

**What do I need to know?**

- What were the long term causes of the First World War?
- How did the assassination of Franz Ferdinand lead to the outbreak of the First World War?

**What were the long term causes of the First World War**

- **Militarism - *Building up armed forces (army and navy), getting ready for war.*** Many European countries had industrialised during the late 1800s and early 1900s. This allowed many European countries build massive armies with the most up to date technology. Britain led the charge at sea, creating dreadnought battleships.
- **Alliances - *Agreements or promises to defend and help another country.*** Many countries at the time agreed to work together and protect each other in case of war.
- **Imperialism - *Trying to build up an Empire.*** Many European countries believed they should have an Empire. . This caused a lot of tension between countries.
- **Nationalism - *Having pride in your country, groups wanting to have a country of their own.*** People felt that their country was superior to others. This was fuelled by government propaganda that sought to portray the war as a matter of duty.

**How did the events in Sarajevo lead to war?**

Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary was assassinated on June 28, 1914, in Sarajevo, Bosnia, by Gavrilo Princip, a member of the Serbian nationalist group the Black Hand Gang. Austria-Hungary blamed Serbia. This led to many countries becoming involved because of the growing alliance system and putting pressure on the already strained relationships that ultimately triggered the start of World War I.

**Key vocabulary**

<b>Empire</b>	A collection of areas of land that are ruled over and controlled by one leading country.
<b>Assassination</b>	The murder of a well known person usually for political reasons.
<b>Cause</b>	A reason why something happens. These can be long term (happening for a long time) or short term (happen just before an event).

**What was the Alliance system?**

Triple Entente		Triple Alliance	
Britian, France, Russia		Austria-Hungary, Germany, Italy	
How did the Alliance system lead to WWI?			
28th June	Archduke Franz Ferdinand is assassinated in Sarajevo, Bosnia		
6th July	Germany offers a 'blank cheque' to find the killers and punish them. It says it will support the punishment		
23rd July	Austria – Hungary give Serbia an ultimatum – Give them anyone who was involved in the assassination or face war		
28th July	Serbia refuses to co-operate with Austria-Hungary. Austria-Hungary declares war on Serbia		
31st July	Russia, supporting Serbia starts to move troops and prepare for war.		
1st August	Germany asks Russia to hold off its defence of Serbia. Germany also sends troops towards France		
2nd August	Germany demands safe passage through Belgium or threatens invasion – Belgium refuse		
4th August	Germany invades Belgium and Britian declares war on Germany because of a treaty from 1839 that Germany broke by invading Belgium.		
6th August	Austria-Hungary declare war on Russia. WW1 had begun.		

## What do I need to know?

- Why did men volunteer to fight in the First World War?
- Conscientious objectors: brave men or cowards?
- What was the contribution of Empire troops to the First World War?

## Why did men volunteer to fight in the First World War?

- **Patriotism and Duty** – Many British men felt a strong sense of patriotism and duty to their country. Propaganda, national pride, and loyalty to the British Empire encouraged them to enlist, believing they were defending Britain.
- **Social Pressure and Expectations** – White feathers were given to men who didn't volunteer, and posters depicted soldiers as heroes, making it difficult for men to refuse without being labelled as cowards.
- **Adventure and Travel** – For many young men, the promise of adventure, travel to foreign lands, and the belief that the war would be short encouraged them to sign up willingly.
- **Economic Hardship** – Many working-class men faced unemployment and poverty. The army provided stable pay, food, and shelter,
- **Pals Battalions and Community Bonds** – The British Army encouraged men to enlist together in "Pals Battalions," meaning they could fight alongside friends, relatives, and colleagues. This sense of camaraderie and loyalty to their communities played a huge role in recruitment.

## Key vocabulary

<b>Volunteer</b>	When someone freely offers to do something
<b>Conscientious Objector</b>	Men who were opposed to the war and did not want to fight.
<b>Recruitment</b>	Enlisting new people into the armed forces
<b>Conscription</b>	When every man aged between 18 and 41 had to join the army.

## What was the contribution of Empire troops to the First World War?

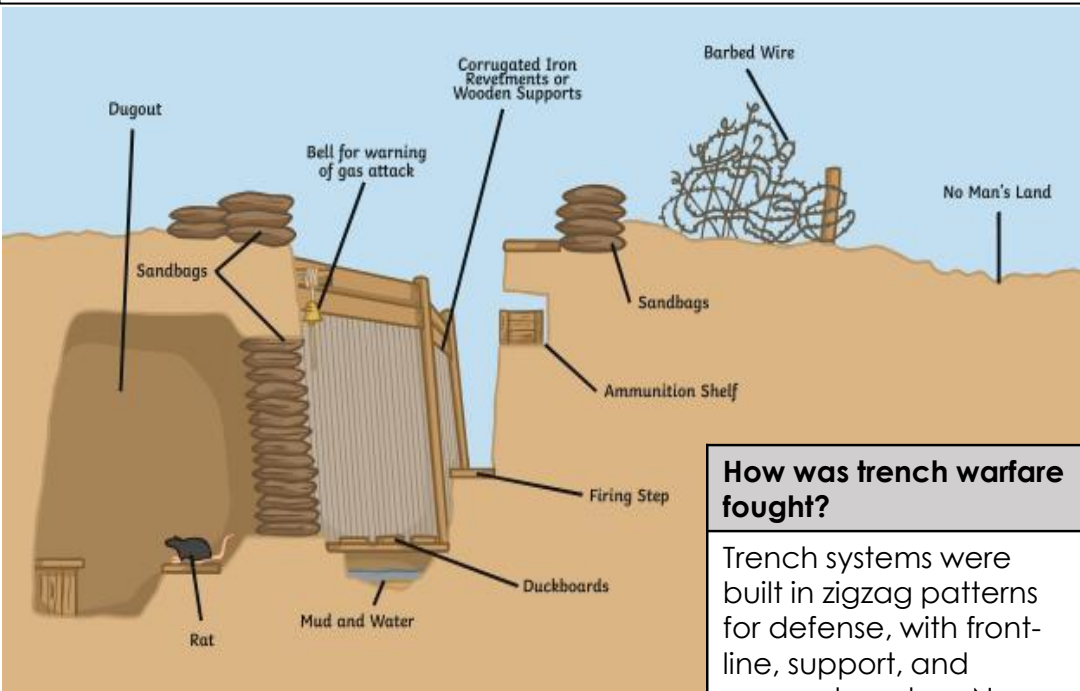
- **Manpower from India** – Over 1.3 million Indian soldiers served, fighting in major battles like Ypres and the Somme, with around 74,000 losing their lives for Britain.
- **Canadian Forces at Vimy Ridge** – Canadian troops played a crucial role in the 1917 Battle of Vimy Ridge, securing a key victory that boosted Allied morale and national pride.
- **African Soldiers and Laborers** – Thousands from British Africa, including the King's African Rifles, served in the East African campaign, while many more worked as porters and laborers.
- **West Indian Regiment** – Caribbean soldiers served in the British West Indies Regiment, fighting in the Middle East and supporting European campaigns despite facing discrimination and poor conditions.

## Conscientious objectors: brave men or cowards?

- Those who refused to fight were called conscientious objectors (COs). Objecting on moral or religious grounds led to non-combatant roles in civilian work of national importance: labouring on farms or in aid posts. Some volunteered to drive field ambulances, but failure to serve in any capacity meant imprisonment.
- Around 1500 men refused to contribute to the war in any way. Many of these were imprisoned serving repeated sentences under hard labour. Conditions were harsh and 73 absolutists died of the treatment they received.
- One notable objector was William Chadwick from Westhoughton. He was a communist and did not believe in going to war. He was a fireman and lived at 15 Market Street. He was arrested and court-martialled on 12 May and was sentenced to hard labour. After the war, William found it difficult to get work, as many employers discriminated against COs.

## What do I need to know?

- How was trench warfare fought?
- What happened during the Battle of the Somme?
- What medical problems did they cause?



### How was trench warfare fought?

Trench systems were built in zigzag patterns for defense, with front-line, support, and reserve trenches. No man's land separated opposing trenches, preventing easy advances.

## What happened during the Battle of the Somme?

The battle of the Somme, from July-November 1916, was one of WWI's **deadliest battles**. It was fought between British and French allied forces and Germany. It aimed to break the stalemate that had developed. Soldiers would leave their trench and '**go over the top**' running across no man's land. The first day saw 57,000 British casualties.

## What medical problems were there in the trenches?

### Trench Foot

Men would stand in waterlogged trenches for hours or even days. Their feet would eventually turn numb, and the blood would stop circulating to their feet. If left untreated their feet would be amputated. A known prevention was changing socks and applying whale oil to your toes!

### Shellshock

Soldiers experienced dangerous encounters almost every day. They were constantly fuelled by adrenaline. This caused many soldiers to develop PTSD (Post-traumatic stress disorder). Not much was known at the time and some soldiers were arrested as it was believed they were trying to avoid war.

### Trench Fever

Soldiers would become very dirty in the trenches, and this would attract lice and rats. The lice would get in to the soldier's heavy wool clothing and bit the soldiers. This would then give the soldiers trench fever. They would experience hallucinations, high fevers and sweating. 'De-lousing' stations would be set up to give the soldiers clean clothes, haircuts and showers.

### Battle injuries and gas attacks

Soldiers faced many horrific injuries on the Western Front with many suffering from bullet and shrapnel wounds. Gas attacks were also common with many gases being first used in WWI. Gases like chlorine and mustard gas were widely used. Soldiers were then issued with gas masks to prevent injury. Before that, some men used handkerchiefs soaked in urine!

## Key vocabulary

<b>Trenches</b>	Ditches that were dug into the ground and connected that were separated by an area of land called no man's land
<b>Butcher</b>	Someone who has no regard for human life
<b>Bungler</b>	Someone who makes a lot of mistakes

**What do I need to know?**

- How did women campaign for the vote?
- Did Emily Davison aim to die for the vote?
- Was the First World War a turning point for women?

**Was the First World War a turning point for women?**

World War I was a turning point for women, as they took on roles in factories, transport, and nursing, proving their capability beyond traditional domestic work. Their contributions challenged gender norms and strengthened arguments for suffrage, leading to women over 30 gaining the vote in Britain in 1918.

It was not a turning point as while World War I gave women more opportunities, many lost their jobs once men returned. Traditional gender roles persisted, and full suffrage wasn't granted until 1928. Women's rights were already advancing before the war, suggesting it was a catalyst rather than a true turning point for long-term equality.

**How did women campaign for the vote?**

• **Militant Tactics (Suffragettes?)** - They belonged to the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU). Engaged in more disruptive tactics, such as window smashing, arson, and chaining themselves to public places, refused to pay taxes or other civic obligations to protest the lack of voting rights, went on hunger strikes in prison to protest their treatment and gain attention to the cause.

• **Peaceful and Persuasive Tactics (Suffragists) - Formed organizations like the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies (NUWSS)** to coordinate efforts and raise awareness, collected signatures on petitions and lobbied politicians to support women's suffrage, delivered speeches, wrote articles, and organized public events to educate the public about the importance of women's suffrage, organized peaceful marches, demonstrations, and pickets to raise awareness and pressure the government.

**Did Emily Davison aim to die for the vote?**

**Emily Davison intended to die for the vote**, as she had a history of extreme suffragette activism, including hunger strikes and force-feeding. She carried a suffragette flag and positioned herself dangerously in front of the king's horse, suggesting a deliberate act of martyrdom to draw attention to women's suffrage.

**Davison likely did not intend to die**, as she had a return train ticket and a ticket for a suffragette event later. She may have aimed to attach a suffragette scarf to the king's horse to gain publicity. Her actions were reckless but may not have been a deliberate suicide mission.

**Impact**

Emily Davison's death brought massive **attention to the suffragette movement**. Her funeral became a powerful feminist demonstration, inspiring further activism. Though controversial, her sacrifice highlighted the struggles women faced. Her actions contributed to the growing pressure for change, helping pave the way for women's suffrage in Britain.

**Key vocabulary****Suffragettes**

People who advocated for women's right to vote through militant and direct action tactics, often including civil disobedience.

**Suffragists**

People who advocated for women's right to vote through peaceful, legal means.

