#36: Crash Course World History Video Notes

World War I

1. The immediate cause of World War I was the assassination in Sarajevo of the Austrian Archduke \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on June 28, 1914, by a Bosnian Serb nationalist named Gavrilo Princip; which led Austria to issue an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to Serbia, whereupon Serbia accepted some but not all of Austria’s demands, leading Austria to declare war against Serbia.
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, due to its alliance with the Serbs, then mobilized its army; \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, because it had an alliance with Austria, told Russia to stop mobilizing, which Russia failed to do, so then Germany mobilized its own army, declared war on Russia, cemented an alliance with the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and then declared war on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (Whew)\
3. Germany’s War plan, the Schillefen Plan, required that it invade France in the most expedient way possible via \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, a neutral country. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_was a friend of Belgium so they declared war on Germany. So by August 4th, all the major powers of Europe are at war with each other.
4. By the end of the month, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, honoring its alliance with Britain, would be at war with Germany and Austria, too. When all was said and done, counting \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and spheres of influence, the world would be divided between the Allies and the Central Powers.
5. There were many opportunities NOT to mobilize and declare war, none of which were taken. Some blame the web of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ itself, which is what Woodrow Wilson tried to fix with the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
6. Some blame Russia, the first big country to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Some blame \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for the inflexibility of the Schlieffen plan. Leninists claim war grew out of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and was fueled by capitalist rivalries; and others claim it was a war between Germany’s radical modernism and Britain’s traditional \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
7. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ warfare on the Western Front is most famous for its brutal futility—Great Britain and France on one side, Germany on the other, with “\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_” between. The lines of trenches on the western front covered only about \_\_\_\_\_\_ miles as the crow flies, but because of the endless zigzagging, the trenches themselves may have run as much as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_miles.
8. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of trench warfare wasn’t seen on every front. At the beginning of the war there was a lot of offensive movement, with the initial German strikes, especially on the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; the Germans were pretty successful against the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, who had a large but pretty hapless army.
9. In the Middle East, T. E. Lawrence’s exploits took place in the context of World War I with the British battling the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (aka Lawrence of Arabia)
10. World War I featured combatants from around the world—Britain’s army, especially, included soldiers from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Africa, Australia, \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and Canada. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ served with the French, and for a lot of these people, their experiences helped build \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ movements when survivors returned home after the war.
11. The war itself was incredibly destructive. Over \_\_\_\_\_ million people were killed and over 20 million wounded. In France, \_\_\_\_\_ of the male population between the age of 15 and 49 died in the war.
12. The war also saw a lot of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ die, especially in the Ottoman Empire where more than 2 million of the 3 million people killed were non-combatants.
13. Like so many other wars, World War I’s most efficient killer was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. For instance, \_\_\_\_\_ of arm wounds among German soldiers were fatal. And that’s not even to mention the famous \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ epidemic that broke out toward the end of the war, which killed \_\_\_\_\_ times as many people as the war itself.
14. The main reason the war was so deadly was the combination of new \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and outdated tactics. While we may think about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_all of which made their debut in the First World War, the two most devastating technologies were \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: machine guns, and barbed wire.
15. At the Somme the British lost \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ men in the first day of fighting.
16. For most soldiers, there was nothing glamorous or heroic about this war. For the British, for example, the trenches were two things above all: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The dampness came from the fact that the British trenches were in the wettest part of Flanders. The smell was mainly decomposing \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
17. While going “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_” of the trench to cross no-man’s land and attack the enemy trench is what lights our romantic imagination, most soldiers’ lives were dominated by the fear of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
18. For most soldiers, British and especially French, the pay for their efforts was pitiful. So why did they even keep fighting? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, nationalism, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to their comrades, and fear of being shot for desertion all played a role.
19. So what did we take away (learn) from the so-called Great War? Well, not much.
* The Treaty of Versailles, which ended World War I, fixed the blame for the war on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, proved ruinous to their economy and destructive to their political institutions.
* World War I was also a disaster for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, because it facilitated the rise of the Bolsheviks.
1. The Russian Revolution had two phases. In the first phase, called the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Revolution, (March Revolution…The calendar will change) army mutinies and civil unrest forced the overthrow of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ dynasty which had been in power in Russia since 1618.
2. The monarchy was replaced by a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ government led (eventually) by Alexander Kerensky, which made the terrible decision to keep Russia in the war, which led to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (November) Revolution in which Vladimir \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and his Bolsheviks took over, famously promising the Russian people “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”
3. Lenin’s first big achievement was signing a separate peace with Germany and getting Russia out of the war, which was helpful to him since he needed to fight a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_that wouldn’t end until 1922.
4. This might’ve helped Germany, too, except the \_\_\_\_\_ entered the war on the side of the British and the French.
5. As a result another outcome of the war: increased \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ influence for the U.S. The U.S. was already becoming a major \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ power; the war helped catapult the U.S. from being a debtor nation to a creditor one, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ leading role in the negotiations at Versailles –even though he actually didn’t get what he wanted –made America a big player on the world stage for the first time.
6. Another major outcome of the war was the end of the Ottoman Empire and the emergence of the nation-state of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The rest of the world saw some change too, but not much for the better: In Africa, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ took Germany’s colonies, and even though \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ fought and died in a higher percentage than Americans in World War I, India didn’t gain any real autonomy.
7. All these terrible outcomes led to a general sense of disappointment in literary circles, and this feeling of pointlessness and cynicism was expressed by the writers of the “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”