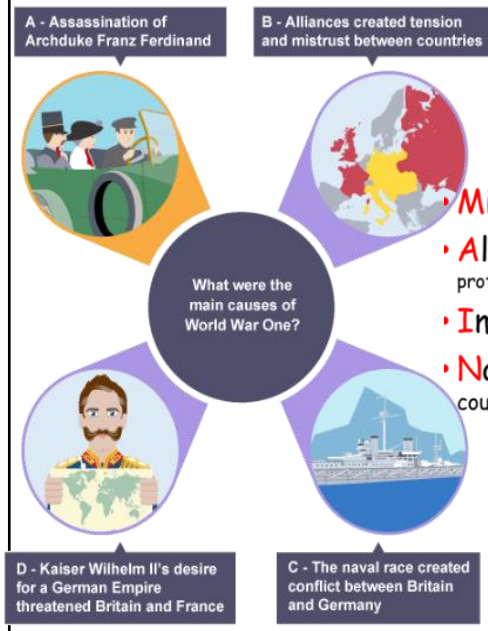
Year 9 History – HT1
How 'great' was the Great War?

1. Causes of World War I

BBC Teach website



Long-term causes

- **Militarism** - glorification of war
- **Alliances** - countries form alliances for protection
- **Imperialism** - building a large empire
- **Nationalism**- pride in ones country

Short term causes

The alliances were triggered on 28th June 1914 - After Archduke Franz Ferdinand was murdered in 1914 by Gavrilo Princip and the Black Hand Gang,

4. End of WWI

World War I officially ended at 11am, 11th November 1918 (11,11,11,18) with Germany's surrender

Germany was forced to sign the Treaty of Versailles in 1919

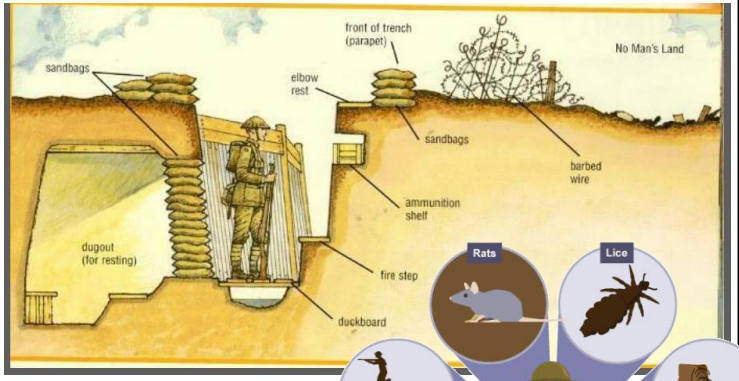
Revision Hint

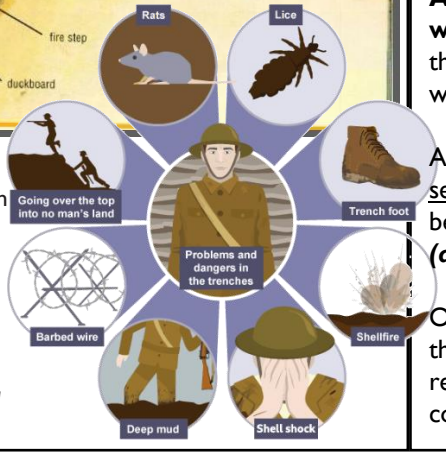
- LAND – Lost their overseas Empire which was divided amongst the victorious allies.
- ARMY – reduced to 100,000 men, no air force and only 6 battleships.
- MONEY- reparations set at £6600 million to be paid to the allies.
- BLAME: Germany had to accept guilt for starting the war.

LAMB

This made the German people very angry and resentful towards not only the allies, but also their own government who *'stabbed them in the back'*

2. Trench system and conditions





During World War One, the millions of soldiers who fought on the Western Front were supported by labourers and medical staff.

These workers did essential non-combat work to support the front-line soldiers, such as *unloading ships, repairing roads and railways and digging trenches.*

3. Conscientious Objection

Conscription was considered *controversial* as it raised questions of people not having a choice (civil liberties.)

Additionally, those who refused conscription on moral grounds were treated as criminals.

About 16,000 men refused to fight and these were called conscientious objectors. Most of these men believed that even during wartime it was wrong to kill another human being.

About 7,000 pacifists agreed to perform non-combat service. This usually involved working as stretcher-bearers in the front-line which was very dangerous. ***(alternativist)***

Over 1,500 men refused all compulsory service. If they were denied the right to stay at home and they refused to obey the order of an officer, they were court-martialled and often imprisoned. ***(absolutist)***

Keywords	
Absolutist	Someone who refuses to do anything to help with the war—often sent to jail
Alliance	An agreement between counties to protect one another in times of need
Alternativist	Someone who refused to fight, but would help the war effort in different ways e.g. stretcher bearers
Conscientious Objector	A person who refused to join the war effort because of religious, moral or political reasons
Conscription	A law introduced in 1916 that meant all men between 18-41 had to join the war effort
Interpretation	Someone's opinion of past events/people
No Man's Land	The area of land between trench systems—very dangerous
Propaganda	Information designed to make people think or feel a certain way about a topic
Western Front	An area in northern France and Belgium where many battles of World War I were fought

Year 9 History at BCA

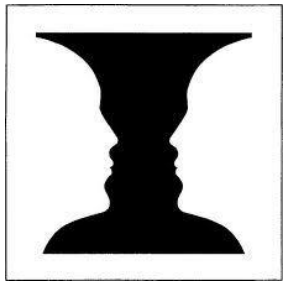
	Autumn		Spring		Summer	
	1 (6 weeks)	2 (7 weeks)	1 (6 weeks)	2 (6 weeks)	1 (6 weeks)	2 (7 weeks)
Year 9	**WWI**	**Suffragettes**	**Interwar years**	**WWII**	**Cold War**	**Holocaust**
Links to	*P1 KS4 (Trench warfare), Industrial Revolution, P3 KS4 (Weimar and Nazi Germany)*	*KS4 Skill prep Paper 3 (Germany), World War I and World War II*	*WWI and WWII, KS4 Paper 3 (Germany), Cold War*	*Holocaust, KS4 P3 (Germany) + Cold War*	*Interwar years, WWII, Current events (Ukraine), KS4 source skills*	*WWI, WWII, Rights and citizenship (PD), KS4 P3 (Germany). Combined SOW with P&B*
TC	Interpretations	Source skills	Cause and effect	Cause and effect	Source skills	Significance and sources

Understanding the curriculum	
Why are we studying this topic?	You will be able to understand the causes of World War I, the conditions in the trenches themselves and the tough choice conscientious objectors faced in deciding whether to fight. Understanding this unit allows you to more widely appreciate events of the 20th Century e.g. women's rights and German resentment leading to WWII.
How does it link to previous learning?	In Year 8 we learnt about the British Empire and the effect colonialism had on the rest of the world. This unit of work builds on the idea of Imperialism and Nationalism as causes of conflict.
How will it link to future work?	The knowledge based in this unit will allow you to more deeply understand medicine on the Western Front (KS4 Paper 1) – conditions in the trenches and more common injuries sustained. Looking at the end of the conflict will help you appreciate how the Treaty of Versailles was a contributing factor to WWII (KS3 + KS4 Paper 3).

Threshold concept this term

Good historians think about <u>interpretations</u> of the past.

They examine historian's interpretations carefully. They think hard about why people interpreting the past have made particular claims and about the kind of evidence on which they were based. They think about the context in which historical interpretations were created and how this affects them.



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