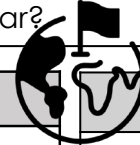


Y8 - Knowledge Organiser - The First World War

What do I need to know?

- What were the long-term causes of the First World War?
- How did the assassination of Franz Ferdinand lead to the outbreak of the First World War?



What were the long-term causes of the First World War

- **Militarism - Building up armed forces (army and navy), getting ready for war.** Many European countries had industrialised during the late 1800s and early 1900s. This allowed many European countries build massive armies with the most up to date technology. Britain led the charge at sea, creating dreadnought battleships.
- **Alliances - Agreements or promises to defend and help another country.** Many countries at the time agreed to work together and protect each other in case of war. This made two distinct 'sides' in Europe. The Triple Entente and the Triple Alliance
- **Imperialism - Trying to build up an Empire.** Many European countries believed they should have an Empire. This led to the 'scramble for Africa' and many countries trying to take over the same places. This caused a lot of tension between countries.
- **Nationalism - Having pride in your country, groups wanting to have a country of their own.** People felt that their country was superior to others. This was fuelled by government propaganda that sought to portray the war as a matter of duty.



How did the events in Sarajevo lead to war?

Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary was **assassinated** on **June 28, 1914**, in **Sarajevo, Bosnia**, by **Gavrilo Princip**, a member of the Serbian nationalist group the Black Hand Gang. The assassination was motivated by **Serbian nationalism** and **resentment toward Austro-Hungarian rule**. This led to many **countries becoming involved because of the growing alliance system** and putting pressure on the **already strained relationships** that ultimately **triggered the start of World War I**.

Key vocabulary

Empire	A collection of areas of land that are ruled over and controlled by one leading country.
Assassination	The murder of a well known person usually for political reasons.
Cause	A reason why something happens. These can be long term (happening for a long time) or short term (happen just before an event).

What was the Alliance system?

Triple Entente		Triple Alliance	
Britain, France, Russia		Austria-Hungary, Germany, Italy	
How did the Alliance system lead to WWI?			
28th June	Archduke Franz Ferdinand is assassinated in Sarajevo, Bosnia		
6th July	Germany offers a 'blank cheque' to find the killers and punish them. It says it will support the punishment		
23rd July	Austria – Hungary give Serbia an ultimatum – Give them anyone who was involved in the assassination or face war		
28th July	Serbia refuses to co-operate with Austria-Hungary. Austria-Hungary declares war on Serbia		
31st July	Russia, supporting Serbia starts to move troops and prepare for war.		
1st August	Germany asks Russia to hold off its defence of Serbia. Germany also sends troops towards France		
2nd August	Germany Demands safe passage through Belgium or threatens invasion – Belgium refuse		
3rd August	Britain declare their support for Belgium and promised military support		
4th August	Germany invades Belgium and Britain declares war on Germany		
6th August	Austria-Hungary declare war on Russia. WW1 had begun.		