Key Vocabulary	
Cause	A person or thing that gives rise to an action.
Consequence	A result or effect.
Militarism	The belief that a country should maintain a strong military and be prepared to use it aggressively to defend or promote national interests
Alliances	A union between countries based upon shared interests.
Imperialism	Extending a countries power through military force, usually by taking control of other countries
Nationalism	A strong love of ones own country and the belief that it is better than other nations.
Propaganda	Information which is biased or misleading to promote a certain view
Conscientious Objector	A person who refuse to fight in armed conflict based upon their conscience.
Triple Alliance	The alliance of Italy, Germany and Austria- Hungary
Triple Entente	The alliance of United Kingdom, France and Russia

Key Individuals





Picture This

Lord Kitchener - Senior British army officer and responsible for recruitment of soldiers.



BRITONS

Kaiser Wilhelm II -German Emperor during WWI





Gavrilo Princip - Serbian terrorist, part of the Black Hand - assassinated Archduke Franz Ferdinand (Austro-Hungarian Prince)



Alfred Von Schlieffen -Developed Germany's plans for the invasion of Belgium and France at the start of WWI



Field Marshall Haig -Leading British military figure who planned the battle of the Somme

Life in the Trenches

In World War One, hundreds of miles of muddy trenches became the home to thousands of soldiers. These long narrow ditches dug into the ground were as busy as a small town where soldiers lived all day and night. These trenches were the only thing stopping the advance of the German army. We can all get out of the mud and wet when we want to, but many soldiers during World War One couldn't and didn't get the chance to go home.

Trench



Artillery Gun



Causes of WWI

The causes of the |First World War can be split into two categories:

<u>Long-term causes</u> (over the course of several years) can remembered by using the word MAIN

M - Militarism

A - Alliances

I - Imperialism

N - nationalism

Short-term cause (immediately before WWI began). The assassination of the Austro-Hungarian prince, Archduke Franz Ferdinand was blamed on Serbia. This led to Austro-Hungary declaring war on Serbia. This 'triggered' the rest of the alliance system into action and the beginning of WWI

The Poppy

The significance of the poppy as a lasting memorial symbol to the fallen was realised by the Canadian surgeon John McCrae in his poem 'In Flanders Fields'. The poppy came to represent the immeasurable sacrifice made by his comrades and quickly became a lasting memorial to those who died in World War One and later conflicts. It was adopted by The Royal British Legion as the symbol for their Poppy Appeal, in aid of those serving in the British Armed Forces, after its formation in 1921

Why did men 'join up' to fight in WWI?

The UK only had around 700,000 soldiers in the Army when war broke out in 1914. They needed to launch a mass recruitment campaign.

Lord Kitchener was appointed as the Secretary of State for War. This meant he was responsible for persuading volunteers to join up to the Army. A huge poster campaign was launched, with the aim of reaching as many potential soldiers as possible.

The recruitment campaign was hugely successful. Within six weeks of the outbreak of war, nearly 500,000 British men had volunteered to join the Army. By the end of 1915, 2.5 million men had signed up.

The Battle of the Somme, July 1916

The Battle of the Somme is remembered as one of the most deadly battles ever fought. The Battle of the Somme was launched on 1 July 1916. The main aim of the battle was to relieve the important northern French fortress of Verdun. This had been placed under siege by the German Army since February 1916.

- · Over three million soldiers fought during the battle
- · Over one million soldiers were either killed or wounded
- Over 57,000 British soldiers were casualties on the first day of the battle
- · Of those casualties, 19,000 British soldiers were killed

The Battle of the Somme lasted nearly five months. In terms of land gained, the British and French forces had only pushed the German Army back by six miles.

<u>Walter Tull</u> was both a professional footballer player and a soldier during World War One.

Walter had to give up his career as a footballer to help out in the war, but he then became recognised as the <u>first black officer to lead white British soldiers into battle.</u> Walter Tull is significant because overcame the racist laws of the British army which didn't allow officers who were non-white.

TASKS TO HELP YOU REVISE

- 1. State the MAIN causes of WWI.
- 2. State which countries were in the Triple Alliance and the Triple Entente.
- 3. Describe conditions in the trenches.
- 4. Explain the difference between an absolutist and an alternativist.

5. Explain why Walter Tull is significant.





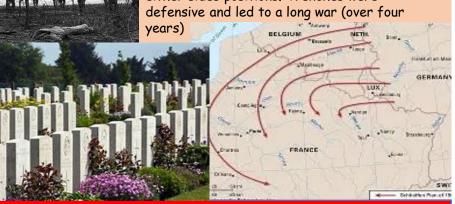
Are YOU in this?

The Schlieffen Plan

The Schlieffen Plan was a German military strategy designed to quickly defeat France before turning to fight Russia, aiming to avoid a prolonged two-front war during World War I.

The plan failed because the Belgians fought more bravely than the German's expected and slowed them down. Britain, France and Russia also mobilized much more quickly than the Germans anticipated.

The Fighting in Northern France ended up in stalemate (no side was winning or making progress) so trenches were dug to maintain either sides positions. Trenches were defensive and led to a long war (over four



<u>Conscientious objectors</u> were people who refused to fight in armed conflict based upon their conscience (usually based upon religion).

Conscientious objectors were often given white feathers as a sign of cowardice. There were two types of conscientious objectors:

Absolutists

Refused to do anything to help the war effort. These people were sent to prison and many were sentenced to death (no executions were carried out.

Alternativists

Supported the war effort in other ways but refused to fight. They would become medics, ambulance drivers and labourers (often helping to dig trenches)