



WORLD WAR I

Unit 11b Review Guide

1: NEUTRALITY & THE START OF WORLD WAR I

Americans did not want to participate in World War I, but eventually chose to join the fight after it appeared Germany was inciting Mexico to attack the United States.

2: THE WORLD WAR I HOMEFRONT

World War I had profound impacts on the United States. Although there was never any fighting on American soil, it led to the expansion of the government, new opportunities for women and African Americans, as well as regrettable restrictions of the freedom of speech.

3: THE END OF WORLD WAR I & ISOLATIONISM

America joined World War I at the very end and American troops saw limited fighting, but President Wilson took a key role in the peace negotiations afterward. The Treaty of Versailles that formally concluded the war included his idea for a League of Nations, although the Senate refused to ratify the treaty and the nation moved toward isolationism in the 1920s.



Watch Mr. Loomis's Review Video:
<https://youtu.be/FBpGSTNaWUw>



Study the Vocabulary on Quizlet:
https://quizlet.com/_6bwjxv



Read the Online Textbook:
www.inquiryhistory.com/unit11b

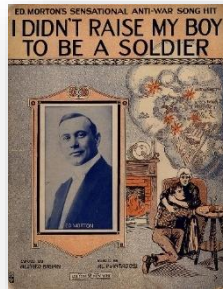


11b-1: NEUTRALITY & THE START OF WWI

BIG IDEA: Americans did not want to participate in World War I, but eventually chose to join the fight after it appeared Germany was inciting Mexico to attack the United States.

World War I was not originally a war that involved the United States. It started in Europe between the major European powers. Over the few decades before the war began, the Europeans had settled themselves into two groups. The Central Powers included Germany, Austria-Hungary and Italy. The Triple Entente was made up of the United Kingdom, France and Russia. The alliances were intended to provide support in case of attack, but they also had disastrous consequences.

The war began because the heir to the throne of Austria-Hungary was murdered. Austria-Hungary blamed Serbia, which asked for help from Russia. Austria-Hungary asked for help from Germany, and then Russia turned to its friends France and the United Kingdom. By August of 1914, the major powers found themselves going to war. Most historians see it as a terrible mistake – a time when politicians failed to think calmly and take the time necessary to avoid doing things they couldn't later undo.



World War I is remembered as being especially terrible. Modern technology meant that armies could bring machine guns, gigantic cannons, land mines, barbed wire and poison gas to the battlefield, but these weapons were best used for defense. Under pressure to win victories, generals sent millions of men in attacks with little hope of victory. The result was a slaughter. Although more people died in other wars in history, so many men died for so little during World War I that we remember it as particularly awful. Also deadly were submarines called U-Boats, which the Germans had mastered.

For the first few years of the war, the United States remained neutral. Although most Americans supported the British, French and Russians, they did not want to join the fighting.

Eventually, however, President Wilson asked Congress to declare war because of a combination of factors. The Germans began attacking American ships that were carrying supplies to trade with the United Kingdom and France. Probably the final straw was that Americans learned of a plot to convince Mexico to attack the United States. The idea probably had no chance of success, but it made Americans angry enough to join the war.

VOCABULARY



IDEAS

Trench Warfare
Neutrality



PEOPLE & GROUPS

Queen Victoria
Wilhelm II
Archduke Franz Ferdinand



EVENTS

Assassination of Franz Ferdinand
The Great War
Russian Revolution



BOOKS

Zimmerman Telegram



LOCATIONS

Triple Entente
Triple Alliance/Central Powers



LAWS

National Defense Act
Naval Appropriations Act



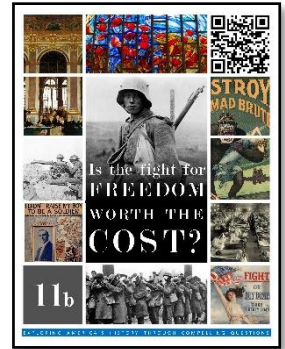
SPEECHES

Wilson's War Message



SHIPS

U-Boat
Lusitania



11b-2: THE WORLD WAR I HOMEFRONT

BIG IDEA: World War I had profound impacts on the United States. Although there was never any fighting on American soil, it led to the expansion of the government, new opportunities for women and African Americans, as well as regrettable restrictions of the freedom of speech.

Americans were enthusiastic about joining the army. For many recent immigrants and their children, joining the fight was a way to demonstrate their love for their new country. A draft was implemented. There were a few conscientious objectors.

Anti-German feelings were common. There were many German immigrants and they faced discrimination. Schools stopped teaching German and German foods were renamed at restaurants.

The federal government gained in both size and power during the war. Business leaders and government officials collaborated to set prices and organize railroad schedules in support of the war effort. Future president Herbert Hoover organized the food industry and the United States fed both its own people and the people of Europe during the war.

To pay for the war, the government raised money by selling liberty bonds.

One of the dark sides to World War I were laws passed to limit First Amendment freedoms. The Espionage and Sedition Acts made criticizing the government and the war effort illegal. In the case of *Schenck v. United States*, the Supreme Court upheld these restrictions.



The war effort was good for organized labor. Labor unions worked closely with government officials who wanted to avoid strikes. It was during the war that the 8-hour workday was implemented. Pay went up as well.

Women took some jobs in factories and supported the war effort as nurses and secretaries.

For African Americans, the war was a chance to demonstrate their bravery in battle. Although they served in segregated units, African Americans were fighting against both Germany and discrimination back home. During the war, the need for factory workers in the North increased and thousands of African American families moved out of the rural South to the cities of the North to find work. This Great Migration significantly changed the racial makeup for the country.

VOCABULARY



IDEAS

Draft
Daylight Savings Time
Propaganda
Eight-Hour Day



PEOPLE & GROUPS

Conscientious Objectors
Herbert Hoover
Bernard Baruch
George Creel
Harlem Hellfighters



LAWS

Selective Service Act
Lever Act/Food and Fuel Control Act
Liberty Loan Act
Espionage Act
Sedition Act



COURT CASES

Schenck v. United States



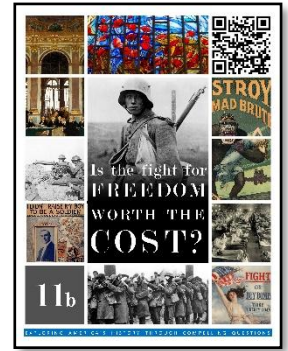
SONGS

Over There



GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Fuel Administration
Food Administration
War Industries Board
U.S. Railway Administration
Committee on Public Information
National Labor War Board
Women's Land Army



11b-3: END OF WWI & ISOLATIONISM

BIG IDEA: America joined World War I at the very end and American troops saw limited fighting, but President Wilson took a key role in the peace negotiations afterward. The Treaty of Versailles that formally concluded the war included his idea for a League of Nations, although the Senate refused to ratify the treaty and the nation moved toward isolationism in the 1920s.

The United States entered the fighting in the last year of World War I. Germany had been suffering under a terrible blockade and was short on food and supplies. Russia had already exited the war and was in the middle of a civil war. American commanders refused to let their troops be split up and insisted on fighting together as one large group. They were still a tiny fraction of all the men on the battlefields of Europe.

The end of the war came on November 11, 1918. The European powers had lost millions of men in battle, as well as civilians. A flu pandemic swept the world in 1918 killing millions more.

President Woodrow Wilson went to Europe after the war had finished to negotiate a peace deal. He believed it was an opportunity to forge an international system for a lasting peace. He described his vision for a peaceful world in a speech entitled the Fourteen Points. The most important of these was the creation of a League of Nations in which future conflicts could be resolved without war.

The result of the negotiations was the Treaty of Versailles. Wilson succeeded in getting the Europeans to create a League of Nations, although they also imposed a harsh punishment on Germany. Germany was forced to admit that the war had been their fault and pay enormous reparations. This punishing element of the treaty would be used later by Hitler to blame Germany's problems on its neighbors.

Wilson's efforts to join the new League of Nations faced a major challenge. The Constitution gives the Senate the authority to ratify all treaties signed by the president. One element of the League of Nations was a commitment by every nation to defend any nation under attack. In theory, this would deter nations from going to war since they risked punishment from the entire world. In reality, Republicans in the Senate feared that this would mean the United States would be forced to join wars that were not really its business.

When it looked like the Senate was going to reject the Treaty, Wilson travelled the nation giving speeches to build public support. This also failed and the Senate voted against the treaty. Without the United States, the League of Nations was seriously weakened. It is possible that if America had been at the table, World War II might have been avoided, but we can never know.

By rejecting the Treaty of Versailles and membership in the League of Nations, the United States also rejected Wilson's dream of internationalism. Instead, for the next twenty years the nation pursued a policy of isolationism.

In keeping with that new idea, Congress passed the Immigration Act of 1924, cutting off almost all immigration from Europe and ending immigration entirely from Asia.

A fear of foreigners and dangerous foreign ideas swept the nation. With the success of the communist revolution in Russia, a Red Scare started. Immigrant anarchists Sacco and Vanzetti were convicted in a deeply flawed trial that many saw as evidence of a national eagerness to root out dangerous ideas.

VOCABULARY



IDEAS

Armistice
Fourteen Points
Reparations



PEOPLE & GROUPS

Vladimir Lenin
American Expeditionary Force (AEF)
John "Blackjack" Pershing
League of Nations
Henry Cabot Lodge
Irreconcilables
Reservationists
Edith Wilson



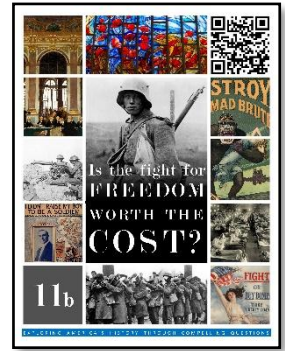
TREATIES

Treaty of Versailles
Article X of the League of Nations Covenant



EVENTS

Armistice Day
1918 Influenza Pandemic
Paris Peace Conference



ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY



KEY CONCEPTS

Trench Warfare: Style of combat common on the Western Front during World War I marked by a distinct advantage for the defense.

Neutrality: Refusing to join sides in a war.

Propaganda: Advertising created by the government to encourage citizens to think and act in ways the government wants.

Armistice: An agreement to stop fighting.

Fourteen Points: President Wilson's reasons for fighting in World War I. These were aspects of his Moral Diplomacy and became the basis of American negotiations at the end of the war. Some of the ideas were included in the Treaty of Versailles.

Reparations: Payment by one nation to another as a form of apology or penalty.



LOCATIONS

Triple Entente: Alliance between the United Kingdom, France and Russia at the start of World War I

Triple Alliance / Central Powers: Alliance between Germany, Austria-Hungary and Italy at the start of World War I. When the war began, Italy left the alliance.



LAWS & TREATIES

Selective Service Act: 1917 law that established the draft.

Espionage and Sedition Acts: A pair of laws passed during World War I significantly restricting freedom of speech by making anti-war or anti-government speech illegal.

Treaty of Versailles: Peace treaty that concluded World War I and established the League of Nations. The United States Senate never ratified the treaty.

Article X of the League of Nations Covenant: Key component of the League of Nations in which the nations of the world agreed to join together to repulse any aggressive military actions.

Immigration Act of 1924: Law that ended almost all immigration. It put strict quotas on the number of immigrants that could come from any one country in a year. It favored immigrants from Europe and ended immigration from Asia entirely.



PEOPLE AND GROUPS

Wilhelm II: King or Kaiser of Germany during World War I

Archduke Franz Ferdinand: Son of the king of Austria-Hungary who was assassinated in 1914 along with his wife. Their deaths were the spark that started World War I.

Conscientious Objectors: People who refuse to join the military for personal, moral reasons, such as because of religious beliefs.

Harlem Hellfighters: Nickname for the 369th Infantry, a segregated unit of African-American soldiers during World War I.

John "Blackjack" Pershing: General who led the American army in Europe during World War I.

League of Nations: International organization created at the end of World War I. It was the brainchild of President Wilson and was designed to give nations a forum in which to resolve differences without war. It failed to prevent World War II.

Henry Cabot Lodge: Republican senator who led opposition to the Treaty of Versailles fearing that it would force the United States to join wars that were not central to American interests.

Irreconcilables: Republican senators during the debate over the Treaty of Versailles who refused to vote to approve the treaty no matter what changes were made.

Reservationists: Republican senators during the debate over the Treaty of Versailles who would consider voting to ratify the treaty if changes were made.

Anarchist: A person who believes there should be no government.

A. Mitchell Palmer: Attorney general under President Wilson who conducted raids on suspected communists, anarchists and other foreigners during the First Red Scare.

Sacco and Vanzetti: Italian immigrants and anarchists who were tried and convicted of murder. Some view their case as an example of anti-immigrant fear carried too far since the evidence against them was weak.



TEXTS

Zimmermann Telegram: Message from the Germany foreign minister to the German ambassador in Mexico encouraging Mexico to enter World War I on the side of the Central Powers. In return, Germany would help Mexico regain lost territory in the American Southwest. The publication of the message angered many Americans.



EVENTS

Assassination of Franz Ferdinand: Killing of the heir to the throne of Austria-Hungary in 1914 that served as the catalyst for World War I.

The Great War: Nickname for World War I.

Russian Revolution: Overthrow of the Czar of Russia during World War I. Communists under the leadership of Vladimir Lenin eventually took control, founded the Soviet Union, and made peace with Germany.

Armistice Day: November 11, 1928 – the day fighting in World War I ended. Today it is remembered in the United States as Veteran's Day.

1918 Influenza Pandemic: Major worldwide outbreak of the flu which killed 3-5% of the global population during World War I.

Paris Peace Conference: The meeting in 1918 and 1919 of world leaders to negotiate a treaty to conclude World War I.

First Red Scare: Period following the Russian Revolution when the fear of communism was especially high. This led to the unjustified persecution of communists, anarchists, and immigrants and eventually to the ending of almost all immigration.

Palmer Raids: Raids by federal authorities on communists, anarchists and other immigrant groups during the First Red Scare.



COURT CASES

Schenck v. United States: Supreme Court ruling during World War I upholding the Espionage and Sedition Acts. It introduced the "clean and present danger" doctrine but is not widely considered to be a failure of the Court to preserve individual liberties.



SHIPS

U-Boat: Germany submarine.

Lusitania: British cruise ship that was sunk by Germany U-Boats in 1918. The event pushed many Americans toward support for entering the war on the side of the Allies.