

WWI - Chapter 2  
Growing Pains Unit 2  
SS 11

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Growing Pains - 1899-1945

- Canada Emerges in the 20<sup>th</sup> century
- Causes of World War One (also called "The Great War" Hmmm ironic?



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Introduction



- **Robert Borden** became prime minister of a peaceful and prosperous Canada in 1911.
- On August 4, 1914 Britain declared war on Germany taking Canada into a long and bloody conflict.
- More than 60,000 Canadians died in World War I.
- Canada emerged from the war with a strong sense of national identity.

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## Causes of World War I

- A war between the major European powers was, in the opinion of some historians, inevitable and long overdue.
- The causes were many and complex but certain fundamental issues can be identified.



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## M.A.N.I.A.C.

- An acronym for the causes of the war
- Complete notes for the WWI Causes Chart (on website). You can use the template if you have a computer or you can write your own chart.
- Basic notes are fine. There isn't enough room for a complete word for word copy

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## M-Militarism

- Massive build-up of armed forces to deter rivals ("Arms Race"), a nation's armed forces come to dominate its national policy; a glorification of the military and war itself.
- Ex. Germans built up a big army, British a large navy (p. 22 and 24)

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### HMS Dreadnought (1906)

- Launching of HMS Dreadnought had resulted in a naval arms race between Britain and Germany



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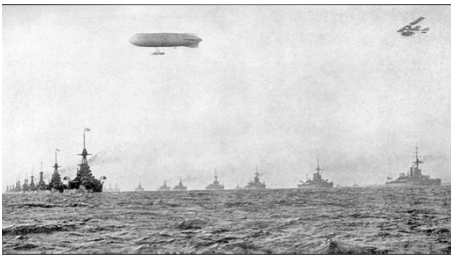
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### British Fleet WWI



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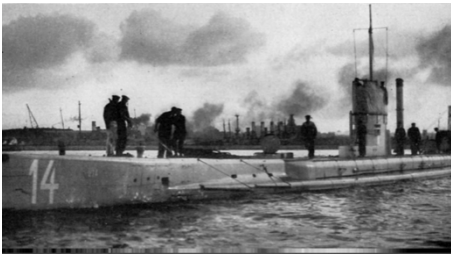
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### German U-Boat WWI



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## Canada's Navy - Niobe



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## A-Alliances

- Signed treaties in which each nation involved pledges to defend one another if attacked by an aggressor...if two countries went to war, all of Europe would be at war
- The Triple Alliance was comprised of Germany, Austria-Hungary and Italy.
- **The Triple Entente consisted of France, Russia and Britain.**



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## N-Nationalism

- Pride and patriotism in one's nation or ethnic group within a country, belief in national identity; in terms of WWI, nationalism became aggressive and subsequently a major cause of international tension
- France had lost the two small territories of Alsace and Lorraine to Germany in 1871 and was driven by nationalism to recover these "lost provinces."



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## The Balkans

- This region on Europe's southern flank was aptly named the "powder keg of Europe."
- It was dominated by the small but intensely nationalist state of Serbia.
- Austria-Hungary, a deeply divided multi-ethnic nation, feared the influence of Serbia on her southern border.



**The Balkans**

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## Assassination at Sarajevo

- In 1908, much to the annoyance of Serbia and her longtime ally Russia, Austria-Hungary annexed the two small territories of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- In June of 1914 the heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne and his wife were shot dead in Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia, by a Serbian terrorist. (more on this later)



**Russia**



**Austria-Hungary**

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## Hmmm



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## A-Assasination

- Targeting/killing a key political figure
- On June 28<sup>th</sup>, 1914, Gavrilo Princip, a member of the Serbian terrorist group known as the Black Hand, shot and killed the Archduke of Austria-Hungary, Franz Ferdinand, and his wife Sophia while they visited Sarajevo (Bosnia, claimed by neighbouring Serbia); this is the infamous “spark” that ignited WWI because it kicked the alliance system into effect.



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## C-Crisis

- Break-down of diplomacy, outbreak of violence, nations each commit to war
1. Austria-Hungary with the support of her ally Germany issued an unacceptable ultimatum to the Serbs. Declares war on Serbia (July 28, 1914)
  2. Russia mobilized her armies in support of Serbia (its ally).
  3. Germany, fearing a Russian attack, set in motion the Schlieffen Plan to defend Austria-Hungary which required an attack on Russia's ally France through neutral Belgium (invades Belgium)
  4. Britain (& Canada), fearing for her naval interests in the North Sea and wishing to support the tiny nation of Belgium, declared war on Germany.
  5. The Schlieffen Plan failed to accomplish the defeat of France with the result that the armies became locked in a bitter struggle on the Western Front.

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## British Soldiers on the Western Front 1915



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## Crash Course WWI Causes

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