



History

Y8: Summer 1: The First World War 1894-1918

	Keyword	Meaning
1	militarism	the belief that a country should maintain a strong army and navy
2	alliance	an agreement between countries to support each other
3	imperial	relating to an empire or an emperor
4	nationalist	a person with great love for their nation. Nationalist can also mean a person or group within a country that desires political independence
5	Weltpolitik	meaning 'world policy'. Used to describe Kaiser Wilhelm II's desire to be a world power
6	empire	a group of nations or people ruled over by an emperor, empress, or powerful government
7	colony	a country or area under the full or partial control of another country
8	naval race	when rival nations attempt to outdo each other in the size and quality of their navy
9	arms race	when rival nations attempt to outdo each other in the size and quality of their armed forces
10	assassin	a person who kills someone for political or religious reasons

The Great Powers in Europe before the war?

Country	Key Details
Germany 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Kaiser Wilhelm IIGrowing Naval forcesDefeated France and took Alsace LorraineGathered resources to grow armed forces.Made France pay 200 million francs
Austria-Hungary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Lots of different nationalitiesWorried about Serbia (lots of Serbs in A-H)
Italy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">New CountryArgued with Austria Hungary about land
France 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Built up the industryTried to make alliances with countries who could help them.Large overseas EmpireWants REVENGE!
Britain 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Good trading nationFelt safe from invasions – island, strong navyDepended on their overseas empireNeeded strong NavyThreatened by Germany – empire, Navy
Russia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Behind the times!Little modern industryRussia and Austria-Hungary not friendsRich trade in Mediterranean

ALLIANCES –

The major powers were split into two alliances the **Triple Alliance** (German, Austria-Hungary and Italy) and the **Triple Entente** (Britain, France and Russia). Countries were fearful the others were plotting against them.



Causes of the First World War

COLONIES –

Each major power (especially Germany who was jealous of the British Empire) wanted control of **lands overseas** (colonies). The race to gain colonies caused arguments and **increased tension**.



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THE BALKANS –

Serbia was growing in power and starting to threaten Austria-Hungary (**Bosnian Crisis**). In 1908, Austria-Hungary took control of Bosnia. Serbia were upset and called on their allies Russia. Russia was forced to back down by Germany.



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THE KAISER –

Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany was desperate to have a great Empire, his "**place in the sun**". He called this policy **Weltpolitik** and this created tension as he upset and angered other countries like France and Britain.



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MOROCCO –

In 1904 and again in 1911 the Kaiser tried to take over **Morocco** which France also wanted. He tested the strength of the **Entente Cordiale** and found to his dismay that Britain would back up France and he would have to back down.



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ARMS RACE –

Each of the major powers argued that they needed a **big army** to keep them **safe** and they needed to build a bigger army than their rivals. Britain and Germany had a **Naval Race** where they tried to build as many **Dreadnought** battleships as possible.



7

FRANZ FERDINAND –

The Archduke of Austria-Hungary was killed by **Gavrilo Princip**. He was a member of the Serbian terrorists called the **Black Hand**. Austria-Hungary were furious and made a **ultimatum** of 10 demands to Serbia.



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REACTIONS –

After the assassination the Serbians accepted all but 1 of Austria's demands. This was enough for Austria-Hungary to declare war on them which triggered the **alliance system**. Russia helped Serbia; Germany helped Austria and launched their Schlieffen plan.

