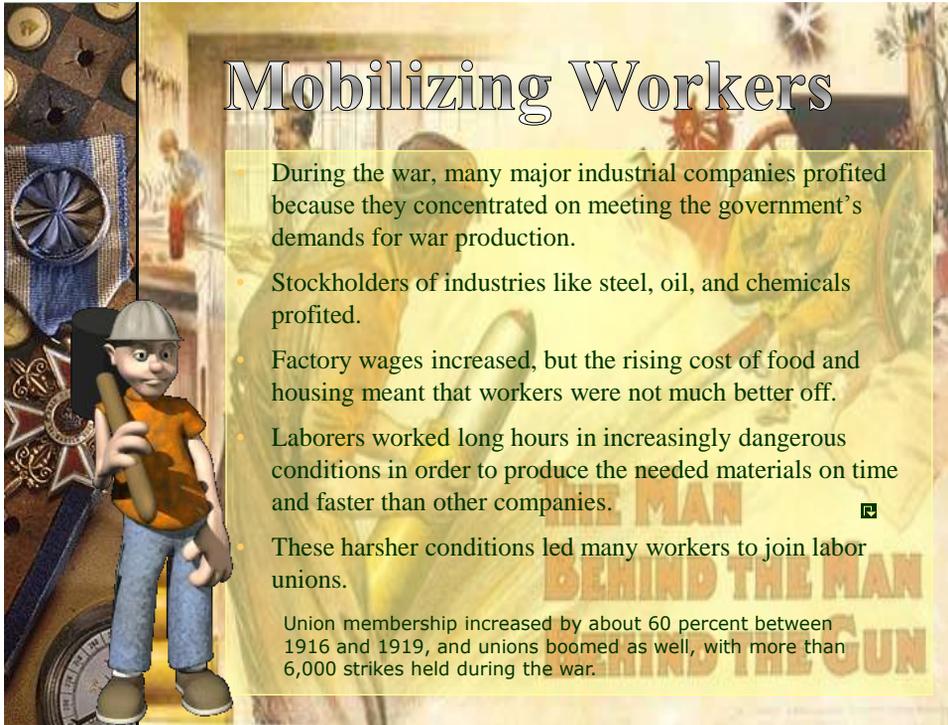
		Grayson B.	Jayce		Patrice G.		
Tristan G.	Sophie	McKina J.	Chris	Destiny K.	Theron F.	Freddy	
Domini que C.	Stephen G.				Kaela	Angel S.	
Bryan W.	Acacia S.				Hunter B.	Caleb K.	
Marissa	Sean H.				Andres M.	Conner A.	

Front of Classroom



Challenge!

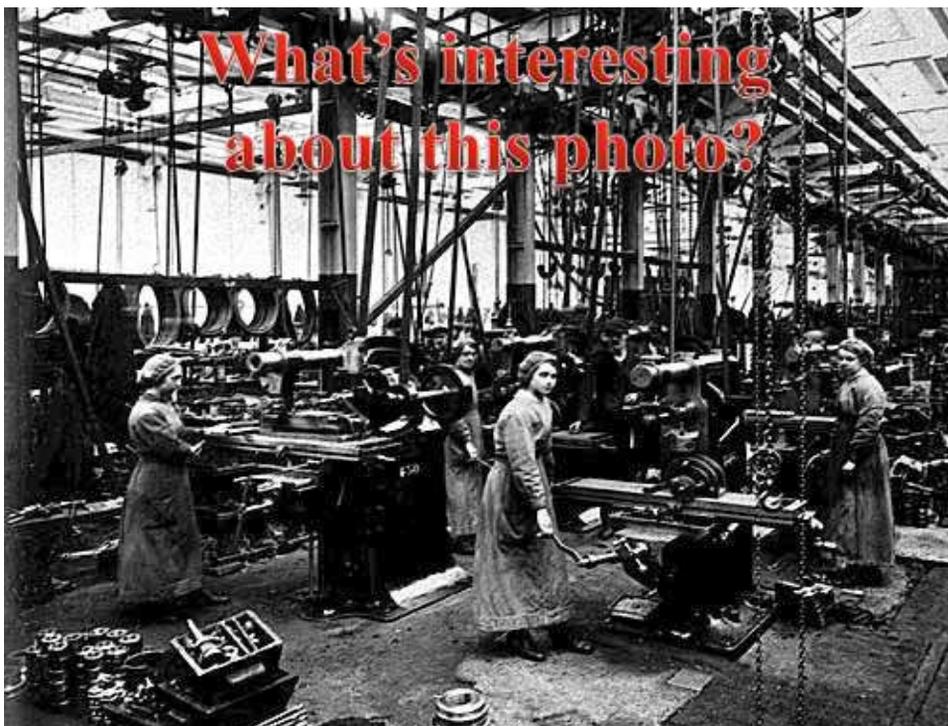
- What is the meaning and purpose of this WWI poster?



Mobilizing Workers

- During the war, many major industrial companies profited because they concentrated on meeting the government's demands for war production.
- Stockholders of industries like steel, oil, and chemicals profited.
- Factory wages increased, but the rising cost of food and housing meant that workers were not much better off.
- Laborers worked long hours in increasingly dangerous conditions in order to produce the needed materials on time and faster than other companies.
- These harsher conditions led many workers to join labor unions.

Union membership increased by about 60 percent between 1916 and 1919, and unions boomed as well, with more than 6,000 strikes held during the war.



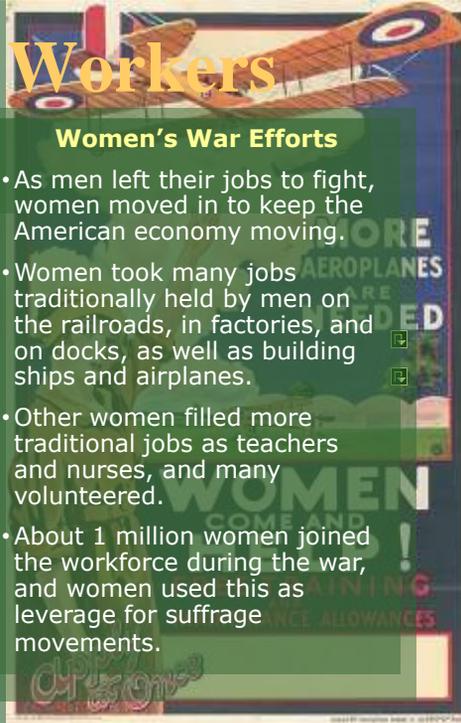
Wartime Workers

National War Labor Board

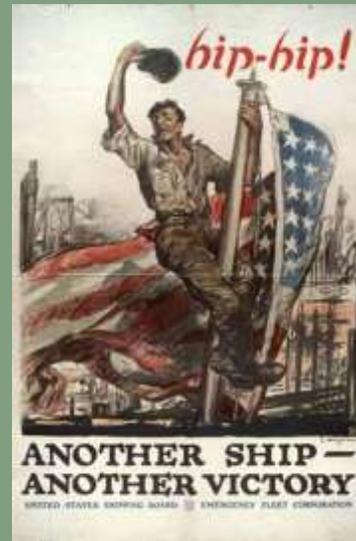
- Leaders feared strikes would disrupt production for the war effort.
- The Wilson administration created the **National War Labor Board** (1918)—which judged disputes between workers and management, established an eight-hour workday, sought companies to recognize unions, and urged equal pay for women.

Women's War Efforts

- As men left their jobs to fight, women moved in to keep the American economy moving.
- Women took many jobs traditionally held by men on the railroads, in factories, and on docks, as well as building ships and airplanes.
- Other women filled more traditional jobs as teachers and nurses, and many volunteered.
- About 1 million women joined the workforce during the war, and women used this as leverage for suffrage movements.

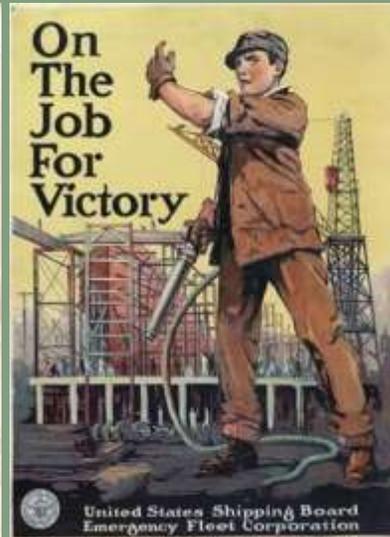
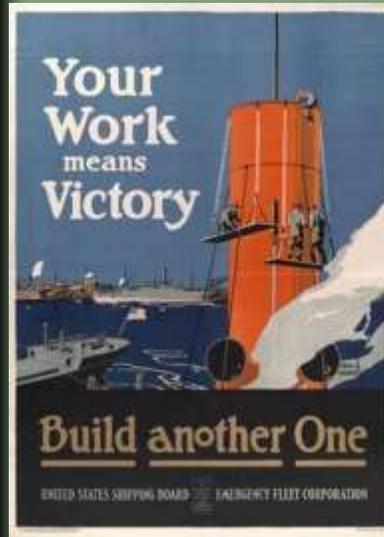


Analyze these posters!



- What purpose did these posters serve?

Analyze these posters!



- What purpose did these posters serve?

Influencing Public Opinion

President Wilson used a number of tactics to gain the support of Americans who had favored neutrality in World War I.

Propaganda

- The **Committee on Public Information (CPI)** began a campaign of **propaganda**: posters, news stories, speeches, and other materials to influence opinion.
- Creel hired movie stars to speak, and artists to create patriotic posters and pamphlets.
- One famous poster by James Montgomery Flagg pictures Uncle Sam saying "I Want You for the U.S. Army."

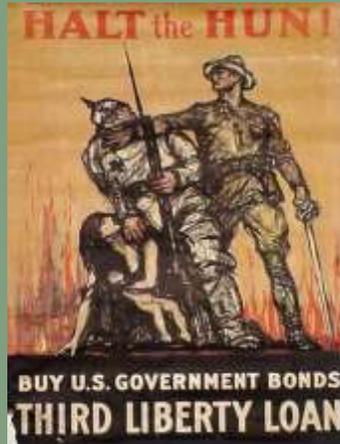
Reactions

- Some Americans began to distrust German things.
- Many schools stopped teaching German, and symphonies stopped playing German music.
- German-sounding names were changed, so sauerkraut became liberty cabbage and hamburgers became liberty steak.
- Reports spread that German secret agents were operating in the U.S., causing some Americans to discriminate against German Americans.





Propaganda campaign begins in United States in 1917.
What was the purpose of these posters?



“Demonizing” the enemy!



The most famous “Uncle Sam” poster in history!



Assignment: Create Your Own WWI Poster!

- **Directions:** For this assignment, you will create a propaganda war poster, which must contain the following characteristics:
 - 1) “demonization” of the enemy **OR** a focus on wartime production **OR** recruitment
 - 2) U.S. patriotism
 - 3) a catchy slogan that conveys a theme or purpose.
 - 4) historical accuracy—illustrations of soldiers, weapons, battles, etc. must **LOOK** like from WWI.



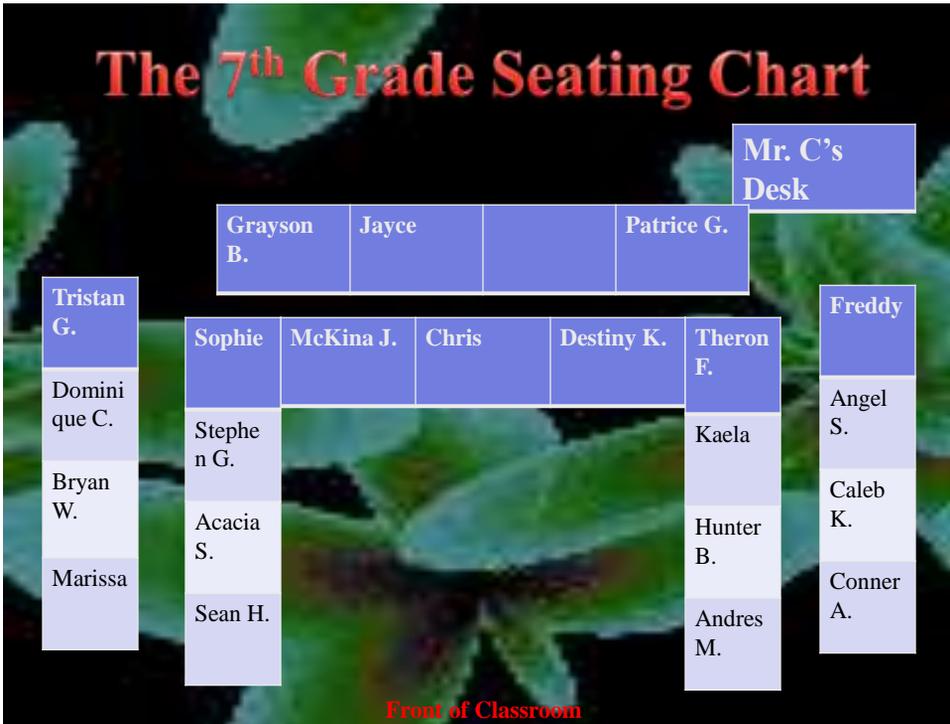
Assignment for those Students who misbehaved!



- **Directions: Andres, Marissa, Freddie, Sophie, Conner, Tristan**
- For this assignment, you will write an essay on the use of propaganda during WWI, by both the Germans and the U.S. In 200 words, compare/contrast their use of the following in their posters:
 - 1) “demonization” of the enemy OR a focus on wartime production OR recruitment
 - 2) Patriotism
 - 3) Slogans that conveyed a theme or purpose.
 - 4) use of illustrations of soldiers, weapons, battles, etc. must LOOK like from WWI.



The 7th Grade Seating Chart



Influenza Spreads

- Three waves of a **influenza**, severe flu epidemic broke, out between 1918 and 1919 in Europe and in America.
- Of all American troops who died in World War II, half died from influenza.
- On the Western Front, crowded and unsanitary trenches helped flu spread among troops, then to American military camps in Kansas and beyond.
- This strain of influenza was deadly, killing healthy people within days, and during the month of October 1918, influenza killed nearly 200,000 Americans.
- Panicked city leaders halted gatherings, and people accused the Germans of releasing flu germs into the populace.

By the time it passed, **over 600,000** Americans lost their lives.

FEVER OF WAR
The Influenza Epidemic in the U.S. Army During World War I



**Read & Complete “The
Influenza Pandemic of
1918**

Limiting Antiwar Speech

Some Americans Speak Out

- Prominent Americans such as pacifist reformer **Jane Addams** and Senator Robert La Follette spoke out against the war.
- Addams founded the **Women's International League for Peace and Freedom**.
- Wilson's administration tried to limit public speech about the war.

Legislation

- Congress passed the **Espionage Act**, which punished people for aiding the enemy or refusing military duty.
- The year after, it passed the **Sedition Act**, making it illegal for Americans to criticize the government, flag, or military in speech or writing.

Opponents

- More than 1,000 opponents of war were jailed under those acts, including Robert Goldstein, who directed a film called *The Spirit of '76* and refused to remove scenes of British brutality during the American Revolution.
- Socialist Party leader **Eugene Debs** was sentenced to 10 years in prison for criticizing the Espionage Act but was released after the war.

AS GAG-RULERS WOULD HAVE IT.

—Satterfield in the Jersey City Journal.

Opponents Go to the Supreme Court

- Many Americans thought the Espionage and Sedition Acts violated the First Amendment, but others thought they were essential to protect military secrets and the safety of America.
- The Supreme Court also struggled to interpret the acts.
- In one case, **Charles Schenck**, an official of the American Socialist Party, organized the printing of 15,000 leaflets opposing the war and was convicted of violating the Espionage Act.
- He challenged the conviction in the Supreme Court, but the Court upheld his conviction, limiting free speech during war.
- **Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr.** wrote the Court's unanimous decision, stating that some things said safely in peacetime are dangerous to the country during wartime.



JUDGEMENT



Arriving in Europe



General John J. Pershing (left) and Marshall in France

- **Expeditionary Forces (AEF)**, led by **General John J. Pershing**, was made of the American Army, National Guard, and volunteer and draft soldiers overseas formed the American
- The first U.S. troops arrived in France in 1917 through a **convey system**, in which troop-transport ships were surrounded by destroyers or cruisers for protection, limiting the number of ships sunk and troops lost.
- When America arrived, Germany occupied all of Belgium and part of France, and Russia struggled against famine and civil war.
- If Russia fell, Germans would bring all their troops west, and the Allies needed the Americans to fight immediately.
- General Pershing, however, wanted American troops to train and to fight separately from European regiments.
- Pershing sent his troops to training camps in eastern France instead of to the battlefields.



March-July 1917

The German *Friedensturm*

It is designed to destroy the Allies before the American forces arrive in large numbers. The Germans lose 800,000 soldiers in four months. The last German offensive of the war and the first major tank battle takes place.

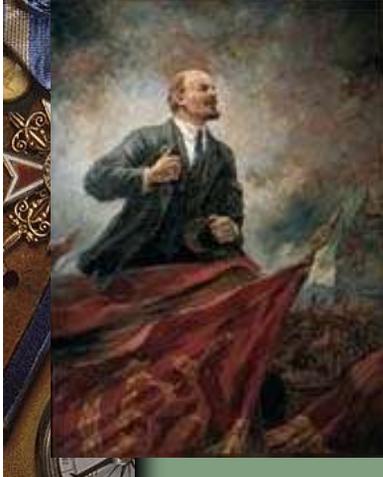
More Important Events of 1917

- May, 1917 The French army is exhausted, some units mutiny and France remains on the defensive until the arrival of American troops.

Events in Russia

- March, 1917 The scarcity of food, fuel, and demands for democracy brings down **Czar Nicholas II**. A provisional government under **Alexander Kerensky** takes over. Kerensky keeps Russia in the war.
- July, 1917 A devastating German offensive and Bolshevik activities break Russian morale. Russian troops start to mutiny and desert. Bolsheviks try to take over, but fail. Party leader Lenin goes into hiding.

Group of Russians in the ruins. (Rheims The Marne. France 1917).



The Bolshevik Revolution

- Lenin returns from exile in Finland to lead the “October Revolution” promising land, bread, and peace.
- November 7-16, 1917 **The Bolshevik Revolution** (“Ten Days that shook the World”)—Communist party leaders, under **Vladimir Lenin**, lead a revolution against the Russian government. The world’s first communist government is set up.

Kerensky flees to the U.S. The first Marxist state is founded.

- December, 1917--The Bolsheviks start negotiating peace with the Germans

Timeline of Russia in World War I

In July 1914 Russia mobilized to go to the aid of her ally, Serbia. Within a few weeks war was declared against Germany and Austria. At the outbreak of war, the Russian people put aside their long-standing grievances and supported their government. Nicholas II had welcomed the war to turn away the people's attention from the country's internal problems. On the other hand, Lenin and the Bolsheviks were against the entry of Russia into the war. Lenin viewed that the First World War was a war among the capitalist countries for markets and colonies.

August 1	Germany declared war on Russia. Wave of support for the Tsar.
August 4 - 23	Russia swiftly advanced into Germany through East Prussia
August 26 - Sept 13	Russia was defeated by Germany at Masurian Lakes and Tannenberg. There were over one million Russian casualties.
December 1914	Russia defeats Austria and occupied Galicia
August 1915	Tsar Nicholas II left St Petersburg to take control of the armies on the Eastern Front. He left the running of Russia to his wife Alexandra.
October 1915	Germans attacked the Russians and drove them out of Poland. Russians lost over 750,000 men
June -Sept 1916	Russia, under General Brusilov launched a major offensive against Austria. The Austrian army was driven back but Russia lost another one million men.
March 1917	Russian army demoralised and nearing collapse.

Question: Which two of these events do you think were the most important turning-points for the Tsarist regime? Explain your answer.

Impact of WWI on Russia

	Impact at the Front	Impact at Home
The Top	<p>The Tsar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As trouble in Russia mounted the Tsar unwisely decided to take over Supreme Command of the army in 1915. He had no military training and he was now blamed personally for the poor showing of the army – in particular, after the initial successes of the Brusilov Offensive. The support of the army ebbed away and even the peasants, who made up the majority of the soldiers turned against their Tsar. The Tsar compounded the problem by ignoring all requests from the Duma to form a 'Ministry of National Confidence' and restrict the influence of the Tsarina and Rasputin in the decision-making process. 	<p>Tsarina, Rasputin and the Duma</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When the Tsar left for the front he left the running of the country to his wife Alexandra. She was to be his 'eyes and ears'. Alexandra was German by birth and in the climate of the war the people hated all things German. To make things worse she turned to the disreputable monk, Rasputin for advice. The rumours of an affair between the Tsar's wife and the mad monk again began to circulate and other rumours that they were both German spies. Even when members of the Duma condemned Rasputin's scandalous behaviour the Tsarina continued to support him. Eventually in 1918 Rasputin was murdered by a group of noblemen.
The Bottom	<p>The soldiers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The railway system in the western provinces and Poland proved to be inadequate and Russia had only a limited railway link with the interior. The low level of technical and economic development produced an army suffering from the shortage of equipment – even boots – and trained personnel. Many soldiers often had no weapons at all; they were expected to arm themselves from the discarded weapons of the killed and wounded. The offensive of 1914 and 1915 produced staggering casualties, 2 million deaths in 1915 alone. As the army retreated, a refugee problem was created, for 3 million civilians retreated with the soldiers. Inadequate equipment and shortage of materials gradually undermined the morale of the army and caused many soldiers to desert. 	<p>The workers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Throughout much of the war the people in the cities faced severe food shortages. This was due to a number of factors, including bad harvests, poor transport systems and the <u>loss of large areas of fertile farming land to the Germans</u>. The food shortages meant that prices for food prices got higher and higher but workers wages did not keep pace with these rises. At the start of 1917 many workers and their families were facing starvation. The government tried to alleviate the situation by printing more money but this merely produced an inflationary spiral which merely encouraged peasants to resort to subsistence farming rather than waste time trying to make a profit, this in turn exacerbated the food shortages in the cities.

Task:

Produce a flow chart showing how the following factors link together:

- Army failings
- Transport problems
- Incompetence of Tsarina and Rasputin
- Inflation
- Incompetence of the Tsar
- Food shortages

Allied Setbacks and U.S. Action

Allied Setbacks

- While Americans trained, the Allies suffered a blow when a group called the Bolsheviks took over Russia's government.
- Bolsheviks were **Communists**, who seek equal distribution of wealth and no private ownership.
- The new government, led by Vladimir Ilich Lenin, signed a peace treaty with the Central Powers and withdrew its troops.
- Germany was free to focus on the West, and in May 1918 Germany launched a series of offensives against the Allies.
- Germans were backed by a large artillery, and by late May the Germans pushed the Allies back to the Marne River, 70 miles northeast of Paris.

The U.S. Fights

- American troops began fighting 12 months after arriving, digging extensive trenches in the dark to avoid detection.
- In the trenches, troops stood in deep mud with rats as enemies dropped gas and explosives.
- While defending Paris in June 1918, U.S. troops helped the French stop the Germans at Chateau-Thierry.
- In northern France, a division of U.S. Marines recaptured the forest of Belleau Wood and two nearby villages.
- After fierce fighting, the Allies halted the German advance and saved Paris.

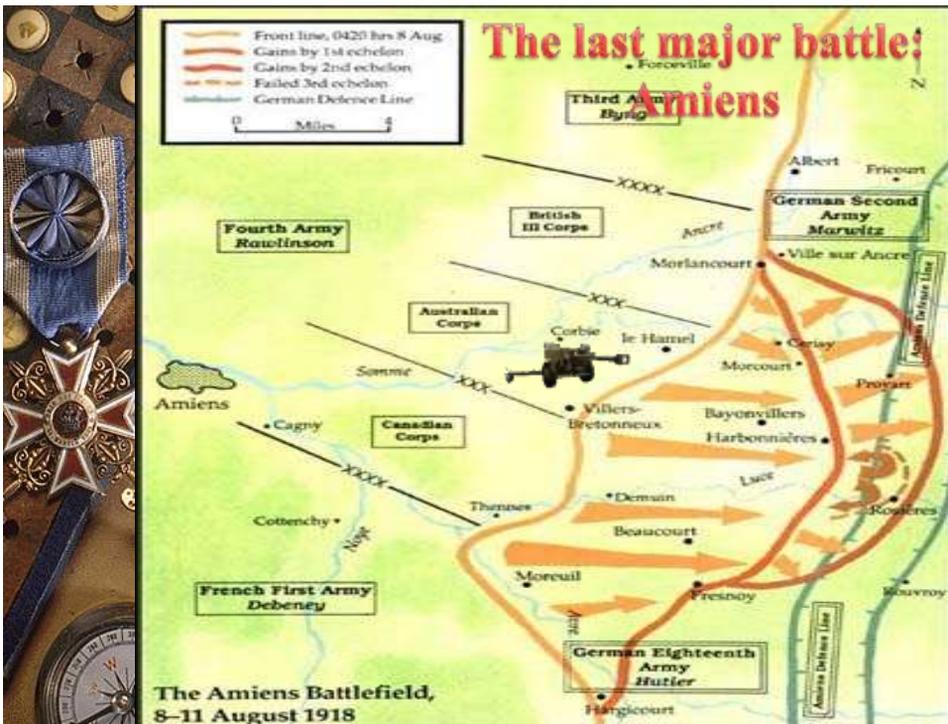
French and allied soldiers. Bergues.
(Northern France. September 2, 1917)



MAJOR BATTLES

QUICK FACTS

- 1 **Battle of Tannenberg, Aug. 1914**
Russia's worst defeat in World War I
- 2 **1st Battle of the Marne, Sept. 1914**
Allies halted the German advance and saved Paris from occupation
- 3 **1st Battle of Ypres, Oct.–Nov. 1914**
Last major German offensive until 1918
- 4 **Battle of Gallipoli, April–Dec. 1915**
Failed attempt of the Allies to knock the Ottoman Empire out of World War I
- 5 **Battle of Verdun, Feb.–Dec. 1916**
Longest battle of World War I with huge loss of life
- 6 **Battle of the Somme, July–Nov. 1916**
First major offensive for the British; remembered for its staggering loss of life
- 7 **3rd Battle of Ypres (Passchendaele), July–Nov. 1917**
British forces advanced just five miles at a cost of about 300,000 lives
- 8 **Battle of Caporetto, Oct.–Nov. 1917**
Tremendous victory for the Central Powers



THE FINAL DAYS OF THE WAR

The Germans' Last Offensive

- On July 14, 1918, the Germans launched their last offensive at the **Second Battle of the Marne**.
- U.S. blew up every bridge the Germans built across the Marne River, and the German army retreated on August 3, after suffering 150,000 casualties.
- The Allies began a counterattack in September 1918 and, fighting as a separate army for the first time, defeated German troops at **Mihiel**, near the French-German border.

Allies Push Forward

- Allies advanced toward the French city of Sedan on the Belgian border, which held the main German supply railway.
- By November, the Allies had reached and occupied the hills around Sedan.

The Armistice

- By 1918 the war crippled the German economy, causing food strikes and riots, and revolution swept across Austria-Hungary.
- The Central Powers lacked the will to continue and started to surrender.
- Austria-Hungary, and then Germany, surrendered, and the Allies demanded that Germany surrender its weapons and allow Allied occupation of some areas.



Warm Up: “Armistice - The End of World War I, 1918”

- **Directions:** Read “Armistice” from Eyewitnesshistory.com and then answer the following questions in a well organized, 150-word paragraph. **Due in 15 minutes:**
 - 1) Why did the German army begin to collapse in 1918?
 - 2) Why didn’t the celebrations immediately begin on the battle front when the armistice was signed?
 - 3) What were the lasting physical and psychological effects of the War upon the soldiers?



- **November 11, 1918**

The Germans sign the **Armistice** –cease-fire-- ending the war.

