

BY CIARAN O'CONNELL

# GCSE History Paper 1 Revision Guide

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Revision Guide

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Covering the 1st World War, the Treaty of Versailles, the League of Nations, the Causes of the 2nd World War and the Cold war from 1945-62

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# SECTION A: INTERNATIONAL HISTORY

## THE PEACE SETTLEMENT

### THE PARIS PEACE CONFERENCE, 1919



*From LEFT to RIGHT: George Clemenceau, Woodrow Wilson, and David Lloyd George*

#### The Main Concerns

1. **Millions** of people were **dead** or **injured**; countries like Belgium and France were **devastated**; the main powers had **spent too much** money on the War.
2. Many people wanted Germany to take all the **blame**, especially in Britain and in France most of all – Germany **wasn't allowed** to take part in the talks but most Germans **didn't accept** this.
3. Everyone wanted to make sure a war like this **wouldn't happen again**, but they **couldn't agree** on how this could be done – the system of Alliances had obviously **failed**.

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### The 'Big Three' – France, Britain and the USA

1. All 3 countries had ideas about the Peace – and they often **disagreed**.
2. So a **compromise** was reached – only some of their ideas became part of the settlement.
3. The key fact to remember is that the French had **suffered badly**, and the British **also suffered** – this meant they both wanted to **punish** the Germans.
4. People in the USA **didn't suffer** in the same way – they were more detached and wanted to stay **impartial**.
  - George Clemenceau, **French P.M.** – Punish Germany hard to keep France safe.
  - David Lloyd George, **British P.M.** – Punish Germany but not too much.
  - Woodrow Wilson, **US President** – Let's be generous, to stop wars happening again

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### Wilson's 14 points

1. President Wilson had come up with the **Fourteen Points** in **January 1918** when the Germans were asking for a truce.
2. Germany had **rejected** them, but when the fighting ended in November they hoped that the **peace settlement** would be based on them.
3. The Allies **refused** because the Germans had rejected them before.
4. But the Fourteen Points were an important part of the **peace process** – especially point 14 which called for a **League of Nations** to settle disputes. This was going to become very important between the two World Wars.



# THE VERSAILLES TREATY, JUNE 1919

THE TREATY OF VERSAILLES WAS SIGNED ON 28TH JUNE 1919

## Terms of the Treaty

### MILITARY

1. The German **Army** was restricted to **100,000 men**
2. The German **Navy** was restricted to **6 battleships** and **no submarines**.
3. Germany was not allowed to have an **air force**

### FINANCIAL AND ECONOMICAL

1. Germany was not allowed to join the **Covenant of the League of Nations**
2. Germany had to accept **full responsibility** for causing all the **loss** and **damage** of the 1<sup>st</sup> World War
3. Germany would have to pay **reparations** – which were later set at **£6.6 billion**

### TERRITORIAL [LAND LOST TO OTHER COUNTRIES]

1. **Alsace** and **Lorraine** was given to **France**
2. **North Schleswig** was given to **Denmark**
3. **Eupen** and **Malmedy** was given to **Belgium**
4. **Posen**, **Silesia** and **West Prussia** was given to **Poland**. This was known as a '**corridor**' to the Baltic Sea, which cut **East Prussia** off from Germany
5. **Germany** was forbidden from **Anschluss** (unification) with **Austria**
6. The **Rhineland** was **demilitarised**
  1. Germany **wasn't allowed** to have troops there since it was close enough to invade France and Belgium from.

### TERRITORIAL [LAND LOST TO THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS]

1. Germany lost all her **colonies** and was given as **Mandates** to **Britain** and **France**.
2. The **Saar coalfields** were given to France for 15 years
3. **Danzig** became a **free port** ran by the League of Nations
4. **Memel** was given to **Lithuania**

# REACTIONS TO THE TREATY OF VERSAILLES

## The Impact on Germany

1. Could not **afford** reparations.
2. Did not **accept** defeat.
3. Didn't accept **guilt** for starting the war
4. Lost **industrial** areas and could not **rebuild**
5. Suffering **economic crisis**.
6. Lost **pride** without **armed forces**.
7. Lost **colonies**
8. Saw other countries **weren't** disarming
9. Many Germans now living under **foreign rule** in '**new**' countries

## Problems were building up for the future

1. Europe **couldn't recover** properly while countries like Germany remained **poor**.
2. Self determination would be **difficult** in new countries like Poland and Czechoslovakia where many people from **different nationalities** had been '**thrown together**' as an '**artificial**' country.
3. German **resentment** would lead to **trouble** in the future
4. Without German, Russia, or the USA in the **League of Nations**, it'd be **hard** to keep the peace.

## OTHER PEACE SETTLEMENTS, 1919 - 1920

### Austria - TREATY OF SAINT GERMAIN (10 SEPT 1919)

1. TERMS OF DISARMAMENT:
  - **30,000** volunteers, **no navy**.
2. AMOUNT OF REPARATION:
  - **Reparations** agreed, but never set.
3. LAND LOST:
  - The Austro-Hungarian Empire was **dismantled**.
  - Tyrol lost to **Italy**.
4. NEW COUNTRIES FORMED:
  - **Poland, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia and Romania**

### Hungary - TREATY OF TRIANON (4 JUNE 1920)

1. TERMS OF DISARMAMENT:
  - **5,000** volunteers, **three** patrol boats
2. AMOUNT OF REPARATION:
  - **200 million** gold crowns
3. LAND LOST:
  - The Austro-Hungarian Empire was **dismantled**
4. NEW COUNTRIES FORMED:
  - **Poland, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia and Romania**

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## **Bulgaria - TREATY OF NEUILLY (27 NOV 1919)**

1. TERMS OF DISARMAMENT:
  - **20,000** volunteers, **four** torpedo boats, **no** air force
2. AMOUNT OF REPARATION:
  - **2.25 billion** francs
3. LAND LOST TO:
  - **Yugoslavia, Romania and Greece**
4. NEW COUNTRIES FORMED:
  - n/a

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## **Turkey – TREATY OF SÈVRES (10 AUG 1920)**

1. TERMS OF DISARMAMENT:
  1. **50,000** soldiers, **seven** sailboats and **six** torpedo boats
2. AMOUNT OF REPARATION:
  2. **None**
3. LAND LOST:
  3. **Smyrna** and **East Thrace** to Greece, **Rhodes** to Italy
4. NEW COUNTRIES FORMED:
  4. **Kurdistan, Armenia, Hejaz (Arabia). Iraq and Palestine** became British mandates. **Syria** became a French mandate.

# THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

## THE CREATION OF THE LEAGUE

THE LEAGUE CAME FROM THE **FOURTEEN POINTS**. IT BEGAN WORK IN **JANUARY 1920**

### The Leagues Main Aims

- A** 1. Stopping **Aggression**
- C** 2. Encouraging **Cooperation**
- D** 3. **Disarmament**
- C** 4. **Improving** living and working **Conditions**

### The League

#### THE ASSEMBLY

- Each Country had **1 vote**.
- Could only **recommend** to council.
- Met **once** a year

#### THE COUNCIL

- Met **3 times** per year, or at times of **emergency**
- **5 permanent** members – **BRITAIN, FRANCE, ITALY, JAPAN, GERMANY (1926)**
- Also had **4 permanent members**.

#### SECRETARIAT

- Carried out **the work** of the league
- Like a **civil service**

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## COMMISSIONS

- Mandates
- Refugees
- World Health Organisation

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## INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION

- To improve **working conditions**

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## PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE

- Dealt with **internal affairs**
- Decided on **border-disputes** between different countries
- Everyone hoped this would **avoid** another major war

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## MEMBERS

- There were **42 members** to start with, and **59** by the **1930s**
- All the members followed a **Covenant** of 26 rules

## SUCESSES & FAILURES OF THE LEAGUE, IN THE 1920<sub>s</sub>

### The Leagues Early Successes

1. It **resolved** several difficult situations where countries argued over territorial claims – and it did it **without** fighting
  - It solved the dispute in **1921** between **Germany** and **Poland** over **Upper Silesia**
  - The dispute between **Sweden** and **Finland** over the **Aaland Islands** in **1921**
  - The conflict when **Greece** invaded **Bulgaria** in **1925**
2. These **successes** gave it a **good reputation**

### The Corfu Incident **1923**

1. The **Italian** leader **Mussolini** occupied the Greek island **Corfu** in **1923** after the murder of an **Italian diplomat**.
2. He demanded **financial compensation** and an **apology** from Greece
3. **The League** demanded that the money should be **paid** to them
4. But Mussolini got the decision **overturned** and received **both** the money and the apology he wanted
5. The League seemed to be **weak**.

# PROBLEMS WITH THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

## The USA didn't join in the League

- Congress **rejected** the League. The USA never became a member.
- 1. The people of America **hadn't liked** the Versailles treaty, and **refused** to accept it. They thought the League of Nations was **connected** to it.
- 2. They believed it would be **too expensive** – many people wanted to **stay out** of Europe, and wanted only to worry about US affairs. This attitude was called **isolationism**
- 3. Many thought that all people should be **free under democracy**, and weren't willing to be dragged into wars to help countries like Britain and France keep **undemocratic colonies**.
- 4. Wilson's **political enemies** wanted to make him **unpopular** and get rid of him

## The League wasn't powerful enough

1. Britain and France were in charge, but **neither** country was **strong enough** after the War to do the job **properly**.
2. Economic and military **sanctions** could only work if a **powerful** nation like the USA was applying them, but most countries were still busy rebuilding after the War.
3. **Germany** and **Russia** were not allowed to be members when the League first formed.
4. The League had **no army** of its own, and most members **didn't want** to **commit** troops to war. Some countries like Italy were quite prepared to **ignore** the league if they wanted to.
5. The **organisation** was a disaster – in the Assembly and Council **everyone** had to **agree** before anything could happen so it was **hard** to reach decisions.
6. The **Court of Justice** had **no powers** to make a country act



## MORE INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS, 1921 - 1929

### The main agreements, 1921-1929

#### WASHINGTON CONFERENCE 1921

- USA, BRITAIN and FRANCE **reduced** size of **Navies**

#### RAPALLO TREATY 1922

- Russia and Germany resumed **diplomatic relations**

#### GENEVA PROTOCOL 1924

- Tried to make countries **use the League** to sort out disputes

#### DAWES PLAN 1924

- USA Plan to **lend money** to Germany and **extend payments**

#### LOCARNO TREATIES 1925

- Germany **agreed to western borders** set at Versailles

#### KELLOGG-BRIAND PACT 1928

- **65 nations** agreed **not to use force** to settle arguments

#### YOUNG PLAN 1929

- **Reduced reparations** by **75%** gave Germany **59 years** to pay

### A chance of peace

1. The **Washington Conference** showed that some countries were determined to begin a process of **weapons reduction**.
2. The **Geneva Protocol** seemed to be strengthening the League.
3. The **Dawes Plan** and the **Young Plan** were helping Germany to recover – this would create **increased trade** and **cooperation**.

4. The **Locarno Treaties** suggested that Germany was at last prepared to **accept** the terms of the Versailles Treaty – the Germans **joined the League of Nations** in **1926**.
5. The **Kellogg-Briand Pact** seemed to be a step towards lasting peace.

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### **These agreements had problems**

1. After the Washington Conference, **nobody** wanted to **reduce** arms further – the League had **failed** in its disarmament plans. Defeated countries were **angry** they had been forced to disarm.
2. The **benefits** of the Dawes and Young Plans were **wiped out** by the economic **Depression** which was soon to affect everybody.
3. Countries began to make agreements **without** the League of Nations because they **didn't trust** it to be effective – France made treaties with several countries because it **didn't trust** Germany. The Locarno Treaties had **nothing** to do with the League of Nations
4. Germany **agreed** to its **Western Borders** at Locarno, but **nothing** was said about the **East** – worrying Czechoslovakia and Poland.
5. No-one knew what'd happen if a country **broke** the Kellogg-Briand Pact

# CAUSES OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup> WORLD WAR

## THE MANCHURIAN CRISIS, 1931 - 1933

THIS WAS THE FIRST **MAJOR CHALLENGE** FOR THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS, AND THE WHOLE WORLD SAW IT **FAIL** TO CONFRONT THE **JAPANESE AGGRESSION**.

### Why Japan invaded China

1. Japan's **economy** had suffered from the **decline** in trade after the **Wall St. Crash** of **1929**
2. The military leaders of Japan decided that the only **solution** to their **economic problems** was **military expansion** at the expense of **China**

### Japanese Aggression led to the Manchurian Crisis

1. Japan had a **large** army and navy. Since **1905**, it had **controlled** the territory of the **South Manchurian Railway (SMR)**.
2. In **September 1931**, the Japanese claimed an explosion near **Mukden** on the SMR was **sabotage** by the Chinese.
3. It used this as an excuse to **take** Mukden and **send** its troops to **overrun** the rest of Manchuria.

### What the League of Nations did

1. The League of Nations sent **Lord Lytton** to **assess** the situation.
2. The **Lytton Commission** took a **year** to produce the report
3. **The report** which said the Japanese had been in the **wrong**
4. It ordered Japan to **return** Manchuria to China.
5. The League was **unable** to place **economic sanctions** on the Japanese because Japan's **main** trading partner was the **USA**.
6. Britain and France were **not prepared** to send an army because it was **too far from Europe**.

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## Japans response

1. Japan **refused** to accept the report and **withdrew** from the League in **1933**.
2. The Japanese then **took** Jehol.
3. They set up a **puppet government** in Manchuria, under the new name **Manchukuo**
4. They **pretended** to give Manchuria independence with a weak ruler called **Pu Yi** in charge – so that they could **control** him.
5. Japan signed a **treaty** with **Germany** in **1936**
6. In **1937** Japan started to **invade** China – again the League did **nothing** to stop it.

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## The League was weakened

1. It showed the weakness of the League not having **a force of its own** to enforce its decisions.
2. It **did not** mark the end of League because Manchuria was **too far** from Europe.
3. However **dictators** like **Hitler** and **Mussolini** saw the obvious **weakness** of the League.
4. The **success** of Japan therefore **encouraged** others to **try** the same solution to answer their **economic problems** because of the Depression

## THE INVASION OF ABYSSINIA, 1935

ANOTHER COUNTRY ADDING TO INTERNATIONAL TENSION WAS **ITALY**. **MUSSOLINI** CAME TO POWER IN **1922**. HE THEN BEGAN TO TURN THE COUNTRY INTO A **DICTATORSHIP**.

### Why Italy invaded Abyssinia

1. Italy had been **defeated** by Abyssinia in **1896** and the Italians wanted **revenge**.
2. Abyssinia (now Ethiopia) was **well-positioned** for Italy to add to her lands in Africa.
3. Mussolini had seen Japan **'get away'** with the Manchurian invasion **despite** the League of Nations' threats
4. He dreamed of making Italy a **great Empire** again.

### The Invasion

1. The **invasion** of Abyssinia **began** in **October 1935**.
2. The League of Nations **imposed** economic **sanctions** – but delayed banning oil exports in case the USA didn't support them.
3. Britain and France **didn't close** the **Suez Canal** to Italian ships – so supplies got through anyway.
4. The League continued to **argue**, but by **May 1938** Italy had **conquered** all of Abyssinia

### The Results of the Invasion

1. The League of Nations had **failed** to protect Abyssinia – its credibility was destroyed.
2. Italy became more **confident** – Mussolini and Hitler agreed the **Rome-Berlin Axis** in **1936**
3. In **1937** Italy **joined** Japan and Germany in the **Anti-Comintern Pact**.
4. Italy also attacked **Albania** in **1938**
5. And signed the **Pact of Steel** with Hitler in **1939**

# THE FAILURE OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS HAD **FAILED** TO **PREVENT** WAR OR **SOLVE** INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES

## The League didn't achieve its original aims

1. To prevent **aggression**
2. To encourage **co-operation**
3. To work towards **disarmament**
4. To prevent a major **war** breaking out again
5. The League did have some **success** in **improving the lives** of ordinary people around the world.
  - **Combating Slavery** and **poor working conditions**
  - But this **wasn't** its main purpose

## Arguments in defence of the League of Nations

1. Once the USA **pulled out**, Britain and France had a very difficult task – when they **weren't** that **strong** themselves; after the war.
2. It was **hard** to enforce **sanctions** if nobody else **wants** to do it.
3. The **Depression** made the political situation **tougher** worldwide – it was **nobody's** fault
4. **No organisation** could have **stopped** leaders like Mussolini or Hitler peacefully. Italy and Germany were members themselves, and could have worked harder for the League instead of against it. The same was true of Japan.
5. The League of Nations had to **defend** the treaty of Versailles made after World War I, which many countries though were **unfair**.

## Arguments against the League of Nations

1. The **Manchurian** crisis was the turning point – the League should have **resisted** Japan.
2. Too many members **didn't** keep to the **rules**. When they were attacked for it, they simply **left** the League; e.g. Germany and Japan **1933**, Italy **1937**.
3. Britain and France **didn't lead strongly**, and were often very **slow** to do things.

4. Members of the League who could have **opposed** aggression **didn't** want to **risk** a war.
5. **Ambitious** members like Hitler and Mussolini **weren't dealt** with strongly enough.
6. A US President had invented the idea but the **USA** didn't even **join**.
7. Instead of co-operation, the League allowed the old system of **Alliances** to creep back – all the main members were **guilty** of making **secret alliances**.

## Pros

Early minor **successes** in preserving **peace** between minor powers

Helped European **rebuilding** and aided **refugees** of the war

**Improved** health & labour **conditions** around the world

USA **supported it** with loans

Kellog-Briand Pact **1938** made a general statement **against war**

Provided the **groundwork** for the **United Nations**

## Cons

Rise of dictators

Manchurian crisis **1931**

Failure of disarmament conference **1932**

Germany and Japan left **1933**

Abyssinian crisis **1935**

Rome-Berlin Axis **1936**

German aggression

Italy left **1937**

USSR left **1939**

Spanish civil war **1936-9**

Powerless to prevent World War II

# ADOLF HITLER

THE KEY FIGURE IN EUROPE WAS NOW **ADOLF HITLER – GERMAN LEADER SINCE 1933**. HE WANTED TO **REVERSE** THE RESULTS OF THE **VERSAILLES TREATY**, AND BRING ALL THE FORMER GERMAN PEOPLES BACK UNDER HIS **CONTROL**

## The Rhineland, 1936

1. The Rhineland had been **demilitarised** by the **Treaty of Versailles**. Germany had accepted this by signing the **Locarno Treaties** in **1925**.
2. But Hitler decided to gamble. The **League of Nations** was busy with the **Italian invasion of Abyssinia**.
3. Russia and France had recently made a **treaty** against future German attacks. Hitler claimed that this **threatened Germany**, and he should therefore be allowed to put troops on Germany's borders.
4. Hitler believed many people in **Britain** felt the Treaty of Versailles had been **unfair** – so Britain wouldn't get involved. But he was **unsure** how France would react.
5. The German forces had orders to **pull out immediately** if the French army moved in. But **nothing happened**. The League of Nations **condemned** the act, Britain protested but **refused to act** and France was in the middle of an **election campaign** – so none of the politicians wanted to be responsible for **starting a war** with Germany.

**HITLER HAD BROKEN PART OF THE TREATY OF VERSAILLES AND NO ONE HAD TRIED TO STOP HIM.**

## Austria, 1934 - 1938

1. Hitler wanted unification (**Anschluss**) between Austria and Germany. He believed they **belonged together**.
2. In **1934** a **Nazi revolt** in Austria **failed**, after Mussolini sent troops to the Italian border to **warn** Hitler against sending his own forces in.
3. But by **1936**, Hitler and Mussolini were **allies** – and in **1937** Mussolini told the Austrian Chancellor **Schuschnigg** that Italy **would not defend** Austria from attack.
4. Hitler **encouraged** Austrian **Nazis** to stage **demonstrations** and **protests** – and Schuschnigg's government soon **couldn't control** them.
5. In **February 1938**, Hitler gave a **list of demands** to Schuschnigg. He demanded that an Austrian Nazi **Seyss-Inquart** should be made **Minister of the Interior**, controlling the police
6. Instead, Schuschnigg decided to call a **national vote** (plebiscite) on whether Austria should remain independent. But Hitler **couldn't be sure** he'd get the result he wanted
7. Hitler demanded **Schuschnigg's resignation** – or Germany would **invade**. Schuschnigg couldn't take the risk – he and his cabinet **resigned**, except for Seyss-Inquart



8. In **March 1938** Seyss-Inquart **invited** the German army into Austria to “restore order.”
9. On **March 15<sup>th</sup>**, Hitler entered Vienna to proclaim the **Greater German Reich**. Austria and Germany were **united**.

### Czechoslovakia, 1938

*WHEN THE WESTERN POWERS DIDN'T STOP HITLER IN AUSTRIA, THE CZECHOSLOVAKIAN GOVERNMENT BECAME AFRAID THAT HITLER WOULD SOON TRY TO TAKE OVER THE LARGELY GERMAN-SPEAKING SUDETENLAND*

1. **Czechoslovakia's** borders had been set up by the Treaty of Versailles. The **Sudetenland** was a part of Czechoslovakia which had a large population of Germans – about **3.5 million**
2. The Czech leader, **Benes**, asked **Britain** and **France** for support if Hitler invaded. The French had guaranteed the Czech borders in the **Locarno Treaties** of **1925**, and so they agreed.
3. Britain also **agreed**, but the British Prime Minister **Neville Chamberlain** asked Hitler if he planned to attack Czechoslovakia. Hitler gave him his “**word of honour**” that Czechoslovakia had “**nothing to fear**”.
4. But soon Hitler claimed that the Germans in the Sudetenland were being **discriminated against** by the Czech government. The Nazi party organised **demonstrations** in the Sudetenland demanding that the area should become **part of Germany**.
5. In **May 1938** Hitler threatened to **go to war**. Since Czechoslovakia had promises of **support** from Britain, France and the **USSR** (who were also worried about Hitler); Benes was ready to fight.
6. But Chamberlain and the French Prime Minister Daladier **put pressure** on the Czechs to give **concessions** to Hitler to avoid a war. Even so, war seemed **inevitable**.



*Adolf Hitler [RIGHT]  
greeted Neville  
Chamberlain [LEFT]  
at Munich in  
September 1938*

# CHAMBERLAIN AND THE POLICY OF APPEASEMENT

## Czechoslovakia, 1938 (CONTINUED)

1. People in France and Britain prepared for **war** – **gas masks** were issued, and **air-raid shelters** were built in preparation.
2. During **September 1938**, Chamberlain **flew twice** to Germany, where he met with Hitler to **negotiate**.
3. But Hitler kept **changing his demands**, and set a date of **1<sup>st</sup> October** to “rescue” the Sudeten Germans. Chamberlain said this was **unreasonable**, and the British Navy was mobilised ready for war.
4. Then on **29 September** Hitler invited Chamberlain, Daladier and Mussolini to a **conference** in Munich. Mussolini put forward a **plan** (really written by the **German Foreign Office**).
5. After discussions the four leaders produced the **Munich Agreement**. This **gave** the Sudetenland to Germany but guaranteed the **rest** of Czechoslovakia.
6. The Czechs and the USSR were **not invited** to the conference.
7. Chamberlain flew home to a **hero's welcome** after seemingly preventing a war. He claimed the agreement meant “**peace in our time**”, whereas Churchill thought it was “**a defeat without a war.**”

*THE MUNICH AGREEMENT LASTED UNTIL MARCH 1939, WHEN HITLER'S TROOPS ENTERED CZECHOSLOVAKIA*

## The Munich Agreement was an example of appeasement

*BRITAIN'S FOREIGN POLICY DURING THE 1930S WAS ABOUT APPEASEMENT – GIVING AGGRESSIVE COUNTRIES LIKE GERMANY OR ITALY WHAT THEY WANTED IN ORDER TO AVOID A MAJOR WAR*

- At Munich, Chamberlain **gave in** to Hitler's demands to keep the peace. He appeared to believe Hitler's promises that he wouldn't try to take more of Czechoslovakia.
- But the Czechs **weren't** even **consulted**.
- The USSR was **horrified** when Britain and France gave in to Hitler.

### Why Appeasement was popular

1. No one in Britain **wanted a war**, and many people felt the **Treaty of Versailles** had been **unfair** to Germany – So Hitler should be allowed to redress the balance.
2. Many British politicians feared **Communism** and the **USSR** much more than Hitler – they wanted Germany to be **strong** to act as a buffer between Britain and the USSR
3. Britain was also **economically weak** and its armed forces **weren't very strong**. Chamberlain speeded up British **rearmament** after Munich – some historians say that he gave in to Hitler at Munich in order to **buy time** for rearming. But other historians say Munich was a **big mistake**.

### In March 1939 Hitler took over the rest of Czechoslovakia

1. After losing the Sudetenland, Czechoslovakia began to descend into **anarchy**. Slovakia began to demand **independence**.
2. Hitler persuaded the Czech president to **allow German troops in** to “restore order”
3. Britain and France **did nothing** – but it was clear that the appeasement policy had **failed**. Hitler had **broken his promises** and taken non-German lands.

## POLAND, 1939

### The USSR made a pact with Hitler

1. The Soviet Union had **joined** the League of Nations in **1934**, and had also signed a **treaty** with France in **1935** **against** Hitler – mainly because Stalin was **suspicious** of the Fascists
2. But the USSR **never trusted** the French, and **couldn't** understand why nobody stood up to Hitler earlier.
3. After Munich, Stalin decided to **negotiate** with Germany in order to **protect** the USSR.
4. The **NAZI-SOVIET PACT** was signed in **August 1939**. The USSR and Germany agreed **not** to attack each other. They also **planned** to carve up another country – **Poland**.
5. If Germany invaded Poland, the USSR would get Latvia, Estonia, Finland, and East Poland – but Hitler **never** really **intended** to let them keep those areas.

**ON 1<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER 1939 HITLER INVADED POLAND. THIS WAS TOO MUCH – BRITAIN AND FRANCE ORDERED HIM TO LEAVE.**

**HE IGNORED THEM AND BRITAIN DECLARED WAR ON GERMANY ON 3<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER 1939**

# THE COLD WAR, 1945 - 1962

## PLANNING THE POST-WAR FUTURE, 1945

TWO MAIN **SUMMITS** WERE HELD BETWEEN THE **BIG THREE** ALLIES (BRITAIN, AMERICA AND THE USSR) DURING **1945** TO DECIDE ON THE FUTURE OF GERMANY AND EASTERN EUROPE – THE **YALTA** CONFERENCE AND THE **POTSDAM** CONFERENCE

### Yalta, Feb 1945

#### THREE MAJOR DECISIONS

1. Germany was to be **split** into 4 zones of occupation controlled by America, Britain, France and the USSR
2. **Free elections** for new governments would be held in the countries in Eastern Europe that had been occupied by Germany.
3. The **United Nations** would **replace** the failed League of Nations

#### ISSUES THAT EMERGED

1. There was disagreement about the new **boundaries of Poland**. During the war, Churchill and Roosevelt had promised Stalin much of Eastern Poland, but by the end of the war, Britain and the USA were **reluctant** to give it to him. Stalin disregarded Yalta and **did not allow free elections** in Poland.
2. America **refused** to give the USSR the **loans** it had promised to help Russian reconstruction, unless Stalin allowed America to **export goods** to Soviet-controlled Eastern Europe.
3. Stalin wanted Germany to pay the USSR **reparations** for the war. Some reparations were agreed, but Stalin wanted the payments to be in the form of German **coal**. America wanted the coal to be used to rebuild Europe, and Russian demands were ignored.
4. The USSR began to ruthlessly **exploit** their zone of occupation. Germans in the Soviet zone were only allowed to sell their **food and raw materials** to the Soviet Union. Some German **factories** were even dismantled and moved to the USSR.

#### Events between Yalta and Potsdam

1. President Roosevelt died and was succeeded by **Harry Truman**, who was very **suspicious** of Soviet motives in Europe.
2. Winston Churchill had been **replaced** as Prime Minister of Britain by **Clement Attlee** after Labour won the General Election.
3. **Soviet territory** had **expanded 300 miles** westwards **taking land** from Finland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Czechoslovakia and Romania and set up a **communist government** in Poland
4. The USA had tested an **atom bomb**

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## Potsdam, August 1945

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### AGREEMENTS

1. The new **boundaries** of Poland were **agreed**.
2. The allies decided to **divide** Germany and Berlin between them.
3. They agreed to legal **trials** at Nuremburg of Nazi leaders for **war crimes**.

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### DIVISION BETWEEN THE ALLIES

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#### STALIN

- Wanted to keep Germany **weak**.
- Claimed **compensation** from Germany for the damage done to the USSR during the war.
- Wanted to set up **communist** governments in **Eastern Europe** so that they would be **friendly** to the USSR and help to **protect** her frontier

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#### THE WESTERN ALLIES (USA, BRITAIN AND FRANCE)

- Wanted to see Germany **strong** to act as a **barrier** against the expansion of **Soviet Russia**.
- The West **helped** their zones of Germany to **recover** whereas Stalin took the **resources** of East Germany for the USSR.

# INCEASING TENSION BETWEEN THE USA AND THE USSR

## 3 Reasons for tension between the USA and the USSR

1. Stalin was determined to **force Communism** onto Poland and other Eastern European countries.
2. The USA deliberately **didn't tell** the USSR about the development and plan to use the **atom bomb** on Japan. This made the USSR **suspicious** of the USA.
3. Stalin wanted **compensation** from Germany for the damage done to the USSR in the war. Truman thought this would be a **repeat of the mistakes** made after the First World War.

THE USA AND THE USSR WERE NOW THE MAJOR WORLD **SUPERPOWERS** – EVERYONE ELSE WAS MUCH WEAKER AFTER THE WAR.

IN A SPEECH IN THE USA, WINSTON CHURCHILL WARNED THAT THERE WAS NOW AN **IRON CURTAIN** SEPERATING EASTERN AND WESTERN EUROPE.



<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/popimage.shtml?http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/history/images/hi07003.gif>

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## The USA was worried about the spread of communism

IN 1947, PRESIDENT TRUMAN WAS DETERMINED TO HALT THE SPREAD OF COMMUNISM IN TWO MAIN WAYS

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### THE TRUMAN DOCTRINE

- This promised that the USA would **support** any nation **threatened** by a Communist takeover
- The USA and Britain had already ensured the failure of the Communists during the **Greek Civil War** in 1947.
- Truman presented the doctrine as a **contest** between two sets of **ideas** – the USA was **defending democracy** against Communist takeover

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### THE MARSHALL PLAN

- In 1947, American **aid** was promised to European countries to help **rebuild** their damaged **economies**.
- Money was granted to European states so that they could buy food, raw materials and machinery **from America**.
- West Germany benefited massively.
- Many in the West worried that **poverty** in Europe would drive people to **support Communists**.
- The Marshall plan was designed to **ease** poverty and so **prevent** the spread of Communism.
- (It also helped the US economy).

# THE BERLIN BLOCKADE AND AIRLIFT, 1948-1949

## The Berlin Blockade, 1948

### *DISAGREEMENTS OVER THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE 4 ZONES OF OCCUPATION OF BERLIN CAME TO A HEAD:*

1. The Western allies – USA, Britain and France – **agreed** to a **single government** in their zones, and a **new** currency to help economic recovery, the **Deutschmark**.
2. The Soviet Union **opposed** these moves. Stalin wanted to keep Germany weak – so he decided to **blockade** Berlin.
3. Berlin was in Eastern Germany, which was controlled by the USSR – so Stalin ordered that all **land communication** between West Berlin and the outside world should be **cut off**.

## The Berlin Airlift, June 1948 – May 1949

1. The people of Berlin only had enough **food** and **fuel** for about **6 weeks**.
  - If the West broke down the road blocks by **force**, this would be an **act of war**.
2. The West decided to **supply** Berlin by **air** through the **3** corridors established in 1945.
  - If the Soviets **shot down** the aircraft, this would be seen as an **act of war**.
3. Between June 1948 and May 1949, the only way of **obtaining supplies** from the outside world was **by air**.
4. By 1949, **8,000 tons** of supplies were being flown into West Berlin each day.
5. In 1949, Stalin **ended the blockade**

## The Result of the Blockade

1. **Two new states** were formed:-
  - West Germany (**German Federal Republic**)
  - Communist East Germany (**German Democratic Republic**)
2. In 1949 the Western Powers formed **NATO** – the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation – this was a **military alliance** between 12 states, directed **against the Communist threat**. America was now **committed** to defending **Western Europe**.
3. In response, the USSR and the Eastern Bloc formed the **Warsaw Pact** (a rival alliance) in 1955.

*THE TENSION BETWEEN THE USA AND THE USSR WAS CALLED THE COLD WAR*



# THE BERLIN WALL, 1961

BETWEEN 1947 AND 1961 THE USSR CONSOLIDATED IT'S CONTROL OVER EASTERN EUROPE

## Why the Berlin Wall was built

1. Between **1949** and **1961**, more than **2½ million people** left **East Germany** for the **West** through East Berlin.
2. Half of these were **young people** under the age of **24**, and many were **skilled labourers** and **professionals** that the **East German economy** could not afford to **lose**.
3. The **Communist Government** of East Germany was **worried** by this trend.

## The Berlin Wall was built in **1961**

1. On **13<sup>th</sup> August 1961**, a **30-mile barrier** was erected across the city of Berlin overnight.
2. It **sealed off** the Eastern sector from the West.
3. The barrier was later replaced by a wall, fortified with **barbed wire** and **machine gun** posts
4. This meant that:-
5. West Berliners were suddenly **separated** from relatives in the East – for the next 30 years.
6. **No more** people could **leave** East Berlin for the West – those who tried to **escape** were **shot**.



*The Berlin Wall  
shortly after  
construction in 1961*

## EASTERN EUROPE, 1953 – 1956

THINGS DID NOT ALWAYS RUN SMOOTHLY IN THE **SOVIET'S SATELLITE STATES** OF EASTERN EUROPE. AT TIMES THERE WAS **UNREST** AGAINST SOVIET RULE AND THE USSR WAS FORCED TO **INTERVENE TO SUPPRESS REBELLION**.

### Uprisings followed Stalin's death in 1953

1. In **May 1953**, **100,000 workers** in East Berlin **demonstrated** against Soviet rule, and went on general strike to demand better pay – but the demonstration was **broken up** by Soviet **tanks**.
2. In **June 1956**, Polish workers in **Poznan** went on **strike**. Russian troops broke it up – but the imprisoned ex-leader of Poland, **Gomulka**, was **released** and became leader again. He was allowed to **develop** Poland's **Communist system** in his own way – provided that the country **remained loyal** to Russia.
3. Soviet policy seemed to be **changing** under new leader **Nikita Khrushchev** – he **attacked** Stalin and the Purges, blaming him for **Kirov's murder**.
4. **Khrushchev** seemed to want a thaw in the Cold War with America. He **visited** America in **1959** – the **first** Soviet leader to do so.

### Hungary, October – November 1956

1. In **October 1956**, the people of Budapest **protested** against the harsh government of Rakosi. The **secret police**, who'd executed or imprisoned thousands of Hungarians were **hunted down**.
2. Khrushchev, the Soviet leader, **allowed** the liberal **Nagy** to become Hungarian **Prime Minister**.
3. Nagy announced that Hungary would **withdraw** from the **Warsaw Pact** and hold **free elections** – ending Communism there.
4. He demanded that **Soviet troops** be **withdrawn** from Hungary.
5. At first, it seemed as though Soviet rule in Hungary had been **ended**.

#### **HOWEVER, SOVIET TANKS INVADED HUNGARY**

6. On **November 4<sup>th</sup>**, **200,000** Soviet troops and **4,000** tanks entered Budapest.
7. More than **20,000** Hungarians were **killed** or **wounded**.
8. Nagy was **arrested** and later **shot**.
9. A **Pro-Soviet** leader, **Janos Kadar** became Prime Minister, **ensuring loyalty** towards Russia.

# THE COLD WAR IN ASIA

IN 1949, THE **COMMUNIST STATE OF CHINA** WAS SET UP BY **MAO TSE-TUNG** – THIS MEANT THAT THE USA NOW **BECAME WORRIED** THAT CHINA WOULD SPREAD COMMUNISM THROUGHOUT **EAST ASIA**.  
THE COLD WAR SPREAD TO THIS AREA IN **1950**

## The Korean War, 1950-1953

### IN 1950 WAR BROKE OUT IN KOREA

1. Communist North Korea went to **war** with South Korea in order to **reunite** the country
2. This was seen as a **direct challenge** from Communism to the West.
3. The USA and the Western powers **intervened** on behalf of the **United Nations** to **stop** Communism spreading.

### THE UN AIM WAS TO RESIST COMMUNIST NORTH KOREAN AGGRESSION

#### THE UN ORDERED AN IMMEDIATE ATTACK AGAINST THE NORTH KOREANS

1. **UN forces** (mainly American and British soldiers) landed at **Inchon** and **drove** the North Koreans **back** over the **38<sup>th</sup> parallel** by **September 1950**.
2. President Truman allowed **General MacArthur** (UN commander) to **invade** North Korea in an attempt to **push Communism** out of the Korean peninsula altogether.
3. Truman didn't think **China** would get involved, but the American advance into North Korea **worried** China, who **feared** a Western **invasion**.
4. In **November 1950**, China launched an **attack** on the UN forces, driving them back and **capturing** Seoul (capital of South Korea) by **February 1951**.
5. MacArthur wanted to attack China but Truman **disagreed** – after arguing with the President, MacArthur was **sacked**.
6. Truman looked for peace, and a **cease-fire** was **agreed** in **1953**.

## A Communist government in Vietnam, 1954

- **Chinese support** also helped to establish a **Communist government** in **North Vietnam**
- That area of South East Asia had been controlled by **France**
- But **French forces** were completely **defeated** at **Dien Ben Phu** by the North Vietnamese in **1954**

## The Geneva Agreement, 1954

1. France **withdrew** from Indo China – they had **lost** their colony.
2. Vietnam was **partitioned** into **Communist North** and **Democratic South**.
3. **Laos** and **Cambodia** were set up as **independent states**.

# THE CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS, 1961

## Cuba, 1940-1959

1. Since **1940**, Cuba had been **ruled** by a military **dictator**, Batista.
2. He allowed American businessmen and the Mafia to make **huge profits** in a country where **most people** lived in **poverty**.
3. In **1956**, a rebel called **Fidel Castro** attempted to **overthrow** the government, but was **defeated** and forced into **exile**.
4. In **1959**, Castro began a **guerrilla war** and soon marched into Cuba's capital, Havana – and **successfully** overthrew the government.

## Castro's Reign

1. He **shut down** the gambling casinos and the brothels.
2. He **nationalised** American owned sugar mills and oil refineries.
3. He **seized** \$1000 worth of American property.
4. The USA **cut off** diplomatic **relations** with Cuba.
5. Castro began to work with the **USSR** – he'd always been **Communist influenced**.
6. The USSR offered to buy Cuba's sugar **instead** of the USA.

## The Bay of Pigs Invasion, 1961

1. In **1961**, President **Kennedy** authorised an **invasion** of Cuba by CIA-trained **anti-Castro** Cuban exiles.
2. In **April 1961**, the rebels landed in the Bay of Pigs, but the US **didn't give** them air **support** as they had promised – so the rebels were easily **defeated**.
3. As a result of the invasion, Castro decided that Cuba needed **Soviet military assistance**.

## The Cuban Missile Crisis

1. The USA's **U2 spy planes** flying high-altitude **reconnaissance** flights **detected** these Soviet missiles – from Cuba they could be used to **attack** US cities.
2. President Kennedy ordered a **naval blockade** of Cuba. All Soviet ships were to be **stopped** and **searched** to prevent further missiles being transported to Cuba.
3. Kennedy **demanded** that Khrushchev **withdraw** his missiles and **prepared to invade** Cuba. The Soviet ships steamed on to Cuba.
4. **At the last minute** Khrushchev agreed to **remove** the missiles from Cuba and ordered his ships to **turn around** – if the US would promise to **remove** missiles from **Turkey**, near the Soviet border. Kennedy **lifted the blockade** and **promised not to invade** Cuba.

# SECTION B: BRITAIN IN THE WORLD WARS

## THE FIRST WORLD WAR

### TRENCH WARFARE, 1914 - 1918

NEITHER SIDE COULD PUSH THE OTHER BACK, SO THEY DUG **TRENCHES** TO STOP THE ENEMY ADVANCING FURTHER. BY THE END OF **1914**, THE TRENCH-LINES STRETCHED ALL THE WAY FROM THE **NORTH SEA** DOWN TO **THE ALPS**, THIS LINE OF TRENCHES WERE CALLED **THE WESTERN FRONT**. THE TWO ARMIES HAD REACHED A **STALEMATE**.

#### Reasons for Stalemate

1. **Nobody** was used to trench warfare and no-one could **break** the stalemate.
2. **New weapons** the armies had were better for **defence** than attack.
3. Advancing troops **couldn't** hold on to the ground they won, and were pushed back.
4. Both sides were **well supplied**, and they could always call up more arms and men.
5. **Conditions** were often appalling – **muddy** and **wet** – not suited for quick attacks.
6. **Artillery bombardments** were supposed to weaken enemy lines – but they just **warned** the enemy an attack was coming.

#### New weapons were developed

1. At first **aircraft** was used for **surveillance** and **bombing**.
2. In **1915** new planes carried **synchronised** machine guns. This meant now **one man** could fly **and** handle the gun.
3. The new **fighter planes** could be used to **escort bombers** and to **bring down** enemy bombers.
4. The **Royal Air Force (RAF)** was formed in **1918**. By the end of the war, the RAF had over **20,000** bombers and fighters
5. **Tanks** made it easier to attack **on the ground**
6. Tank **tracks** meant they could go over very **rough ground** and plough through **barbed wire**.
7. The **heavily armoured** body of the tanks meant that ordinary gun fire couldn't stop them
8. However the early tanks often broke down

FIGHTER PLANES

TANKS

## THE BATTLE OF THE SOMME, JULY – NOVEMBER 1916

IN **FEBRUARY 1916**, THE GERMANS BEGUN AN ATTACK ON ALLIED FORCES AROUND **VERDUN**. IF THEY CAPTURED VERDUN, PARIS WOULD BE OPEN TO ATTACK.

BY **JULY**, **700 000** MEN WERE DEAD. IN ORDER TO RELIEVE **THE PRESSURE** ON VERDUN, HAIG DECIDED ON A **MAJOR ATTACK**. THIS WAS **THE BATTLE OF THE SOMME**.

### The Battle

1. It begun on **1 July 1916**
2. After a massive **artillery bombardment**, the solders were sent '**over the top**' to charge the German trenches.
3. British solders were under orders to advance **slowly**, not run.
4. This gave the Germans time to get ready. The slow-moving British soldiers were an **easy target**.
5. **57 000** Britons were **killed** or **wounded** on the 1<sup>st</sup> day alone. **21 000** died in **1 hour**.
6. The battle dragged on to **November**. By then over **1 million** soldiers had died. **418 000** were British.

### The Result

1. Despite the **months of fighting** and all the **deaths**, very little ground was **gained**. In **some places** the Allied forces advanced about **7 miles**, in others it was only a **few hundred metres**.
2. The Germans **weren't beaten** at the Somme, but they took a **severe battering**. The battle probably helped to **wear them down**. Haig wanted a breakthrough – what he got was a "**war of attrition**".
3. Many men in the army were **appalled** at how many lives were lost. They felt the Generals' tactics were **wrong** – and some started to **lose confidence** in the officers commanding the war.
4. There was less confidence in the **artillery** too. They were supposed to destroy the German **barbed wire** before the attack and didn't manage to do it.
5. Back in **Britain** film footage of the battle was shown in **cinemas**. Even though some of it was **faked** people were **horrified** by the reality of the battle. It **wasn't** the great heroic ideal they'd imagined

## THE WAR AT SEA, 1914 - 1918

THE FIRST WORLD WAR DIDN'T **STOP** AT THE WESTERN FRONT. THE **NAVY'S BLOCKADES** IN THE NORTH SEA AND BALTIC WERE REALLY **IMPORTANT** IN WEARING GERMANY DOWN. ALSO THE **U-BOATS** THREATENED **FOOD SUPPLIES** WHICH LED TO **RATIONING** IN BRITAIN

### The Blockades and U-boat Campaign

1. The Royal Navy patrolled the **North Sea** and the **Baltic**.
  2. The aim was to stop **food** and **supplies** for Germany being delivered to **German ports** or ports belonging to **neutral countries** like the **Netherlands** and **Scandinavia**.
  3. The Navy blockades also **prevented** German ships from getting out to **open sea** where they could **fight**.
  4. The **only weapon** the Germans had against the Royal Navy was the **U-boats** (submarines). At first Germany was **careful** not to attack ships from **neutral countries** or **passenger ships**.
  5. Britain realised this and started **shipping arms** and **ammunition** in **passenger ships**
  6. The British ocean liner the **Lusitania** was used to bring over **weapons** in **April 1915**. German U-boats torpedoed the ship and **1000 people died**, mostly **civilians**.
  7. About 100 of the dead were from the **USA**. **Up to this point** the USA was **neutral**, but **after the sinking of the Lusitania** America supported the **Allies**, and **joined** the war on their side in **1917**.
- 
1. Before the war Germany and England raced to build **Dreadnoughts** – 18 000 ton battleships. Both sides had **invested** a lot in the new ships and were **nervous** of risking them in a big battle.
  2. In the end the **only** major battle between the Dreadnought fleets was **The Battle of Jutland** in **May 1916**. **Admiral von Scheer** hoped to lure the British fleet out of their **base** at Jutland in Denmark and then unleash a massive **attack**.
  3. The British fleet turned out to be **bigger** than von Scheer expected and the sides were quite **evenly matched**. The two sides fired at each other for **several hours**, but it was a misty evening and hard to see the targets.
  4. It's not easy to say which side was the **winner**:
    - The British lost **14 ships**, and the Germans lost **11**.
    - The British ships were **more severely damaged**.
    - The Germans **left** the battle **first**.
  5. **After Jutland** the German Dread noughts stayed **in harbour**. Britain had **control of the surface**, but German U-boat attacks on British shipping became **more intense**.
  6. When **food supplies** in Britain became dangerously low in **April 1917**, Prime Minister Lloyd George introduced a **convoy system** which helped ships **escape** the submarines

# THE CONTRIBUTION OF EMPIRE TROOPS

AS WELL AS THE **FRENCH ARMY**, THERE WERE ALSO SOLDIERS FROM THE **BRITISH EMPIRE** – FROM CANADA, AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

## Volunteers from the Empire

1. **418 000 Canadians** fought in Europe. **56 000** died. Another **200 000** defended Canada.
2. **322 000 Australian** soldiers fought in the First World War. **60 000** died.
3. **124 000 New Zealanders** fought in the War. **17 000** died.
4. The **Australian and New Zealand Army Corps** were known as **ANZACs**.

***BEFORE THE FIRST WORLD WAR CANADIANS, NEW ZEALANDERS AND AUSTRALIANS STILL SAW THEMSELVES AS BRITISH. THEY DIDN'T SEE THEIR COUNTRIES AS SEPARATE, SO IT SEEMED RIGHT TO THEM THAT THEY SHOULD JOIN UP***

## Gallipoli and the ANZACs, 1915

***THE GALLIPOLI CAMPAIGN WAS FOUGHT IN 1915 – WHEN THE STALEMATE ON THE WESTERN FRONT WAS AT ITS WORST.***

***BRITAIN'S MAIN AIM WAS TO OPEN UP THE ROUTE TO THE BLACK SEA BY ATTACKING TURKEY, SO THAT THEY COULD HELP RUSSIA.***

1. The campaign began in **February**. The Navy tried to advance up the **Dardanelles** but couldn't get past Turkish forts and mines.
2. The **Navy pulled out** and the **Army** was sent in. The force was made up of **one British division**, and **ANZAC** and **French** troops.
3. The idea was to **cross the Gallipoli peninsula** and capture the Turkish capital **Constantinople**. The land assault began in **April**.
4. The **Turks** were ready for the Allied troops. By **firing down** from the hills above the beaches the Turks **stopped** the Allies from advancing at all.
5. The **ANZACs**, **French** and **British** were forced to dig **trenches**. They spend the **summer** and **autumn** under fire, suffering from **heat** and **disease**, and with **poor supplies** of food and ammunition. There were **40 000 casualties** by **August**.
6. Perhaps it should have been obvious **from the start** that the situation was impossible, but it wasn't till **December** that the **evacuation** began. **105 000** soldiers were withdrawn.
7. The Turks lost even more men than the allies: **65 000** died. This seriously **weakened** their army, but it wasn't obvious **at the time**. In **December 1916** it just looked like **bad planning**.



*OVER A THIRD OF THE ANZACS WHO WENT TO GALLIPOLI DIED. GALLIPOLI IS REMEMBERED AS ONE OF THE MOST WASTEFUL CAMPAIGNS OF THE WAR. SOME PEOPLE ARGUE THAT IT WAS AFTER GALLIPOLI THAT AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND STARTED TO SEE THEMSELVES AS SEPARATE COUNTRIES.*

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### Canadians and the Armed Forces,

1. There were **13 000** Canadians in the **Air Force**, and **3 000** in the **Navy**.
2. Canadian **Army** divisions fought on the **Western Front**. They captured and held **Vimy Ridge** from the Germans in **April 1917**. Vimy was a **major obstacle** to the Germans when they tried to attack in **spring 1918**.

## THE WAR AT HOME, 1914 - 1918

WHEN THE FIRST WORLD WAR BROKE OUT THE GOVERNMENT HAD TO BE SURE BRITAIN WAS **READY TO COPE**. THEY GAVE THEMSELVES **SPECIAL POWERS** BY GETTING PARLIAMENT TO PASS **A LAW**.

### The Defence of the Realm Act

1. The **Defence of the Realm Act** was passed in **August 1914**, right at the start of the war. There were **two** basic things the government was trying to do:
  - Make sure the country had **enough resources** to fight the war
  - Make sure **British people** were in a **fit state** to fight and support the war effort
2. The law allowed the government to:
  - Introduce **conscription**
  - Take control of vital **industries** like coal mining
  - Take over **3 million acres** of land and buildings
  - Bring in **British Summer Time** for more daylight (working) hours
  - Control **drinking hours** and the **strength of alcohol**
  - Stop people talking about war or spreading **rumours**
  - **Censor** newspapers
  - Enforce **rationing**

### Volunteering Rates

1. When war broke out thousands of men **rushed** to volunteer for the fight.
  - They believed it would be over **quickly** – ‘by Christmas’.
  - They thought it was going to be an **adventure**, and they wanted to be **part of it**.
2. The enthusiasm **didn't last**.
  - By **1915** the number of **casualties** was going up – and the number of **volunteers** was slowing **down**.
  - On the **Western Front** so many men were being killed and wounded that there **weren't enough** volunteers to **replace** them.
  - There was a growing feeling in **Britain** that it **wasn't fair** that some men were **avoiding** military duty.

## Conscription

1. The Government introduced **conscription** in **1916**.
2. All **single men** aged between **18 and 41** had to fight.
3. When there **still** weren't enough soldiers, married men had to join up too.
4. People who didn't **believe** in fighting were called **conscientious objectors**. They were treated as **criminals** and sent to **prison**. Some were even **shot**. They were seen as **traitors** because they refused to fight.

## Women during the First World War

1. Many of the **original volunteers** came from **heavy industries** like coal mining.
2. There was a **shortage** of workers in these industries and without them Britain couldn't **supply the army**.
3. When **conscription** started there were even fewer men available to do the **vital jobs**.
4. **Women** started taking their places in the **pits and factories**



# FOOD SHORTAGES, 1917-1918

BRITAIN HAD PROBLEMS KEEPING **FOOD SHORTAGES** GOING IN THE WAR. SOMETHING NEEDED TO BE DONE TO MAKE SURE NOBODY STARVED. LLOYD GEORGE HAD **3 MAIN TACTICS**

## The Reason for Food Shortages

1. In **1914** Britain was used to **importing** quite a lot of food from the **United States** and countries that were part of the **Empire**.
2. Germany used **U-boats** (submarines) to **attack shipping** all round Britain and made it **impossible** to import all the food Britain needed to survive.
3. By **April 1917** Britain only had **six weeks'** supply of wheat.

*THE PRIME MINISTER WAS DAVID LLOYD GEORGE. HE TOOK THREE BIG STEPS TO SOLVE THE FOOD CRISIS*

### 1. Navy convoys protected merchant ships coming in to Britain

- Ships travelling **alone** were **easy targets** for the U-boats. **25%** of merchant ships coming into Britain were being **sunk**.
- The Navy began a **convoy system**. Merchant ships travelled in **groups** with an escort of **Royal Navy** ships to protect them.
- U-boats **couldn't attack** as easily. With the convoy system **only 1%** of ships were sunk.

### 2. Food Rationing started in 1918

- When food rationing started in **1917** it was **voluntary**. In **1918** shortages were still a problem and rationing was made **compulsory** for **beer, butter, sugar and meat**. People still got roughly the **same** amount to eat. The idea was to control the **food supply**, not the **amount** of food people had to eat.
- Everyone got **rationing coupons**. They had to **hand them over** when they bought **beer, butter, sugar and meat**. When the week's coupons for say, **sugar**, ran out, they couldn't buy any more that week.
- Some people **hoarded** food, partly because they were afraid it would **run out**, and partly because of **increasing prices**. They would sell it on **later** creating a **'black market'** in food.
- There were **shortages** of some kinds of food but **no-one** starved.
- The Government had never been **this involved** in organising people's daily lives before.

### 3. Britain grew more food

- Farmers were encouraged to use **more** of their land so they could **grow more food**.
- There was an **excellent harvest** in **1917**
- The **Women's Land Army (WLA)** was set up. Women from the Land army were a **big** new labour force available to work on the **farms**.



[LEFT]: *Convoy of ships*

[TOP LEFT]: *Propaganda encouraging rationing*

[ABOVE]: *Propaganda promoting the WLA*

# ATTITUDES TO THE WAR

THERE'S A **DRAMATIC DIFFERENCE** BETWEEN PEOPLE'S **CHEERFUL** ADDITUDE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE WAR AND THEIR **HORROR** AT THE WASTE OF LIFE BY THE END.

## Public opinion at the start of the war

1. In **1914** there was **huge enthusiasm** for the war
2. People thought that fighting in the war would be an **adventure**
3. They thought it was right to **fight for your country** when it went to war
4. Also they were told the war would be "**over by Christmas**". Britain would win **easily**.

## Censorship

- The Government **deliberately** kept people **ignorant** of what was going on:
  1. Letters from soldiers were **censored**.
  2. Reporters **weren't allowed** to see battles very often.
  3. **Newspapers** were **censored** from **1915**. Anyway they didn't want to **depress** their readers so they didn't let things sound as bad as they **really were**.
  4. **No photographs** could be taken which showed **dead** soldiers.
  5. Casualty figures **weren't available** from the Government.
  6. Often even Parliament **wasn't told** how the war was really going.

## People's attitudes changed

1. During the war **1500 civilians** were killed in **bombing raids**. This was a new and **terrible danger**.
2. There were no obvious successes on the Western Front up until **1918**. There were several **disasters**, like the **Somme** and **Gallipoli**. The deaths seemed **pointless** when there was **nothing** to show for them.
3. The Government could hide the overall **casualty figures**, but they couldn't hide **crippled** and **blinded** veterans who **returned** to Britain, or keep **deaths** secret from the **families** of soldiers.
4. Soldiers returning **on leave** were able to **describe** the trenches.
5. Many writers and artists **celebrated** the war at the start. By **1917**, many soldiers were **disillusioned** with the way the war was being run. From then on, and well into the **1920s** and **1930s**, people wrote **poems** and **autobiographies** about how **awful** life in the trenches had been.
6. **Rationing** was difficult, and richer people felt it was a **hardship**. **Taxes** had **increased** to pay for the war.

**BY 1917 MOST PEOPLE IN BRITAIN WERE SICK OF THE WAR, AND WANTED TO SEE IT END.**

## THE END OF THE WAR, 1918

### The war finally ended in November 1918

1. The USA joined the Allies in April 1917. Only **one division** was sent at first.
2. More Americans were sent during 1918. The German commander **Ludendorff** decided to try **one more** big attack **before** there were too many Allied troops.
3. The Ludendorff Offensive **nearly worked**, thanks to **new tactics** in trench warfare – attacking **several points** along the line at the **same time**, with a constant artillery bombardment of the enemy as support.
4. The Allies counterattacked from different sides. **Haig** began an attack on the German line near **Amiens** in France **towards Germany**. The Allied forces **could have** pushed right through into Germany, but **before** that happened an **armistice** (a sort of ceasefire) was signed.
5. The trench warfare had **worn Germany down**. **Mutinies**, **food shortages** and **revolution** in Germany made it **impossible** for the Germans to carry on. They **asked for** the armistice and it was signed on 11<sup>th</sup> November.

### “The war to end all wars”

1. The government had tried to **control information** during the war. Even so, people had found out some **real** facts about the war. Many now felt that **politicians** and **authority figures** couldn't always be **trusted**.
2. Many people **came to believe** that the Generals had become **incompetent**, and that they **didn't care** how many lives were lost. This gave people **even more reason** to stop trusting people in powerful positions.
3. The **public school officers** in the trenches turned out to be no more competent than the **working class soldiers**. Some people began to **question** the way the upper classes dominated society.
4. Soldiers who'd been through the War were even more **disillusioned** when they returned home. There was **unemployment** and **poverty**. They wondered what they had been **fighting for**.
5. **No war** in history had produced so many **casualties**. It felt as though the loss of **huge numbers** of young men had changed the **balance of society**.
6. There **was** a sense of **satisfaction** that Britain had **won**.
7. Attitudes towards **women** and the **poorer** members of society **generally improved**, as the war showed **everyone** could do something useful if they were given the opportunity.
8. **Lloyd George** got **re-elected** as Prime Minister in December 1918.