

Causes of World War I

This worksheet will help you research and learn the causes of the First World War. War broke out in late summer 1914, but tension had been building in Europe since 1900. You need to complete the different tasks to help you work out why the war started.

The MAIN causes

Militarism
Alliances
Imperialism
Nationalism

GLOSSARY	Alliances - agreements or promises to defend and help another country.	GLOSSARY
	Imperialism - trying to build up an Empire.	
	Empire - where a powerful country controls several less powerful countries.	
	Militarism - building up armed forces, getting ready for war.	
	Nationalism - having pride in your country, willing to defend it.	

TASK 1: make sure you know the terms.

1. Using the glossary at the top right of this sheet, copy and complete this table. Write these terms down carefully, as you will use them later!

Militarism	
Alliances	
Imperialism	
Nationalism	

- Germany wanted to build up her Empire. Copy and complete:
 Germany wished to build up her Empire. This is known as _____.
 Germany also built up her armed forces - known as _____.
- Britain had both the most powerful navy in the world and the largest Empire. Copy and complete:
 As Britain had the most powerful navy she was worried about other countries building up their armed forces. We could call this a worry about _____.
 Germany, Britain and other countries were keen to have large Empires.
- Copy and try to fill in the missing words using your table:
 Countries in Europe were very proud of themselves, and would defend their country as well as they could. This is known as _____.