





Knowledge Organiser – Year 9: Causes of the First World War

The 4 MAIN causes

Militarism 	Countries were competing to build the biggest army, navy and weapons.
Alliances 	Countries made agreements to support one another if war broke out.
Imperialism 	Countries were all competing to build up their empires.
Nationalism 	People believed strongly in their own country and wanted their country to have more power.

Key vocabulary

1	Triple Alliance	The alliance formed between Germany, Austria-Hungary and Italy.
2	Triple Entente	The alliance formed between Britain, France and Russia.
3	The Balkans	An area in south-east Europe that included Bosnia and Serbia.
4	Dreadnoughts	The most advanced warships at the time. Launched in 1906, it was so advanced that all other battleships were out of date.
5	Empire	A large group of colonies ruled over by another country.
6	The Black Hand	A group of young Serbian nationalists who wanted to unite all Serbs in the Balkans.
7	Arms race	A competition between countries for the development and production of weapons
8	Schlieffen Plan	German plan to avoid fighting France and Russia at the same time. The German army invaded France, through neutral Belgium, bringing Britain into the war.

Timeline

1882 Triple Alliance formed

1906 HMS Dreadnought launched




1907 Triple Entente formed

28 June 1914 Archduke Franz Ferdinand assassinated

4 August 1914 Britain declares war on Germany



Key People

Kaiser Wilhelm II 	Leader of Germany during WWI.
Archduke Franz Ferdinand 	Heir to the throne of Austria-Hungary, whose assassination sparked the outbreak of war.
Gavrilo Princip 	Serbian assassin from the Black Hand who shot Franz Ferdinand.

Knowledge Organiser – Year 9: What made WWI a world war?

Key vocabulary

1	Enlist	To to join the armed forces.
2	Battalion	a fighting unit of up to 1000 soldiers.
3	Pals Battalions	volunteer battalions made up of men who enlisted together as groups of local friends.
4	Propaganda	a message to persuade people, usually with a particular view or agenda.
5	Western Front	The zone of fighting that stretched from Switzerland to the English channel. Germany fought Britain, France and soldiers from their colonies in France and Belgium.
6	Eastern Front	stretched from the Baltic Sea in the north to the Black Sea in the south. Where the Russian army fought Germany and her allies.
7	Indian sub-continent	India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka.
8	puttees	cloth bands that was wound round a soldier's leg from their ankle to their knee. They were designed to provide support when walking and protect against harsh weather conditions.

9	Trenches	a dug out channel in the ground that protected soldiers from bullets.
10	Ottoman Empire	Who the British forces fought against and defeated in Egypt, Palestine and Syria during WWI.
11	Carrier corps	carried everything the soldiers needed to survive during the East African Campaign of the first World War.
12	La Force Noire	the theories behind the French African army in WWI.

Key People

George V	King of the UK and emperor of India during the First World War.
Lord Kitchener	Secretary of State for war. He launched the Pals Battalions.
George Brown	a British soldier who signed up from the village of Quorn, Leicestershire.
Field Marshall Douglas Haig	British General and Commander in Chief at the Battle of the Somme
General Allenby	British Commander in charge of the Palestine campaign.

Timeline

