World War I

I. Long-term causes of World War I
   A. Rival alliances: **Triple Alliance** vs. **Triple Entente**
      1. 1871: The balance of power of Europe was upset by the decisive Prussian victory in the Franco-Prussian War and the creation of the German Empire.
         a. Bismarck thereafter feared French revenge and negotiated treaties to isolate France.
         b. Bismarck also feared Russia, especially after the Congress of Berlin in 1878 when Russia blamed Germany for not gaining territory in the Balkans.
      2. In 1879, the Dual Alliance emerged: Germany and Austria
         a. Bismarck sought to thwart Russian expansion.
         b. The Dual Alliance was based on German support for Austria in its struggle with Russia over expansion in the Balkans.
         c. This became a major feature of European diplomacy until the end of World War I.
      3. **Triple Alliance**, 1881: Italy joined Germany and Austria
         • Italy sought support for its imperialistic ambitions in the Mediterranean and Africa.
      4. **Russian-German Reinsurance Treaty**, 1887
         a. It promised the neutrality of both Germany and Russia if either country went to war with another country.
         b. Kaiser Wilhelm II refused to renew the reinsurance treaty after removing Bismarck in 1890.
            • This can be seen as a huge diplomatic blunder; Russia wanted to renew it but now had no assurances it was safe from a German invasion.
            • France courted Russia; the two became allies.
            • Germany, now out of necessity, developed closer ties to Austria.
      5. "**Splendid Isolation**" for Britain: After 1891, Britain was the only non-aligned power and enjoyed relative security as the world’s largest navy and protection by the sea as an island nation.
      6. **Anglo-Japanese Alliance** (1902): Britain sought a Japanese agreement to "benevolent neutrality" to counter the possible Russian threat in India.
         • This signaled the end of Britain’s “splendid isolation.”
      7. **Entente Cordiale (1904)**: Due to the **Anglo-German naval arms race**, Britain and France settled all outstanding colonial disputes in Africa.
         a. France accepted British rule of the Sudan.
         b. Britain recognized French control of Morocco.
8. **Triple Entente, 1907: Britain, France and Russia**
   a. It was formed to check the power of the Triple Alliance (Germany, Austria, and Italy)
   b. It was not truly a formal alliance but one done in principle.

B. The **Anglo-German arms race**
1. Militarism led to a belief in the inevitability of a general European war.
   a. Germany overtook Britain industrially in the 1890s.
   b. **Bertha von Suttner** (Austrian)
      - She was the first woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize; she opposed the arms race.
      - *Lay Down Your Arms* (1889) contributed to the founding of Peace Societies in Austria and Germany.
2. British policy was to have its fleet larger than the combined fleets of any two rival nations.
3. In 1898, Kaiser Wilhelm II began the expansion of the German navy to protect its growing international trade and colonialism.
   - Haldane Mission (1912): Britain tried unsuccessfully to end the naval arms race with Germany.
4. By World War I, both Britain and Germany possessed **Dreadnoughts**—new super battleships with awesome firing range and power.

C. Imperialism led to increased tensions between the Great Powers over Africa.
1. Berlin Conference, 1885: Germany's late entry into imperialism led Bismarck to establish rules for carving up Africa.
   - Germany aggressively set out to acquire colonies, sometimes coming into conflict with rival European powers.
2. **Kruger Telegram** (1896): It triggered British anger at Germany when the Kaiser congratulated the Boers on their victories over British troops in South Africa.
3. In 1906, the **Algeciras Conference** settled the **First Moroccan Crisis**.
   a. Kaiser Wilhelm had urged Moroccan independence despite its being a French colony.
   b. Britain and Italy supported French dominance in Morocco and Tunisia.
   c. Britain, France, Russia, and the U.S. saw Germany as potential threat to dominate all of Europe.
   d. Germany became further isolated (except for Austria's support).
   e. Germany decried *"encirclement"* by other powers to block Germany's emergence as a world power.
   f. The Triple Entente was created in response.
4. **Second Moroccan Crisis** (1911)
   a. A German gunboat was sent to Morocco to protest the French occupation of the city of Fez.
   b. Britain once again supported France.
   c. Some observers believed this conflict would escalate into a world war.
   d. Germany backed down for minor concessions in equatorial Africa.
   e. D. Nationalism created a "powder keg" in the **Balkans**.

1. The Ottoman Empire ("the sick man of Europe") receded from the Balkans leaving a power vacuum.
   - This was the so-called Eastern Question.

2. **Pan-Slavism**, a nationalist movement to unite all Slavic peoples, encouraged the Serbs, Bosnians, Slovenes, and Croats to seek a single political entity in Southeastern Europe.
   - As the southern Slavs' "big brother" to the east, Russia focused on Balkan territories in the Austro-Hungarian and Ottoman Empires after its humiliating loss in the Russo-Japanese War.

3. First Balkan Crisis (Bosnian Crisis)
   a. The **Young Turks**, led by Atatürk (Mustafa Kemal Pasha), set up a parliamentary gov't in the Ottoman Empire.
      - Though somewhat politically progressive in its attempt to modernize the empire, the regime seemed weak to the other European powers.
      - In 1911-12, Italy took the Turkish province of Libya showing how weak the Ottomans had become.
   b. In 1908, Austria annexed Bosnia-Herzegovina while Russia failed to gain access, thus leaving Serbia frustrated
      - Austria’s action violated the Congress of Berlin (1878).
   c. War was averted because Russia was not yet ready and France was not willing to fight over the Balkans.

4. **First Balkan War** (1912)
   a. Serbia, Greece, and Bulgaria allied to successfully drive the Turks out of the Balkans.
      - The fighting lasted less than one month.
      - Most of the formerly-Ottoman Balkan territories were now divided up among the Balkan states.
   b. Serbia sought port access to the Adriatic Sea but was rebuffed when Austria created the state of Albania to block Serbia.

5. **Second Balkan War** (1913)
   a. Bulgaria was angered that Serbia and Greece had acquired significant territory in Macedonia and thus attacked both countries.
   b. Serbia defeated Bulgaria in its quest for Macedonia and temporarily gained Albania as a result.
      - Russia backed its Slavic neighbor, Serbia.
   c. Austria, with German support against Russia, prevented Serbia from holding onto Albania.
d. Serbia was frustrated as it still had no access to the Adriatic Sea; Albania gained independence.

e. Russia was humiliated as it could not help Serbia acquire Albania.

6. The "Third Balkan War" between Austria and Serbia became World War I in the summer of 1914.

II. Immediate causes of World War I

A. June 28, 1914: Archduke Franz Ferdinand, the Austrian heir to throne, was assassinated by Serbian nationalist Princip (member of the ultra-nationalist Serbian "Black Hand") while visiting Bosnia-Herzegovina.

B. Kaiser Wilhelm II pledged unwavering support to Austria to punish Serbia: "the blank check."

1. Austria made harsh demands on Serbia by requiring Serbia to punish all forms of anti-Austrian sentiment and participate in joint judicial proceedings against anti-Austrian activity.

2. Eventually Serbia agreed to most of Austria’s terms except joint judicial proceedings which it wanted adjudicated by the International Tribunal at the Hague.

C. On July 28, Austria declared war on Serbia.

1. Claimed Serbia had not accommodated adequately Austria’s demands

2. On July 29, Austria began bombarding Belgrade (the capital of Serbia).

   • This represented the first military aggression of the war.

3. In response, Russia mobilized its armies against Austria and Germany.

4. France, in response, mobilized on Germany's western border.

D. On August 1, Germany declared war on France.

1. On August 3, Germany invaded Belgium (on its way through to France).

   • In effect, Germany turned the little localized war in the Balkans into a world war by attacking Belgium and France.

2. In response, France declared war on Germany.

3. On August 4, Britain declared war on Germany.

E. Two opposing alliances emerged:

1. Central Powers (Triple Alliance): Germany, Austria-Hungary, Ottoman Empire, (also Bulgaria)

2. Allies (Triple Entente): Britain, France, and Russia (later, Japan, Italy, Romania, and the U.S.)
III. The **Western Front**  
A. The **Schlieffen Plan**  
1. German 42-day military plan to invade France through Belgium, defeat France quickly by sweeping around Paris, and then redeploy to the east to defeat Russia before she fully mobilized.  
   - When Russia began to mobilize on July 28 after Austria declared war on Serbia, the 42-day timetable had begun. Germany believed she had to attack lest she be saddled with a two-front war against Russia and France.  
2. **Battle of the Marne** (September 1914)  
   a. After the Germans came within sight of Paris, French and British forces pushed the German forces back.  
   b. The French army was led by General Joseph Joffre.  
   c. The battle represented the end of mobility on the Western Front.  
3. Why did the Schlieffen Plan fail?  
   a. Belgium’s surprising resistance to Germany’s invasion slowed down the German offensive into France.  
   b. The left of the German line failed to lure the French army into Alsace and Lorraine and destroy it.  
   c. Russia mobilized quickly in the east requiring German divisions to be sent there instead.  
   d. The French and British counterattack at the Battle of the Marne was decisive in halting the German invasion.  

B. **Trench warfare** resulted in a stalemate and lasted four bloody years.  
1. A long line of trenches stretched from the North Sea to the Swiss border in the south (about 440 miles—25,000 miles of trenches were built overall).  
2. Despite massive casualties on both sides, few gains were made in terms of gaining ground.  
3. 1916: Massive casualties but neither side could break through  
   a. **Battle of Verdun** (February-December)  
      - Germany sought a battle of attrition that would “bleed France white” and force it to sue for peace.  
      - France lost 540,000 men; Germany lost 430,000; it was the war’s second bloodiest battle.  
        o General Philippe Pétain’s leadership of French forces made him a national hero.  
   b. **Battle of the Somme** (July-November)  
      - British and French offensive aimed to break through the German lines.  
      - Bloodiest battle of the war  
      - Losses of men: Britain 420,000; France 200,000; Germany 650,000  
4. **Erich Remarque’s All Quiet on the Western Front** (1929) later illustrated the horrors of trench warfare.
C. Technological advancements in war increased casualties.
   1. World War I represented the industrial revolution applied to warfare.
   2. **Machine gun**
      a. Perhaps the most important reason for the frightful casualties that occurred compared to previous wars
      b. It was first used effectively by the Germans in mowing down French and British offensives in trench warfare; it was eventually employed by both sides.
         - One machine gun equal the effectiveness of 40 men with rifles; German guns fired 600 bullets per minute.
   3. **Tanks**
      a. Artillery was now made mobile (in contrast to cannon used in previous wars).
      b. Tanks could navigate treacherous terrain but initially suffered numerous mechanical problems.
      c. They were first used at the Battle of the Somme in 1916 to smash down *barbed wire* fences but had little effect.
      d. They were not really effective until the last year of the war, especially for the Entente.
   4. **Airplane**
      a. Initial air fights consisted of pistols and rifles fired from planes.
      b. Germany developed the first fighter plane (the Fokker) that synchronized machine guns and propellers.
         - In response, Britain and France developed their own fighter squadrons.
      c. Britain used planes to bomb Zeppelin bases in Germany.
   5. **Poison gas**
      a. Chlorine gas was used by the Germans early in the war.
      b. The impact of mustard gas was largely negated by the use of gas masks by the Allies.
      c. Germans later used phosgene gas and tear gas in concert for its offensives.
   6. **Submarines (U-boats)**
      a. Submarines, initially used by Germany, had devastating effects on Allied shipping throughout the war.
         - Britain and France also used submarines.
      b. The German use of U-boats was the most important reason for why the U.S. eventually entered the war.
   7. **Zeppelins (blimps)**
      a. They were used by Germany to bomb London and other civilian targets as a weapon of terror.
      b. Eventually, exploding shells were able to destroy Zeppelins in the air.
   8. **Radio**
      a. Wireless technology made communication more effective on the battlefield.
      b. The Germans took advantage of Russia’s lack of radio capability and tapped into Russian phone lines to discover Russian battle plans.
IV. Other major theaters of the war

A. Eastern Front
   1. The war was more mobile in eastern Europe.
   2. **General von Hindenburg** and **General von Ludendorff** defeated invading Russian armies at Tannenburg in 1914.
      - Turned the tide of the war in the east
   3. Though numerically superior, the Russians were poorly organized and suffered horrific casualties at the hands of the Germans.
   4. **Treaty of Brest-Litovsk** (Dec. 1917): Vladimir Lenin, after the Bolshevik Revolution, took Russia out of the war but was forced to give Germans 1/4 of Russia’s European territory.

B. Gallipoli Campaign (1915)
   1. British, Australian, and New Zealand forces failed to take the Dardanelles as a step toward taking Constantinople and defeating the Turks.
      - Taking control of the Dardanelles would have allowed Russia to receive increased supplies from the Allies and play a larger naval role in the war against the Ottoman Empire.
   2. 200,000 British troops were killed or wounded; about 500,000 total.
   3. Gallipoli represents one of the great Ottoman victories of the war and a huge defeat for the Allies.

C. Middle East
   1. Britain took great steps to protect the Suez Canal in Egypt.
   2. The British gained support from Arab tribes who resented Ottoman domination of the region.
   3. **Arab revolts** against the Turks throughout the war ended the Ottoman Empire’s grip on the Middle East.
      - The Arabs received military assistance from such figures as Lawrence of Arabia.
   4. The **Armenian genocide** by the Turks resulted from Ottoman claims that Armenians were cooperating with the Allies.
      - Perhaps a million Armenians died in what became the first of several genocides in the 20th century.

D. Japan in East Asia and the Pacific
   1. Japan sided with the Entente during the war and significantly increased its influence in the region.
   2. It conquered Germany’s island colonies in the Pacific.
   3. It increased its sphere of influence in China.
   4. Japan’s dramatic increase in the size of its navy and army led to its recognition as one of the Great Powers in post-war global diplomacy.
E. **British** and Allied **Naval Blockade**
   1. Britain’s goal was to strangle the Central Powers.
   2. Starting in 1914, the Allies used its superior fleet and sea mines to cut the Central Powers off from overseas trade and caused Germany to lose control of its colonial empire.
   3. Germany responded by sinking Allied vessels with U-boats.
   4. **Lusitania**, 1915: U-boats sank a British passenger liner killing 1,200 (including 128 Americans)
      - This turned American public opinion squarely against Germany.
   5. Germany in 1917 began **unrestricted submarine warfare**, sinking all ships with its U-boats.
      - This was the most important reason for U.S. entry into the war.
   6. By war’s end, the blockade succeeded in strangling Germany, resulting in thousands of German deaths due to starvation.

V. **"Total War"**: involved mass civilian populations in the war effort
A. Massive conscription drafted most able-bodied men in their youth.

B. In some cases, civilian populations became targets.
   1. Early in the war, Germany used Zeppelins to bomb London.
   2. The British blockade resulted in significant starvation in Germany.

C. News was censored; propaganda lionized men at the front and dehumanized the enemy.
   1. Intense nationalism demanded support from the entire population.
   2. Some historians contend that Germany increased its belligerency in the 1890s in order to rally the masses behind the government and slow down the growth of the SPD.
      a. In 1914, the SPD (then the largest party in the Reichstag) agreed to support the war as part of the “civil peace” with the Kaiser—the burgfrieden.
      b. The same may have also been true in Britain as the issue of Irish independence dominated the headlines.
   3. British propaganda effectively demonized Germany as the “Hun.”

D. Economic production focused on the war effort.
   1. Free-market capitalism was abandoned in favor of strong central planning of the economy.
   2. Women replaced male factory workers who were now fighting the war.
      a. Women accounted for 43% of the labor force in Russia.
      b. Changing attitudes about women resulted in increased rights after the war (Britain, Germany, Austria and the U.S.)
   3. Labor unions supported the war effort and saw increased influence and prestige due to increased demand for labor.
   4. The rationing of food and scarce commodities was instituted.
5. Civilians financed the war by buying war bonds.

E. Each side aimed at “starving out” the enemy by cutting off vital supplies to the civilian population.

F. Increase in centralized control by warring regimes
   1. In France, Georges Clemenceau created a dictatorship during the war.
   2. Germany became the world’s first totalitarian regime in order to control the war effort.
      • In large part, the impact of the British blockade resulted in an increasingly repressive gov’t in Germany.
   3. The British economy was largely planned and regulated.

G. War promoted greater social equality, thus blurring class distinctions and lessening the gap between rich and poor.

VI. Diplomacy during the war
A. 1915: neutral Italy entered the war against the Central Powers (its former allies) with the promise of some Austrian and Balkan territory—Italia Irredenta ("unredeemed Italy")—and some German colonies and Turkish territories.

B. Zimmerman Note: Germany proposed an alliance with Mexico against the U.S.
   1. Mexico would receive much of the southwestern U.S. (Texas, Arizona, New Mexico) if the Central Powers won.
   2. Mexico refused.

C. Balfour Note (1917): Arabs and Jews in Palestine were promised autonomy if they joined the Allies.
   1. Britain declared sympathy for Zionism—the idea of a Jewish homeland in Palestine.
   2. The new policy seemed to contradict British support for Arab nationalism as a new Jewish state would require Arab lands to be given up in Palestine.

D. Wilsonian Idealism: the Fourteen Points (January 1918)
   1. U.S. plan to end the war along liberal, democratic lines
   2. Provisions:
      a. Abolish secret treaties
      b. Freedom of the seas
      c. Remove economic barriers (e.g. tariffs)
      d. Reduce armament burdens
      e. "Self-determination": Promise of independence to oppressed minority groups (e.g. Poles and Czechs), millions of which lived in Germany and Austria-Hungary.
      f. Adjustment of colonial claims in interests of both native peoples and colonizers
      g. German evacuation of Russia; restoration of Belgium; return of Alsace-Lorraine to France; evacuation and restoration of the Balkans; return of Schleswig to Denmark
      h. Adjustment of Italy’s borders along ethnic lines
i. Autonomy for non-Turkish parts of the Turkish Empire
j. 14th point: creation of an international organization to provide collective security
   • Foreshadowed the League of Nations that was created after the war

VII. End of the War
A. Meuse-Argonne offensive (spring 1918)
   1. Germany transferred divisions from the east (after defeating Russia and the subsequent Brest-Litovsk Treaty) to the Western Front and mounted a massive offensive.
   2. The U.S. entered the war in time to assist Britain and France in stopping the German offensive.

B. The Central Powers sought peace based on the Fourteen Points (believing they would get fair treatment).
   1. Germany and Austria-Hungary were wracked with revolution.
   2. Austria-Hungary surrendered on November 3, 1918.
   3. Germany agreed to an armistice which began on November 11.
      • Wilhelm II was forced to abdicate and fled to Holland.

VIII. Paris Peace Conference, 1919
A. Big Four: David Lloyd George (Br.), Georges Clemenceau (Fr.), Woodrow Wilson (U.S.), Vittorio Orlando (It.)
   1. The Central Powers were excluded from negotiations as France was concerned with its future security.
   2. Italy left the conference, angry it would not get some Austrian and Balkans territories it had been promised in 1915.

B. Versailles Treaty, 1919
   1. Mandates were created for former colonies and territories of the defeated Central Powers.
      • Much of the Middle East was now controlled by Britain and France.
   2. Article 231 placed sole blame for the war on Germany that resulted in its severe punishment.
      a. Germany was forced to pay huge reparations to Britain and France.
      b. Germany’s army and navy were severely reduced.
      c. The Rhineland was demilitarized; the Saar coal mines were taken over by France.
      d. Germany lost all its colonies.
      e. German territory was given to Poland (the Polish Corridor separated Germany from East Prussia), Denmark (Schleswig), France (Alsace and Lorraine), and other smaller lands to Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Poland, and Lithuania.
   3. League of Nations created
      a. Germany and Russia were not included which weakened the League from the outset.
b. The U.S. Senate failed to ratify the Versailles Treaty resulting in U.S. isolationism for two decades.

c. The League thus was born as a mere shadow of what it had originally been intended to achieve

C. **Impact of World War I on European Society**

1. Massive casualties: 10 million soldiers dead; 10 million civilians dead, many also died from the 1918 influenza epidemic; perhaps 15 million died in the Russian Revolution and subsequent Russian Civil War.
   - Thus, the birthrate fell significantly after the war (although illegitimate births increased).

2. The war promoted greater social equality, thus blurring class distinctions and lessening the gap between rich and poor.
   a. The Russian Revolution abolished the nobility and gave women more rights than any other country in Europe.
   b. **Women received the right to vote in Britain the same year that the war ended; Germany soon followed.**
   c. The nobility in Germany, Austria and Russia lost much of its influence and prestige.
   d. During the war, women took over the jobs of men who were fighting the war (but were paid lower wages).

3. Dissent increased as the war continued.
   a. Tsar Nicholas II was overthrown by the Provisional gov’t in February 1917, who was then overthrown by the Bolsheviks in November due to mounting war casualties.
   b. Irish Republicans staged an insurrection—the **Easter Rebellion**—in England in 1916.
      - They were inspired by British conscription of soldiers that began in 1916.
   c. In Germany, militant socialists and anti-war activists Rosa Luxembourg and **Clara Zetkin** were imprisoned for trying to convince fellow socialists not to support the war effort.
   d. Large crowds of women in France, Austria and Italy protested working conditions or high prices.
   e. Government censorship existed in virtually every country and people increasingly grew dissatisfied with the integrity of their governments.

4. **End to long-standing royal dynasties**
   a. **Habsburg dynasty removed in Austria** (had lasted 500 years)
   b. **Romanov dynasty removed in Russia** (had lasted 300 years)
   c. **Hohenzollern dynasty removed in Germany** (had lasted 300 years)
   d. **Ottoman Empire destroyed** (had lasted 500 years)

5. **The political map of Europe was redrawn.**
   a. **Creation of the new states of Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Yugoslavia**
      - **Albania** regained its sovereignty
b. Germany was split in two by the Polish corridor (East Prussia was separated from rest of Germany).

6. The Russian Revolution resulted in the creation of the world’s first communist country.

7. German nationalist resentment of the harsh Versailles Treaty doomed the new Weimar Republic in Germany.
   a. John Maynard Keynes, *The Economic Consequences of the Peace* (1919): Predicted the harsh terms of the treaty would hurt Germany’s economy, and thus the economy of the rest of Europe, and lead to significant future political unrest.
   b. German anger with the treaty was partially responsible for the rise of Hitler and the Nazis in the early 1930s (although the Great Depression was the immediate reason).
   c. When Hitler took control of Germany in 1933 and began its aggressive policies, Keynes’ predictions seemed prophetic.

8. Shift in financial power to the United States
   a. Europe lost its preeminent position economically that it had enjoyed for 500 years.
   b. The U.S. became the world’s leading creditor and greatest producer due to the drain of Europe’s resources during the war.
Terms to Know

| Triple Alliance | tanks |
| Triple Entente | airplane |
| Russian-German Reinsurance Treaty | poison gas |
| “splendid isolation” | U-boats |
| Anglo-Japanese Alliance | Zeppelins |
| Entente Cordial | radio |
| Anglo-German arms race | Eastern Front |
| Bertha von Suttner, *Lay Down Your Arms* | Generals Hindenburg and Ludendorff |
| Dreadnoughts | Treaty of Brest-Litovsk, 1917 |
| Kruger Telegram | Gallipoli campaign, 1915 |
| Algeciras Conference | Arab revolts |
| “encirclement” | Armenian genocide |
| Second Moroccon Crisis, 1911 | British naval blockade |
| “sick man of Europe” | *Lusitania* |
| Pan-Slavism | unrestricted submarine warfare |
| Young Turks | “total war” |
| First Balkan War, 1912 | Georges Clemenceau |
| Second Balkan War, 1913 | *Italia Irredenta* (“unredeemed Italy”) |
| Archduke Franz Ferdinand | Zimmerman Telegram |
| Princip, “Black Hand” | Balfour Note, 1917 |
| Kaiser Wilhelm II | Woodrow Wilson |
| “blank check” | Fourteen Points |
| Central Powers | “self-determination” |
| Allies (Triple Entente) | Paris Peace Conference, 1919 |
| Western Front | Big Four |
| Schlieffen Plan | Versailles Treaty |
| Battle of the Marne, 1914 | Mandates |
| trench warfare | Article 231 |
| Battle of Verdun, 1916 | League of Nations |
| Battle of the Somme, 1916 | Easter Rebellion, 1916 |
| Erich Remarque, *All Quiet on the Western Front*, 1929 | John Maynard Keynes, *The Economic Consequences of the Peace*, 1919 |
| machine gun |

Essay Questions

---

Note: This sub-unit is a low probability area for the AP exam. In the past 10 years, 1-2 questions have come wholly or in part from the material in this chapter. Below are some questions that will help you study the topics that have appeared on previous exams or may appear on future exams.

1. Analyze major causes of World War I.

2. Analyze political, economic and military factors for the Allied victory in World War I.

3. Analyze ways in which World War I altered European society.

4. How was the balance of power in Europe changed as a result of World War I?
Overarching Questions and Themes from the AP® Curriculum Framework for Period 4.1

- **How have encounters between Europe and the world shaped European culture, politics, and society?**
  
  **INT-8:** Evaluate the United States’ economic and cultural influence on Europe and responses to this influence in Europe. (4.1.I, 4.1.II)

- **What impact has contact with Europe had on non-European societies?**
  
  **INT-9:** Assess the role of European contact on overseas territories through the introduction of disease, participation on the slave trade and slavery, effects on agricultural and manufacturing patterns, and global conflict. (4.1.I)
  
  **INT-11:** Explain how European expansion and colonization brought non-European societies into global economic, diplomatic, military, and cultural networks. (4.1.I)

- **What forms have European governments taken, and how have these changed over time?**
  
  **SP-6:** Explain how new ideas of political authority and the failure of diplomacy led to world wars, political revolutions, and the establishment of totalitarian regimes in the 20th century. (4.1.I, 4.1.II)

- **How and why did changes in warfare affect diplomacy, the European state system, and the balance of power?**
  
  **SP-13:** Evaluate how the emergence of new weapons, tactics, and methods of military organization changed the scale and cost of warfare, required the centralization of power, and shifted the balance of power. (4.1.I)
  
  **SP-14:** Analyze the role of warfare in remaking the political map of Europe and in shifting the global balance of power in the 19th and 20th centuries. (4.1.I, 4.1.II)

- **How did the concept of a balance of power emerge, develop, and eventually become institutionalized?**
  
  **SP-17:** Explain how the French Revolution and the revolutionary and Napoleonic wars shifted the European balance of power and encouraged the creation of a new diplomatic framework. (4.1.I, 4.1.II)
  
  **SP-18:** Evaluate how overseas competition and changes in the alliance system upset the Concert of Europe and set the stage for World War I. (4.1.I)

- **How and why have tensions arisen between the individual and society over the course of European history?**
  
  **IS-6:** Evaluate the causes and consequences of persistent tensions between women’s roles and status in the private versus the public sphere. (3.3.III)
  
  **IS-8:** Evaluate how the impact of war on civilians has affected loyalty to and respect for the nation state. (4.1.I)

- **How and why has the status of specific groups within society changed over time?**
  
  **IS-9:** Assess the extent to which women participated in and benefited from the shifting values of European society from the 15th century onward. (3.3.III)
Bibliography

**Principle Sources:**
College Board, *AP European History Course and Exam Description (Including the Curriculum Framework)*, New York: College Board, 2015

**Other Sources:**