

CHAPTER 13 Section 1 (pages 363–366)

The Stage Is Set for War

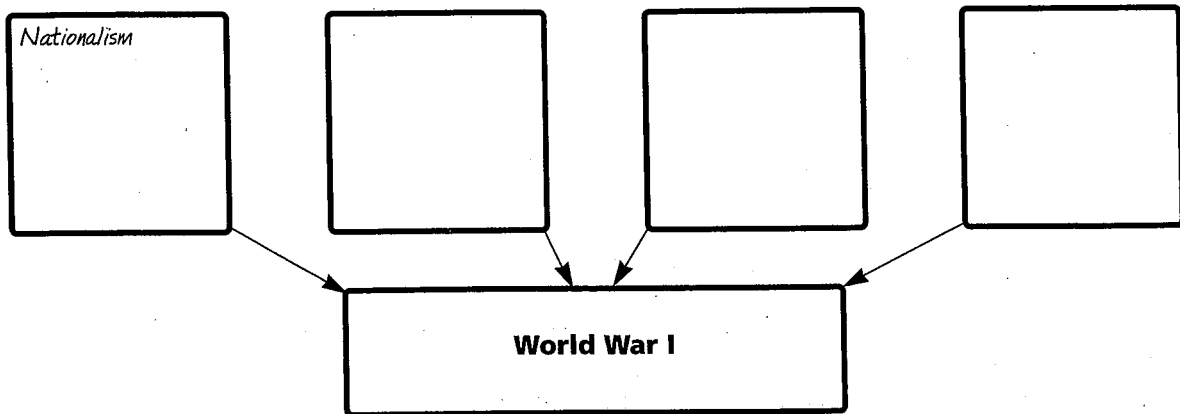
BEFORE YOU READ

In the last chapter, you read about political changes around the globe.

In this section, you will learn about the First World War.

AS YOU READ

Use this chart to take notes on the causes of World War I.



TERMS AND NAMES

militarism Glorifying war and preparing for it

Triple Alliance Military agreement between Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy

Kaiser Wilhelm II Emperor of Germany

Triple Entente Military agreement among Britain, France, and Russia

An Uneasy Peace Grips Europe

(pages 363–364)

Why didn't peace last in Europe?

Many people in Europe had joined groups to work for peace. However, developments would soon lead Europe into war.

One of those developments was *nationalism*—a deep feeling of attachment to one's own nation. This force helped *unify* the people of a country. It also created competition between countries.

By 1900, six nations were *rivals* for power in Europe. These nations, called the *Great Powers*, were Germany, Austria-Hungary, Great Britain, Russia, Italy, and France. They competed economically, and they competed for neighboring land.

Imperialism was another force that helped lead to war. France and Germany were each seeking to control of parts of Africa. They almost came to war twice in the early 1900s. Mistrust was a huge problem.

The third factor leading to war was a growing arms race. Each country in Europe—except Great Britain—built a large army. Glorifying war and preparing for it is called **militarism**.

1. What were three factors leading to war?

Tangled Alliances (pages 364–365)

What caused countries to fear one another?

Growing *rivalries* led the nations to make military *alliances*. Prussia's chancellor, Otto von Bismarck, feared that France would want revenge for its defeat in the Franco-Prussian War. He set out to *isolate* France. In 1879, he formed a **Triple Alliance** with Austria-Hungary and Italy. He also signed a treaty with Russia.

Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany did not want to share power with Bismarck. He forced Bismarck to resign and followed his own foreign policy. He let the agreement with Russia end. Russia soon allied itself with France. This alliance meant that Germany would have to fight enemies on its eastern and western borders if there were a war with either country. Wilhelm II then moved to make the German navy larger.

Britain grew alarmed. It began to build more ships. It also entered into the **Triple Entente** alliance with France and Russia. The six Great Powers had now formed two camps—Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy against Britain, France, and Russia.

2. What two groups of nations developed?

Crisis in the Balkans (pages 365–366)

What part did the Balkans play in the increasing tensions?

Meanwhile, trouble was brewing in the Balkans, in southeastern Europe. The Ottoman Empire controlled this area. But it was breaking apart. Both Austria-Hungary and Russia wanted some of this land.

The kingdom of Serbia was also in this region. It wanted to bring other Slavic peoples who lived in the Balkans under its control. In 1908, Austria-Hungary seized Bosnia and Herzegovina. These lands had Slavic peoples. This action angered the Serbs. However, their Russian allies were unwilling to support them, and they backed down.

By 1914, the situation was different. Serbia had gained land in other parts of the region and felt strong. Austria worried that Serbia might interfere with its control of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In June 1914, a Serbian killed Archduke Franz Ferdinand, the *heir* to the throne of Austria-Hungary. Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia. Russia came to Serbia's defense. Soon most of Europe was at war.

3. How were the Serbians involved in the start of World War I?

CHAPTER 13 Section 2 (pages 367–372)

War Consumes Europe

BEFORE YOU READ

In the last section, you read how World War I began.

In this section, you will learn the details of this costly and tragic war.

AS YOU READ

Use the chart below to compare and contrast the Western Front and the Eastern Front. Include who fought, where they fought, and how they fought.

TERMS AND NAMES

Schlieffen Plan Germany's plan for winning the war on two fronts

Allies Great Britain, France, Russia, and other nations who fought on their side

Central Powers Germany, Austria-Hungary, and other nations who fought on their side

trench warfare Fighting from trenches dug in the battlefield

Western Front Region of northern France where much fighting took place

Eastern Front Region along German-Russian border where much fighting took place

WESTERN FRONT	EASTERN FRONT
<i>Area in France</i>	

The Alliance System Collapses

(pages 367–368)

How did so many nations become involved?

The system of alliances turned the war between Austria-Hungary and Serbia into a wider war. Russia moved against Austria-Hungary. It figured that Germany would support Austria-Hungary. So it moved troops against Germany as well. Germany declared war on Russia. Soon after, it also declared war on Russia's ally, France.

Germany had a plan for winning the war on two fronts. This was the **Schlieffen Plan**. It called for a rapid push through France, a quick defeat of that nation, and a turn to face Russia in the east. To capture France quickly, Germany moved through Belgium. Belgium was a neutral country. Britain was outraged by Germany's action. It declared war on Germany. France, Britain, and Russia. They were called the **Allies**. They were later joined by Italy, which broke with Germany and Austria-Hungary. Bulgaria and the Ottoman Empire joined Germany and Austria-Hungary. They were called the **Central Powers**.

1. Who were the Allies and Central Powers?

A Bloody Stalemate Along the Western Front (pages 368–370)

What kind of warfare was used?

After the German army moved almost to Paris, French defenses strengthened and stopped them in September 1914. Both sides became bogged down in a bloody conflict. Soldiers dug deep *trenches* into the ground. **Trench warfare** began.

When soldiers left the trenches to storm enemy lines, they faced powerful weapons. Machine guns, tanks, poison gas, and larger pieces of *artillery* killed hundreds of thousands of soldiers. This was how the war was fought in France, which was called the **Western Front**.

2. What was the war like on the Western Front?

The Battle on the Eastern Front

(pages 370–371)

What happened on the Eastern Front?

The war on the **Eastern Front** showed more movement at first—but it was equally *destructive*. Russian armies attacked both Germany and Austria-Hungary. They had some early success but were driven back in both places. One reason was that Russia did not have a fully industrial economy. It could not keep troops supplied.

Still, Russia had a huge population and could send millions to war. The large Russian army provided a constant threat to Germany. This threat prevented Germany from putting its full resources against the Allies in the west.

3. What weaknesses and strengths did Russia have?
