

Study Guide for Chapter 12. Lesson 2
“World War I”

Causes of World War I:

- On June 28, 1914, a Serbian rebel shot and killed Archduke Francis Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary. Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia.
- In 1915, a German submarine sank the British passenger ship, the *Lusitania*; 128 Americans died.
- In 1917, Germany sank three more American ships. President Woodrow Wilson asked Congress to join the Allies and declare war on Germany.
- Alliances brought more countries into the conflict

There were 2 sides in the war:

1. the Allied Powers: Britain, France, Italy, Serbia, Russia, and the U.S.
2. the Central Powers: Germany, Austria-Hungary, the Ottoman Empire, and Bulgaria

Military draft – a way to bring people into the military

Trench warfare – both armies dug deep trenches (ditches) in the ground for protection

“no-man’s land” - the area between the trenches

New weapons in the World War I: machine guns, barbed wire, tanks, poison gas, and airplanes

propaganda posters – appealed to the emotions of Americans; were meant to inspire feelings of patriotism, pride and a sense of duty.

What were the advantages of air strikes?

1. Enemy troops were easier to spot from the air
2. Pilots could bomb enemy troops while avoiding much of their fire from the ground.

Changes at Home

- The economy of the U.S. changed due to the fact that our country had to produce things that soldiers needed to fight
- There was a shortage of workers because most of the men left to fight the war in Europe, and factories had to increase production of war materials

The Effects of the War

- The League of Nations was formed. Its purpose was to prevent future wars.
- The 19th Amendment was signed, giving women the right to vote. Carrie Chapman Catt and Susan B. Anthony both fought for women’s right to vote.
- Ten million people died.

On November 11, 1918, the Central Powers surrendered and signed an armistice (peace treaty) in Paris. Today we celebrate Veteran’s Day (which had been called Armistice Day) on that date to honor all veterans of the U.S. military. This treaty is known as the Treaty of Versailles.

In what ways was World War I fought on the home front?

- the government took over the railroads and telegraphs
- factories changed what they made
- factories worked overtime
- 10,000,000 people worked in the war industries
- women and African-Americans took over jobs
- Wheatless Mondays/Meatless Tuesdays
- Daylight Savings Time was begun
- People grew gardens
- People bought Liberty Bonds

Life in the trenches:

- very dangerous and dirty
- muddy when it rained
- never knew when the enemy might come in your trench
- no bathrooms
- no places to sleep
- very unhealthy living conditions