

**Chapter 21****World War I (1914–1919)****What You Will Learn**

In 1914, a war broke out in Europe. Although the United States at first remained neutral, it eventually joined the war. World War I had important effects throughout the world.

**Chapter 21 Focus Question**

As you read this chapter, keep this question in mind: What were the causes and effects of World War I?

**Section 1****The Road to War****Section 1 Focus Question**

What were the causes of World War I? To begin answering this question,

- Understand the factors that led to the outbreak of war.
- Learn why World War I was so deadly.
- Find out how American neutrality was tested.
- Understand the events that led the U.S. into the war.

**Section 1 Summary**

As competition for colonies increased, European nations began to take sides in case war broke out. War finally erupted. The U.S. tried to remain neutral but later joined the  Allies .

**Origins of World War I**

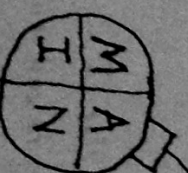
European  militarism , or the glorification of the military, grew in the early 1900s.  Nationalism , or pride in one's national or ethnic group, also rose. The Balkan countries became tense as Balkan nationalists sought independence from Austria-Hungry.  Two alliance systems  formed among European nations. On June 28, 1914, a  Serbian nationalist  killed the heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne, Archduke Franz Ferdinand. In July, Austria-Hungary invaded Serbia. The alliance system soon drew more than twenty nations into the war. Britain, France, and Russia led the  Allies . They fought against the  Central powers  of Germany, Austria-Hungary, and the Ottoman Empire. ✓

**Key Events**

1914	World War I begins in Europe.
1917	United States declares war on Germany.
1918	Armistice ends World War I.
1919	U.S. Senate rejects the Treaty of Versailles.

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"powder keg"

**✓ Checkpoint**

Name the two sides in World War I.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

### ✓ Checkpoint

List three factors that made World War I much deadlier than previous wars.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Why trench warfare?

maintain position; don't want to lose any ground

This unfavorable balance in trade caused problems.

### ✓ Checkpoint

Name two ethnic American groups that supported the Central powers.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

Do you think the Lusitania was carrying passengers ONLY?

### ✓ Checkpoint

State the event that prevented the United States from allying with a tyrant.

- World War I
- The war to end all wars
- The Great War
- The Trench War

### The Deadliest War

Everyone hoped for a quick victory. Both sides used new weapons that made the battles more deadly, however, which lengthened the war. (Airplanes, tanks, rapid-fire guns, and heavy artillery took a heavy toll.) Trench warfare, in which soldiers fired on one another from opposite lines of dugouts, was brutal. The most feared weapon was poison gas. ✓

### American Neutrality

Officially, the United States remained neutral, yet many German and Irish Americans supported the Central powers. Americans of British, Italian, and Slavic heritage generally supported the Allies. To strengthen American support, Britain used propaganda, or spreading stories about enemy brutality that were often exaggerated, or made up.

[American banks made loans to the Allies. U.S. businesses traded mostly with the Allies.] And in any case, Britain's naval blockade of Germany prevented U.S. merchant ships from entering German ports. Germany announced it would use U-boats, or submarines, to blockade Britain and France. On May 7, 1915, a U-boat sank the British passenger ship Lusitania, with 128 Americans aboard. Afraid that the United States would enter the war, Germany promised not to target neutral merchant ships or passenger liners. ✓

### Entering the War

Wilson was reelected in 1916 on the slogan "He kept us out of war." But in February 1917, the British intercepted the Zimmermann Telegram. In it, Germany asked Mexico to join the Central powers in exchange for help in regaining New Mexico, Texas, and Arizona. Americans were furious. Then U-boats sank three U.S. ships. In March, a revolution overthrew the Russian tsar. Wilson could now enter the war without fighting on the same side as a tyrant. On April 2, 1917, Congress declared war on the Central powers. ✓

### Check Your Progress

1. What event sparked World War I on June 28, 1914?

2. What three events led the United States into the war?



**Section 2****Supporting the War Effort****Key Events**

1914	World War I begins in Europe.
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1918	Armistice ends World War I.
1919	U.S. Senate rejects the Treaty of Versailles.

**Section 2 Focus Question**

- \* What steps did the U.S. government take to prepare the nation for war? To begin answering this question,
- Find out how the United States quickly mobilized.
  - Learn about the agencies that helped to manage the war.
  - Read how antiwar opinions were suppressed.

**Section 2 Summary**

After declaring war on the Central powers, the United States had to raise, train, and equip an army. It also had to coordinate industrial production and boost public support.

**Building the Military**

Although the United States had a large navy, its army was small. The nation had to quickly mobilize, or prepare for war. Many men volunteered to fight, but there were too few to build an army. Therefore, Congress passed the ~~Selective Service Act~~, which required men between the ages of 21 and 30 to register for the draft. By the end of the war, almost four million Americans had entered the armed services.

More than 30,000 women volunteered, most of them as nurses for the army and navy. Others did clerical work as members of the navy and marines. Some leading women were against the war. Jeannette Rankin, the first woman elected to Congress, refused to send men to fight because she, as a woman, was unable to do so. Suffragists, however, urged women to support the war effort. They hoped their contributions would help them gain the right to vote.

Many Native Americans, not yet U.S. citizens, volunteered. Some 380,000 African Americans also served, but only 10 percent saw combat. They were placed in segregated units. Several members of the Harlem Hell Fighters received France's highest medal for bravery.

For many soldiers from poor rural areas, the military was a great educator. The military taught these soldiers how to fight and read. The soldiers also learned about nutrition, personal hygiene, and patriotism. ✓

WOW!

**✓Checkpoint**

Name three groups of people who were not subject to the draft yet chose to volunteer for military service.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

## Managing the War Effort

President Wilson chose Herbert Hoover to head a new Food Administration. It made sure that there was enough food for troops and civilians. Many people planted "victory gardens" to grow their own food. Wilson also created the War Industries Board. The Board told industries what and how much to make, and how much to charge.

As immigration dropped and more men served in the military, industries experienced a severe labor shortage. Women and African Americans, who migrated to factories in the Midwest and Northeast, filled many of the jobs. ✓

## Shaping Public Opinion

Another government agency, the Committee on Public Information, kept public support high for the war. It

recruited "Four-Minute Men" to give patriotic speeches at movie theaters and ballparks. It hired artists to produce pro-war cartoons and posters, and movie stars to sell war bonds.

In contrast, criticism of the war was harshly suppressed.

[The Espionage Act of 1917 and the Sedition Act of 1918] closed newspapers and jailed people for expressing antiwar opinions. Eugene V. Debs, a labor leader and Socialist Party candidate for president, was among those jailed. Debs, who urged people not to support the war, made this ironic comment: "It is extremely dangerous to exercise the constitutional right of free speech in a country fighting to make democracy safe in the world." ← good point

Private organizations encouraged people to spy on their neighbors and report anyone who did not comply with pro-war behavior. The American Protective League hired 200,000 people to open mail, tap phones, and pry into medical records. German Americans, who were shunned and even attacked, probably suffered worst of all. ✓ That doesn't seem right

## Check Your Progress

1. What was the purpose of the Selective Service Act?
2. What steps did the Committee on Public Information take to promote pro-war support?

## Food is key

### ✓ Checkpoint

List two government agencies that helped manage resources during the war.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

### Reading Strategy

Review the bracketed paragraphs.



Underline the phrase that signals you are reading about contrasting ideas.

### Vocabulary Builder

When you *comply* with something, you go along with it. With what did the American people need to comply?

### ✓ Checkpoint

Name two acts that punished the expression of antiwar views.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_



## Section 3

## Americans at War

## Section 3 Focus Question

How did the arrival of American troops in Europe affect the course of the war? To begin answering this question,

- Learn how the first U.S. troops in Europe were received.
- Find out how the American troops aided the Allies.
- Read about President Wilson's plan for the armistice.

## Section 3 Summary

Russia is OUT!

German military might became stronger after making a treaty with Russia. Then the Americans joined the Allies, and together their combined efforts overcame the Central powers.

## Joining the Fight

From February through April 1917, German submarines sank 844 Allied ships. To get supplies from the United States, the Allies developed a convoy system. Allied destroyers accompanied large groups of merchant ships sailing together. This system greatly decreased Allied losses.

Meanwhile, American forces prepared to enter the war.

The American Expeditionary Force, as it was called in Europe, was under the leadership of John J. Pershing. On President Wilson's orders, Pershing insisted that American troops not integrate with Allied units. Wilson wanted the United States to make its own victorious showing. He believed this would allow the United States to influence the peace settlement. The first troops to arrive in Paris in June were not ready for combat. They did lift French morale, however, showing America's commitment to the war. ✓

## Setbacks and Advances

While the Allies waited for more American troops, their situation grew worse. Fighting bogged down on the Western Front. The Central powers won a major victory in Italy.

Then Russia's new government, under Bolshevik leader Vladimir Lenin, pulled out of the war and signed a peace treaty with Germany. Lenin wanted to concentrate on taking his country toward communism. This is an economic and political system based on the idea that social classes and

## Key Events

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## ✓ Checkpoint

Describe two ways the United States assisted the Allies.

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Why didn't Wilson want American troops to integrate with Allied units?

## Reading Strategy

Read the bracketed text. Think about the treaty it describes. Underline the two sentences that tell the effects of the treaty.



*Germany didn't have to fight a two front war anymore.*

### ✓ Checkpoint

Name the treaty that allowed Germany to concentrate solely on the Western Front.

14 Points — Wilson's Peace Plan  
(founded on principles of international cooperation.)

### Vocabulary Builder

To *abdicate* means "to give up a high position in government." What position did Wilhelm II abdicate?

### ✓ Checkpoint

Name the two nations that dictated the terms of the armistice.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

Private property should be eliminated. Russia and Germany signed the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk in March 1918. The treaty gave Germany about 30 percent of Russia's territory. Peace with Russia allowed Germany to move a huge number of troops to the Western Front. Germany hoped to defeat the Allies before the American troops arrived.

On March 21, 1918, the Germans launched a series of daring attacks. They moved through Belgium and into France. The situation became so grave that General Pershing turned over all U.S. resources to the French. He even allowed the French to command American troops. It was a good decision. Twice during that summer, American and Allied troops pushed the Germans back from the Marne River, keeping them away from Paris. By September, the Allies—including one million American soldiers—advanced against German positions in northeastern France. By November, the German defenses had crumbled. ✓

### The Armistice

Germany's leaders decided to seek an armistice, a halt in fighting, to discuss the conditions of a peace treaty. The remaining Central powers also agreed to an armistice.

*\* Food shortages played a huge part in Germany's surrendering. Why?*

Germany had hoped the settlement would be based on Wilson's peace plan, founded on principles of international cooperation. In the end, however, Wilson's plan had little effect. Instead, Britain and France dictated the terms of the agreement. Germany had to pull its troops from the Western Front, cancel the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk, and surrender all of its U-boats. At Wilson's urging, Kaiser Wilhelm II had to abdicate his throne so that Germany could develop a republic.

The armistice went into effect on November 11, 1918, at 11 A.M. The bloodiest and most brutal war the world had yet seen was over. About 10 million soldiers had died. Millions of other soldiers were maimed for life. Some historians think civilian deaths equaled the number of military deaths. ✓

### Check Your Progress

1. Why did Russia pull out of the war?

2. What were the terms of the armistice?



## Section 4

## Shaping the Peace

## Key Events

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## ✓ Checkpoint

List the three main ideas that the Fourteen Points addressed.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

## Section 4 Focus Question

How did the Treaty of Versailles and the League of Nations disappoint President Wilson? To answer this question,

- Learn about President Wilson's Fourteen Points.
- Find out how the Treaty of Versailles punished Germany.
- Learn why Congress rejected the League of Nations.

## Section 4 Summary

President Wilson insisted that the Treaty of Versailles set up a **peacekeeping body**. The treaty did set up the League of Nations. Congress, however, rejected U.S. membership in the League.

## ★ The Fourteen Points

President Wilson presented his peace plan, the Fourteen Points, to Congress before the war even ended. The first five points dealt with some of the causes of the war. Wilson called for an end to secret agreements. He sought freedom of the seas and free trade among nations. He asked for smaller armies, and a settlement of colonial claims. The next eight points dealt with territorial issues created by the war, especially self-determination for minority groups in Austria-Hungary and the Ottoman Empire. Under Wilson's plan, they would be able to decide for themselves what kind of government they would have. The fourteenth point was a call for an international peacekeeping body. ✓

## Peace Conference in Paris

League of Nations

Cheering crowds greeted President Wilson in Paris in January 1919. The war-weary population approved of Wilson's Fourteen Points. Not in agreement were the other three members of the **"Big Four"**—prime ministers Georges Clemenceau of France, David Lloyd George of Britain, and Vittorio Orlando of Italy. They had already signed secret treaties dividing up the colonies of the Central powers.

The final peace agreement, known as the Treaty of Versailles (ver si) forced Germany to accept full responsibility for the war and to pay huge reparations, or payments to cover war damages. Wilson disagreed with the harsh treaty,

but he went along with the Allies in order to win his international peacekeeping organization. The Versailles Treaty included an organization like the one in Wilson's plan. It was called the League of Nations. On June 28, 1919, Germany signed the treaty.

Other treaties led to Austria, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia becoming separate states. The Balkan peoples formed Yugoslavia. Poland became independent. Britain and France divided Germany's African colonies and the Middle Eastern lands of the Ottoman Empire. The Ottoman Empire became the new republic of Turkey. ✓

### Battle Over the League

The U.S. Senate strongly opposed the Treaty of Versailles. Senator Henry Cabot Lodge led the opposition. He felt that the League of Nations would limit America's ability to act independently in its own interests. He asked for changes that would reduce United States ties to the League. Wilson would not give in. Instead, he tried to rally public support for the League. He gave speeches around the country. Despite Wilson's efforts to save the League, he failed. The Senate voted against the Treaty of Versailles. This decision crippled the League of Nations' peacekeeping power. ✓

### Postwar Troubles

The postwar years were troubled times. A worldwide epidemic of influenza (flu) killed more people than the war had. Soldiers returning home could not find jobs. Union workers demanding higher wages went on strike. Many Americans thought the Communists, or "Reds," were behind the labor troubles. Attorney General Palmer ordered thousands of immigrants suspected of radical views to return to their home countries. Eventually the public turned against Palmer's tactics, and the panic ended. ✓

### Check Your Progress

1. Why did Wilson's Fourteen Points have little influence?
2. Why did Wilson agree to the Treaty of Versailles?

### ✓ Checkpoint

Name the "Big Four" and the nations they represented.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

### ✓ Checkpoint

Name the U.S. senator who led the opposition to the Treaty of Versailles.

### Vocabulary Builder

A person with *radical* views usually promotes extreme political, economic, or social changes. What radical view did the Americans fear during the postwar years?

### ✓ Checkpoint

List three major problems the United States faced after World War I.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_



## Chapter 21 Assessment

**Directions:** Circle the letter of the correct answer.

- Who made up the Central powers?  
**A** Germany, Italy, Japan  
**B** Germany, Austria-Hungary, Italy  
**C** Germany, Austria-Hungary, Ottoman Empire
- Which of the following was *not* a result of World War I?  
**A** the League of Nations  
**B** Communist ideology  
**C** the breakup of the Ottoman Empire
- Woodrow Wilson supported  
**A** dividing Germany.    **B** secret treaties.    **C** League of Nations.

**Directions:** Follow the steps to answer this question:

**Which minority peoples of Central Europe gained the right to determine their own government as a result of the Treaty of Versailles?**

**Step 1:** Recall information: In the chart, list the colonial status before and after the war.

Nation	Pre-War Colonies	Post-War Changes
Germany	Controlled colonies in _____	Lost _____
Austria-Hungary	Controlled _____	Lost _____ Became _____
Ottoman Empire	Controlled _____	Lost _____ Became _____
Britain	<u>had colonial empire throughout world</u>	Gained half of _____
France	<u>had colonies in West Africa and West Indies</u>	Gained half of _____

**Step 2:** List the minority peoples who gained self-determination after the war.

Gained Self-determination	Did Not Gain Self-determination

**Step 3:** Complete the topic sentence that follows. Then write two or three sentences summarizing the degree to which Wilson's point calling for self-determined governments was fulfilled.

The Treaty of Versailles allowed \_\_\_\_\_

# Chapter 21 Notetaking Study Guide

Now you are ready to answer the Chapter 21 Focus Question: **What were the causes and effects of World War I?**

► Complete the charts to help you answer this question. Use the notes that you took for each section.

Causes of World War I		
<b>Imperialism</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Germany had colonies in _____.</li> <li>Austria-Hungary ruled _____.</li> <li>Ottoman Empire ruled other nationalities in the <u>Middle East and Africa</u>.</li> </ul>	<b>Nationalism</b> <p>Ethnic groups in the <u>Balkan</u> region wanted to free themselves of _____.</p>	<b>Alliance Systems</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>_____ and _____ formed the Central powers.</li> <li>The nations of _____, and _____ formed the Allies.</li> </ul>

## World War I Begins

On June 28, 1914, a Serbian nationalist assassinated \_\_\_\_\_ of Austria-Hungary. As a result, Austria-Hungary declared war on \_\_\_\_\_, Britain, France, and \_\_\_\_\_ came to its aid. Germany, and later the Ottoman Empire, \_\_\_\_\_.

## Events that Brought America into the War

At first, America \_\_\_\_\_, allowing it to trade with both sides, although most American trade and banking helped the \_\_\_\_\_. President Wilson cut off diplomatic relations with Germany when Germany \_\_\_\_\_.

America finally entered the war after Germany tried to get Mexico to join forces with the Central Powers and \_\_\_\_\_.

## Results of the Allied Victory

The Treaty of Versailles punished \_\_\_\_\_ and changed the map of Europe. Germany had to pay \_\_\_\_\_ and lost \_\_\_\_\_. Austria-Hungary and the Ottoman Empire were \_\_\_\_\_. The Treaty established a peacekeeping organization called the \_\_\_\_\_. The U.S. rejected \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.

Refer to this page to answer the Unit 7 Focus Question on page 347.