

Key Vocabulary	
alliance	An agreement between two or more people, groups or countries to support each other.
armistice	An agreement by countries at war to stop fighting.
assassinated	The act of murdering someone (usually an important person).
colonised	One country taking control of another country.
declare	To announce.
invade	To enter an area and forcibly take control.
neutral	A neutral country does not join sides in a war or conflict.
rationed	Being given a food allowance when food is in short supply.
Aircraft	World War I was the first major conflict involving the large-scale use of aircraft.

Who Went to War?

July 28th 1914 - November 11th 1918

The Triple Entente /The Allies <small>(Italy joined on 23rd May 1915)</small>	The Triple Alliance /The Central Powers <small>(Italy was part of the Triple Alliance in 1914 but joined the Allies in 1915)</small>
 United Kingdom	 Germany
 France	 The Ottoman Empire (Turkey)
 Russia	 Austria-Hungary (an Empire made up of many nationalities)
 The USA was a major trading partner with Britain. In April 1917, the USA declared war against Germany for attacking their trading ships around Britain.	

Europe Before the War - long term reasons for the start of World War I

In the early 1900s, many European countries such as Britain, France, Spain and Italy **colonised** countries in Africa and Asia and were considered very powerful.

Germany did not **colonise** other countries and they were not as powerful. Germany wanted greater power so they began building large warships and creating a strong army. They had an arms race with Great Britain.

Countries also formed **alliances**. The Triple **Alliance** was formed in 1882. The Triple Entente was formed in 1907.

Because of the different power struggles and **alliances**, there was tension and distrust amongst many countries across Europe. France and Germany had been rivals since the Franco-Prussian war of 1870.

No Man's Land

Disputed ground between the front lines or trenches of two opposing armies.



Archduke Franz Ferdinand

The main event thought to have triggered the start of WWI is the **assassination** of Archduke Franz Ferdinand.

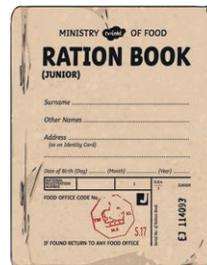
- In 1914, Archduke Ferdinand was due to become the Emperor of Austria-Hungary.
- On June 28th 1914 Gavrilo Princip from Serbia **assassinated** Archduke Ferdinand and his wife, causing Austria-Hungary to **declare** war on Serbia.
- Russia began to move their army to support Serbia in case they were needed.
- August 1st 1914 - Germany did not like Russia preparing their army and so **declared** war on them.
- August 2nd 1914 - Germany invaded **neutral** Belgium.
- August 3rd 1914 - Germany then also **declared** war on France. France declared war on Germany.
- August 4th 1914 - Britain **declared** war on Germany to support Belgium, Russia and France.
- August 6th 1914 - Austria-Hungary declared war on Russia
- August 12th 1914 - Britain and France declare war on Austria-Hungary.
- October 29th 1914 - The Ottoman Empire launches a surprise attack on Russia. Russia and Serbia declare war on the Ottoman Empire.

The Trenches

- Trenches were dug out of the land to protect the soldiers.
- Soldiers would sleep and rest in the trenches as well as eat their meals.
- The trenches were very dirty and wet. They were often filled with rats!
- Western Front - Stretching 440 miles from the Swiss border to the North Sea, the line of trenches, dug-outs and barbed-wire fences moved very little between 1914-1918, despite attempts on both sides to break through.

Rationing

- Food soon began to run out as people were panic buying.
- Gardens and other areas of land were turned into allotments so food could be grown and animals could be kept.
- Sugar, meat, butter and cheese were all **rationed**.
- **Ration** books were issued and everyone had to register with a butchers and grocers.



The Battle of the Somme

- 1st July - 18th Nov 1916.
- It took place in France.
- One of the most devastating events of WWI.
- Over one million soldiers died.
- 19 000 British soldiers were killed on the first day of battle.
- The first Tanks were used in the Somme Offensive.



The End of the War

- Italy joined the Triple Entente in April 1915.
- After the USA also joined the Triple Entente in April 1917, Germany began to realise that they couldn't win the war.
- The Ottoman Empire signed an **armistice** on 30th October 1918. Austria-Hungary signed an **armistice** on 3rd November 1918 leaving Germany on their own.
- An **armistice** was signed by Britain, France and Germany on 11th November 1918 putting an end to all fighting.
- A two-minute silence is held every year on 11th November to celebrate the end of the war and to remember all the people who fought in World War I and all other wars.
- Poppies are also worn around this time to remember the soldiers who died in the war; as after all the fighting had stopped, poppies began to grow on the battlefields.

