

Causes of World War I

Long Term Causes

1. *Alliances* – *the banding together for protection against threatening enemies*

- previous conflict between France and Germany
- Triple Alliance = Austria-Hungary, Germany, Italy
- Triple Entente = Great Britain, France, Russia
- Secret treaties established – if one member was attacked, the others would help

2. *Militarism* – *building up of armies and navies for the purpose of defence and to decide issues led to an arms race*

Britain had the new ***HMS Dreadnought*** and she grew nervous when Germany started building a huge navy this challenged Britain's supremacy at sea

3. *Nationalism* – feeling of deep loyalty to one's people and homeland; desire and plans for independence

- by early 20th century, extreme nationalism was causing problems and some countries were even ready to go to war to promote the interests of their homeland
- nationalism was especially strong in Serbia in the early 1900s

4. *Imperialism* – policy of dominating other nations by establishing colonies; forming and maintaining an empire

- countries became increasingly interested in imperialism in the late 19th and early 20th centuries
- these lands or colonies were a source of raw materials and a market for manufactured goods
- gave the home country glory and military strength
- Britain controlled 25% of the world; France - 12%; Germany, Russia, Japan and the USA were also gaining land and wealth which led to quarrels over colonies and trade.

5. Balkan Powder Keg – the countries in Central Europe including Serbia, Bosnia, Albania, Romania, etc.

Very nationalistic = very volatile area

write France, Germany, Russia
Great Britain, Austria-Hungary
Italy
Shade the triple-alliance and triple-entente

Label (use numbers)

- | | |
|------------|-----------|
| ① Romania | ④ Belgium |
| ② Bulgaria | ⑤ Bosnia |
| ③ Serbia | ⑥ Turkey |

Locate and label

Sarajevo	•
Paris	⊙

label major bodies of water.

Short Term Causes

- Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand (heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne) in Sarajevo on June 28, 1914 by Gavrilo Princip of the “Black Hand”
- Ultimatums (a list of demands) – Austria-Hungary insisted that Serbia: 1. put down all nationalist hatred against Austria-Hungary; 2. punish all those involved in the assassination plot; 3. allow Austro-Hungarian officials into Serbia to help crush the Black Hand
 - Serbia rejected #3
- Invasion – Austria-Hungary invaded Serbia
- Mobilization of armies along borders

The Steps to War - Summer 1914

- June 28 Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary is assassinated at Sarajevo
- July 23 Austria-Hungary sends ultimatum to Serbia
- July 25 Serbia replies; rejects one term
- July 28 Austria-Hungary invades Serbia
- July 29 Russia mobilizes its army along borders Austria-Hungary and Germany. Germany declares war on Russia. Canada sends telegram to Britain promising support.
- August 3 Germany declares war on France.
- August 4 Germany invades Belgium. Britain declares war on Germany.
- August 5 Canada and the rest of the British Empire are at war.