

History KS3 Autumn 1

Blended Learning Booklet

Origins of the First World

War

Name:

Form:

Aim to complete one lesson each week. Write out the title and LI and then complete the tasks.

All video links are online using the ClassCharts link.

The Knowledge Organiser on page 3 has all the key information and vocabulary to help you with this unit.

Upload all work onto ClassCharts for feedback.



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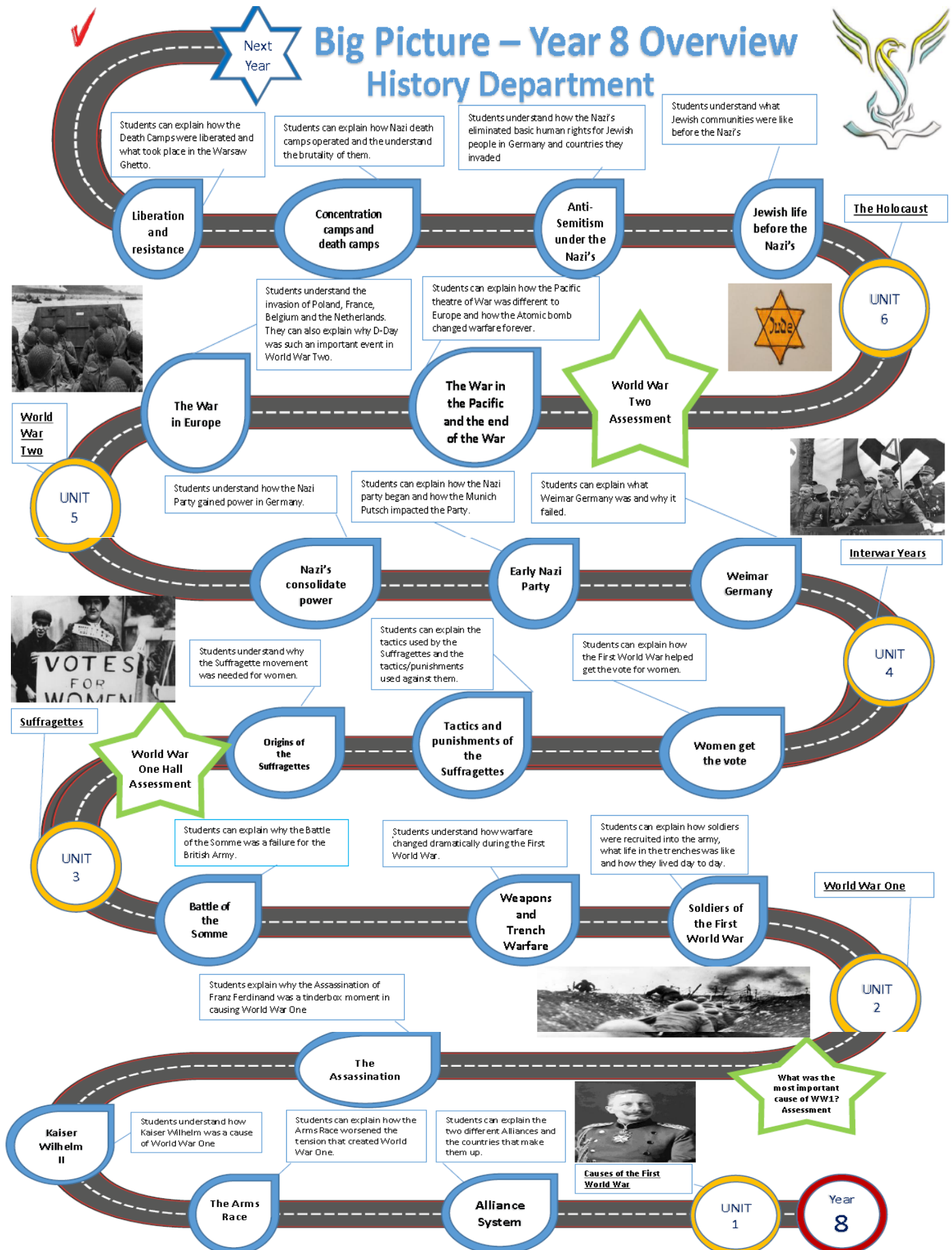
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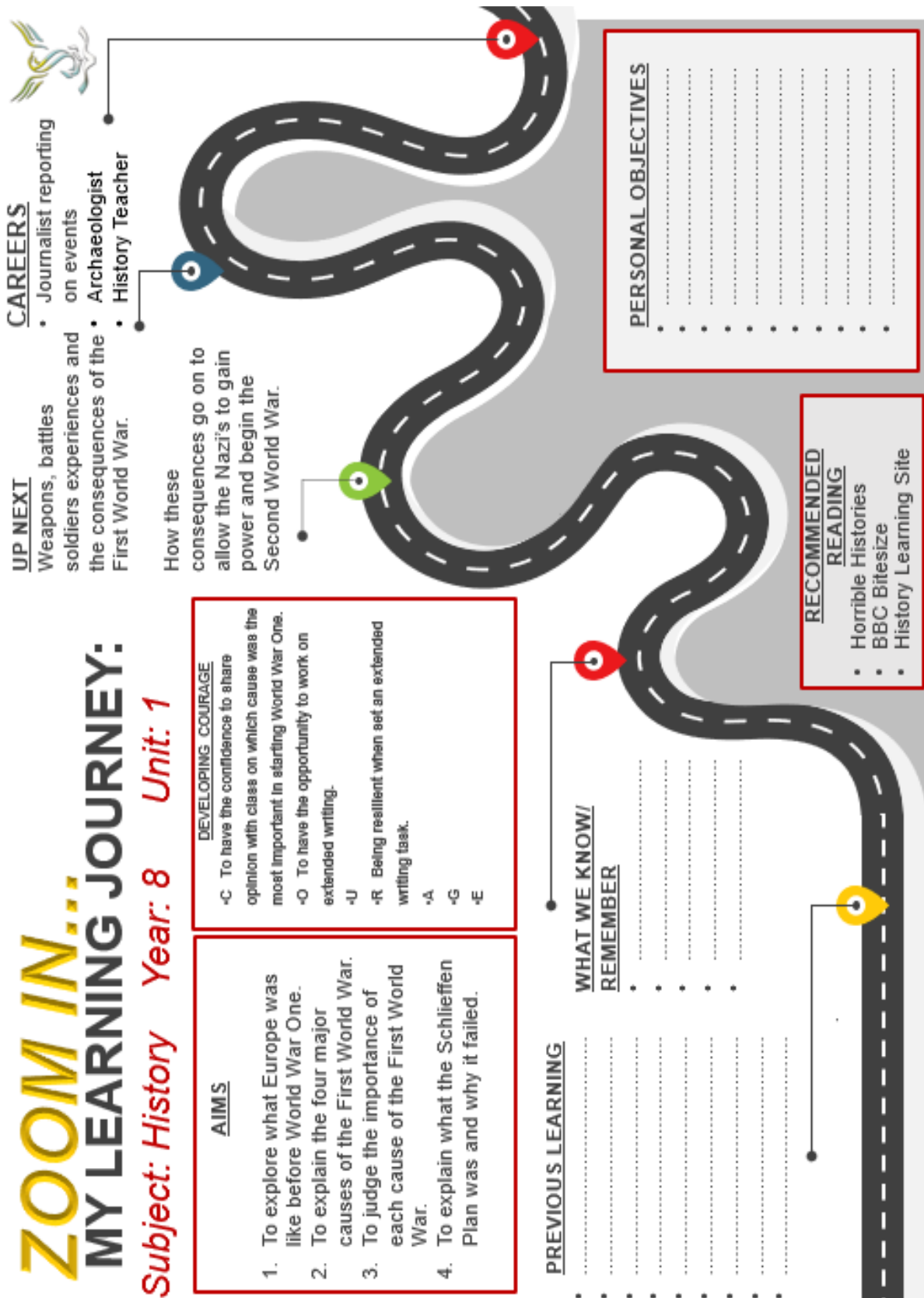
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ZOOM IN... MY LEARNING JOURNEY:

Subject: *History* Year: *8* Unit: *1*





1. Alliance System

In early 1900, things in Europe were very tense. Empire were preparing for war. To make countries feel safer, alliances were created. Countries in these Alliances would protect each other if war broke out.

Triple Alliance – Germany, Austria-Hungary and Italy.

Triple Entente – Britain, France and Russia.

2. The Kaiser

Kaiser **Wilhelm II** was leader of Germany. The Kaiser had supreme power in Germany and desperately wanted to expand Germany's Empire. In 1914, Germany was still a fairly new country and the Kaiser wanted to prove how strong Germany was. He wanted to give Germany 'a place in the sun'.

He was jealous of Britain's Empire and their Navy, as being the grandson of Queen Victoria, he visited Britain many times.

3. The Arms Race

The Industrial Revolution gave birth to fantastic new technologies throughout the 18th and 19th Century. New weapons were constantly being created during this time and every European country wanted the newest and best weapons. This made things in Europe very tense, as anyone who fell behind in the arms race, would lose military superiority and stop being dominant.

A very good example of the arms race is the ship known as the Dreadnought. The British launched the HMS Dreadnought in 1906. It was a very powerful and new warship, making Britain's Navy stronger. This worried the Germans, leading them to create their own, making the arms race even more competitive.

Causes of the First World War

4. The Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand

Austria-Hungary was an Empire in the middle of Europe. Many of the countries in the Empire, had their own languages, cultures and way of life. This made the Empire difficult to rule. Many of these countries wanted to become independent – This was known as **nationalism**.

In 1908, Austria-Hungary took a country in the Balkans called Bosnia, into its Empire. Bosnia wanted to be united with neighbouring Serbia. This hatred led to the creation of groups who were against Austria-Hungary.

Franz Ferdinand was the heir to the Austro-Hungarian Empire. On the 28th June 1914, in Sarajevo, he and his wife were murdered by Gavrilo Princip, who was part of The Black Hand Organisation.

5. The First World War begins

Serbia was blamed for supporting the Black Hand organisation. Austria-Hungary used this as an excuse to invade Serbia. This then dragged many other countries in to the conflict, starting World War One.

World War One officially began on the 28th July 1914, when the invasion of Serbia began. All these causes led to a war beginning that caused the deaths of around 37 million people.

Type	France	Britain	Russia	Austria-Hungary	Germany	Italy
Dreadnoughts	14	24	4	3	13	1

Archduke Franz Ferdinand



Kaiser Wilhelm II



Lesson One - **Europe in 1066**

- **LI: I can understand what Europe was like in 1900.**

The Alliance System and enemies

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f11CKYB2FCA>

DART: The Alliance System in Europe before the First World War

Before the First World War, Britain had the biggest Empire in the world. Things in Europe were tense as Germany was a new country and Empires were extremely jealous and suspicious of one another. Due to the fear of War Countries formed **Alliances** to stay safe if war came. The two main Alliances during the First World War, were:

The Triple Entente – 1907

Britain's main concern:

Germany was slowly building a navy as big as Britain's. This would threaten Britain's supremacy on the seas.

France's main concern:

In 1871, France had lost two regions to Germany and wanted them back. These two regions were Alsace and Lorraine.

Russia's main concern:

Russia had a rivalry, with the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Russia wanted to destroy the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

The Triple Alliance/Central Powers – 1882

Germany's main concerns:

Germany was jealous of Britain's Empire and especially Britain's extremely strong navy.

Austria-Hungary's main concerns:

Russia was prepared to support the countries controlled by Austria-Hungary that wanted to fight for independence.

Italy's main concerns:

Italy wanted to stay neutral in the event of war and wanted to stop war from breaking out at all costs.

Read the information and makes further notes on the Alliance System:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zqhyb9q/articles/znhrj6>

Alliances and World War One

1. Using your own opinion, and what we have looked at in today's lesson, what country in Europe in 1900, had the most to be worried about? You must explain your answer.
2. In your opinion, did the Alliance system make the First World War more likely? Explain your answer.

Lesson Two - The Kaiser and the Arms Race

- **LI: To understand what an Arms Race is and how it made war more likely.**

Retrieval Starter: Copy and complete the following

The Alliance System

By the time WW1 had broken out, there were _____ Alliances.

_____ – **Russia**, _____ and _____.

Britain was concerned about _____ growing Navy. **France** had lost two regions to Germany – _____ – and wanted them back. **Russia** had a rivalry with the _____ Empire.

_____ – _____, **Austria-Hungary** and _____

_____ was jealous of Britain's Empire. Germany also felt worried about unfriendly countries on its borders. **Austria-Hungary's** main rival, **Russia**, was prepared to support the countries that wanted to fight for _____. **Italy** wanted to stay _____ in the event of war.

Watch the following:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EKe8WYiHCao&t=216s>

Read the following DART to help you answer the comprehension questions below.

DART:

Kaiser Wilhelm

Kaiser Wilhelm II was the Leader of Germany before and during the First World War. The Kaiser was very proud of his country after it was united in 1871 and wanted it to have a 'place in the sun', meaning that he wanted the world to see how strong Germany was as a country. The Kaiser himself was most jealous of Britain and its Empire, as he was the grandson of Queen Victoria and spent a lot of time in Britain during his youth, looking at Britain's strong Navy.

What is an Arms Race?

An arms race is when nations compete to develop the best military technology or the largest armed forces. The 'race' is driven by fear that the other country will establish military superiority. Military Superiority is where a country has managed to gain the most advanced military technology, or the largest armed forces compared to any other nation. European countries wanted the biggest and best militaries so they could increase their power in the world.

Key Questions, using the tables below (answer these in your book):

1. Who won the naval arms race? Explain how.
2. Which of the two alliances had the best chance of winning a war at sea?
3. Which alliance had more soldiers?
4. Why would Germany be jealous of Britain's army and Navy?

Type	France	Britain	Russia	Austria-Hungary	Germany	Italy
<i>Dreadnoughts</i>	14	24	4	3	13	1
<i>Battleships</i>	9	38	7	12	30	17
<i>Battle Cruisers</i>	0	10	1	0	6	0
<i>Cruisers</i>	25	108	13	7	49	11
<i>Destroyers</i>	81	228	106	18	152	33
<i>Submarines</i>	67	76	36	14	30	20

Country	Army size in 1914
Britain	430,000
France	970,000
Russia	1,500,000
Germany	760,000
Austria-Hungary	480,000
Italy	290,000

Use the following webpage to make notes on the Dreadnought. A key piece of military technology before and during World War One:

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Dreadnought-British-battleship>

Lesson 3 - The Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand

LI: To understand how the assassination helped start World War One.

Retrieval Starter:

The Kaiser

Explain in your own words, using as much detail as possible, why the Kaiser can be seen to be a cause of the First World War.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

DART – Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand

On this day in 1914, Archduke Franz Ferdinand, heir to the throne of Austria, and his wife Sophie are shot to death by a Bosnian Serb nationalist during an official visit to the Bosnian capital of Sarajevo. The killings sparked a chain of events that led to the outbreak of [World War I](#) by early August. On June 28, 1919, five years to the day after Franz Ferdinand's death, Germany and the Allied Powers signed the [Treaty of Versailles](#), officially marking the end of World War I.

The archduke travelled to Sarajevo in June 1914 to inspect the imperial armed forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina, annexed by Austria-Hungary in 1908. The annexation had angered Serbian nationalists, who believed the territories should be part of Serbia. A group of young nationalists hatched a plot to kill the archduke during his visit to Sarajevo, and after some missteps, 19-year-old Gavrilo Princip was able to shoot the royal couple at point-blank range, while they travelled in their official procession, killing both almost instantly. The assassination set off a rapid chain of



events, as Austria-Hungary immediately blamed the Serbian government for the attack. As large and powerful Russia supported Serbia, Austria asked for assurances that Germany would step in on its side against Russia and its allies, including France and possibly Great Britain. On July 28, Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia, and the fragile peace between Europe's great powers collapsed, beginning the devastating conflict now known as the First World War.

Copy and complete the questions on the Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand using the following videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OfO7TduevHA>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XS1gROq5iZ8>

1. When did the Assassination take place?
2. Where did the assassination take place?
3. What does Franz Ferdinand expect to happen? Why?
4. Why was it a bad day for Franz Ferdinand to visit?
5. Who is waiting for Franz Ferdinand?
6. What happened during the first assassination attempt?
7. How does the assassination happen?
8. What was the name of the man who assassinated Franz Ferdinand and the gang he was a part of?

Interactive breakout of War map:

<http://maps.canadiangeographic.ca/outbreak-of-first-world-war-map/>

Activity

Create a newspaper report on the assassination of Franz Ferdinand

You need to include:

- A suitable headline
- Details of why he was in Sarajevo and who was with him
- Details of the organisation that were responsible for the plot
- Events of the day
- Aftermath

Bias must be included in the article: either you support the assassination, or you are against it

Lesson 4 and 5 – **What was the most important cause of World War One**

LI: To decide what the most important cause of World War One was.

Retrieval Starter:

The Arms Race

1. Define what an arms race is.
2. Why did the Arms Race make things tense in Europe?
3. Why did Britain need such a strong Navy? Give two reasons.
4. Who was jealous of Britain's Navy? Why?
5. What did Britain launch in 1906?
6. Who had the most Dreadnoughts by the start of the First World War?

You will be spending your next two lessons writing your first History essay in Year 8. To help you prepare, we will recap the key points and use them to structure our essay.

Review:

Alliance System

Make notes on the following to help you plan your work. This would be in bullet points/mind maps etc. Do not forget to use your notes and the Knowledge Organiser.

- The two alliances were the **Triple Entente** and the **Triple Alliance**.

Triple Entente – Britain, France and Russia.

Triple Alliance – Germany, Italy and Austria-Hungary.

The Alliance system of Europe made war more likely, because things were tense and countries were more willing to fight.

The Arms Race

- An arms race is between two nations or groups of nations, where they try to get the best/most weapons.

- A huge naval arms race between Britain and Germany occurred during WW1.
- **An arms race makes countries scared of each other and produces the weapons that would be used in a war.**

The Kaiser

- Ruler of Germany.
- The Kaiser was very proud of his country after it was united in 1871.
- **The Kaiser wanted to show how strong Germany was and was willing to start a war to do so.**

The Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand

- Archduke Franz Ferdinand was the heir of Austria Hungary.
- He was assassinated by Gavrillo Princip in June 1914.
- **Austria Hungary blamed Serbia for helping the organisation and invaded. This dragged other countries into the war, because of the Alliance System.**

Now you are ready to start your essay (DIP). **Use the following introduction model to help you start:**

In this answer I will be looking at each of the causes of the First World War. I will also be stating which cause was the most important cause, in starting the First World War, and arguing why I believe it to be the most important cause.

After your introduction, we have included a helpful plan to help you structure your answer. You should aim to write a minimum of one A4 page for your answer.

Paragraph One on the alliance system

- Explain what it is
- Explaining how it helped start World War One

Paragraph Two The Arms Race

- Explain what it is
- Explaining how it helped start World War One

Paragraph Three The Kaiser

- Explain what it is

- Explaining how it helped start World War One

Paragraph Four The Assassination of Franz Ferdinand

- Explain what it is
- Explaining how it helped start World War One

Conclusion paragraph on your opinion on what was the most important reason

Strong argument as to why the reason you have picked is the most important and more important than all the other reasons!

Stewards Academy History Department		ASSESSMENT FEEDBACK	Year 8 – Autumn Term 1
Attainment Band :	Causes of the First World War		
	Knowledge and Understanding	Skills	
Yellow Plus	Analyses the strengths and weaknesses of different interpretations of the causes of the First World War.	Links between factors. E.g. explanation of how the assassination and the alliance system were linked.	
Yellow	Analyses the causes and makes a judgement on the most significant cause.	Makes a balanced argument about the most significant cause.	
Blue	Explanation of how each factor led to the First World War.	Explain causes using supporting evidence.	
Green	Description of the alliance system. Description of the assassination of Franz Ferdinand.	Narrative of the causes. Use of chronology.	
White	Description based answers.	Answer organised into paragraphs	

Lesson 6 – The Schlieffen Plan

LI: To understand what the Schlieffen Plan was.

Retrieval Starter:

The First World War begins

The First World War began on the 28th July 1914. What were the four major causes of the First World War. Explain each briefly.

1.

2.

3.

4.

Outbreak of War timeline:

July 28th - Austria-Hungary declare war on Serbia.

August 1st - Germany declare war on Russia.

August 3, 1914 - Germany declares war on France.

August 4, 1914 - Germany invades Belgium, leading Britain to declare war on Germany.

August 6, 1914 - Austria-Hungary declares war on Russia.

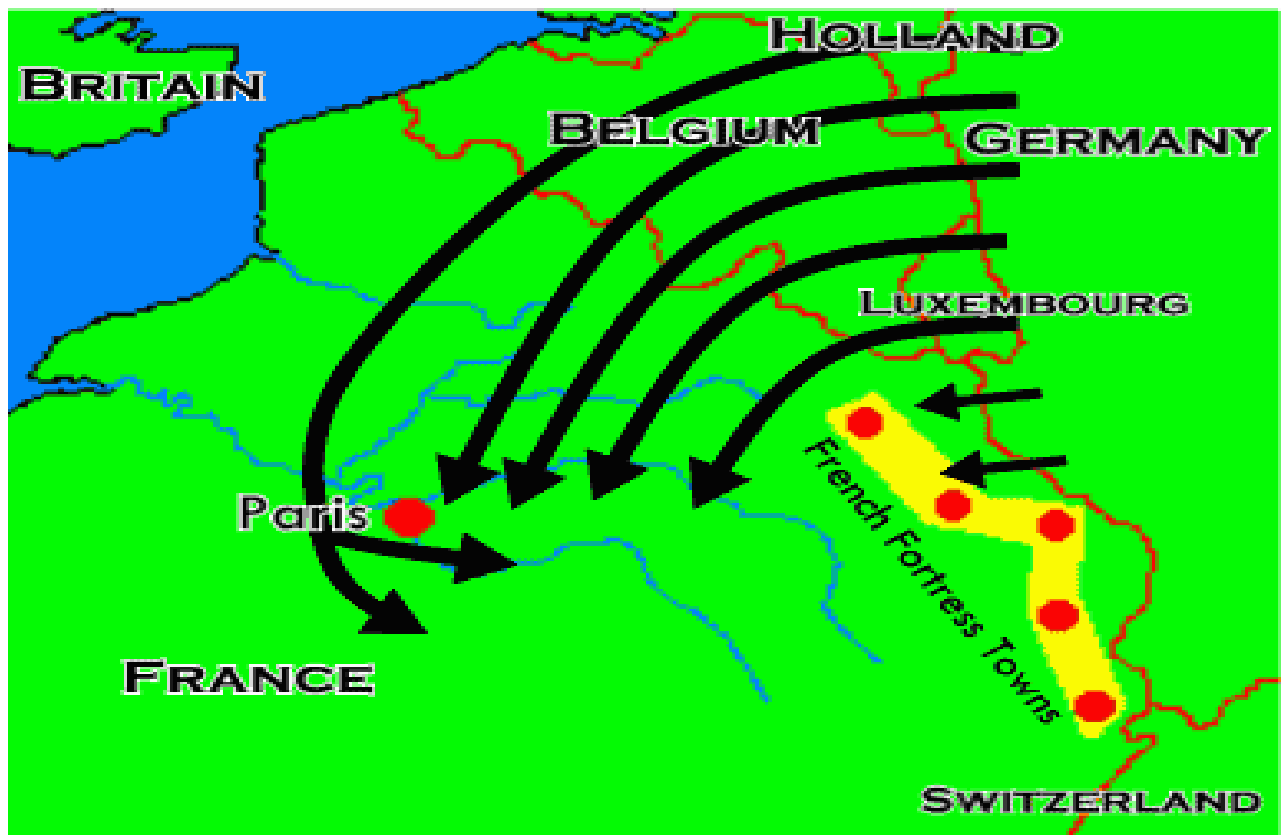
The Schlieffen Plan DART

The Schlieffen Plan avoided a war on two fronts. The Germans believed France would be weak and easy to defeat, so the plan meant they would be attacking France first to knock them out of the war very quickly. They would march their army through Belgium to invade France, catching the French off guard and easily defeating the Belgian army.

They thought that Russia would take longer to get ready, as Russia was a very big country that had not industrialised as well as other European countries, so they would have more time to prepare before fighting them. This meant France would be out of the War before Russia even had a chance to get ready. If France and Russia were knocked out of the war this would stop Britain from getting involved, giving Germany an easy victory.

However, this plan did not go at all as planned. The British soldiers came to the aid of the French very quickly and the Belgian army put a strong defence, holding the Germans back from invading

France. Russia also managed to prepare a lot quicker than the German army believed, meaning that the Schlieffen Plan had failed at soon as it had begun.



Watch the following video and answer the questions:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mUiWgD5us_E

1. When did Germany cross the border into Belgium?
2. How outnumbered were the Belgians, against the Germany army?
3. What did Belgian/British forces do to German troops?
4. What was Russia's disadvantage?
5. Why was the German attack slowing down?
6. What did the French do when the Germans could not capture Paris?
7. List the four main reasons that the Schlieffen Plan was a failure.
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