

# Leading Up to World War I

- Industrial Revolution is making nations wealthy, but also creating resentment among the working class with the introduction of philosophies like socialism
- Imperialism creates new powerful nations, like Italy and Germany, but it also makes empires like Austria-Hungary and Russia weaker as ethnicities within the empire fight for their own nations
- Colonization of Asia and Africa increases the size of several European nations
- To protect their empires, the powerful nations of Europe build up their military power by drafting millions of soldiers and updating weapons with the latest technology
- Although competition between European nations is fierce, a series of alliances between the major powers is used to maintain a balance of power

*Historians usually conclude that 4 major occurrences were the root causes of WWI. Look below:*

## The MAIN Causes

**M**ilitarism  
**A**lliances  
**I**mperialism  
**N**ationalism

## Glossary

**Militarism:** building up armed forces, getting ready for war

**Alliances:** agreements or promises to defend or help another country

**Imperialism:** trying to build up an empire

**Nationalism:** an intense pride of one's country

Task One: Learn the terms.

1. Using the glossary above, copy and complete the table. Make sure you are remembering these terms as you write them.

Militarism	
Alliances	
Imperialism	
Nationalism	

2. Complete the sentences:

Germany wanted to build up her empire. This is known as imperialism.

Germany also built up her armed forces. This is known as militarism.

3. Complete the sentence:

Some countries, like France and Britain, promised each other that if Germany attacked one of them, the other country would jump in to defend. This is due to alliances.

4. Complete the sentence:

Countries in Europe were very proud of themselves, and would defend their country as well as they could. This is known as nationalism.

Task 2: Use the map to complete the table and paragraph below.



Name of Alliances	Countries in the Alliance
Triple Entente	France, United Kingdom (England, Great Britain), Russia
Triple Alliance	Austria-Hungary, Italy, German Empire

Using the word box on the right, complete the sentences below.

Europe was divided into 2 alliances. These were called the Triple Alliance and the Triple Entente. Members of each alliance promised to fight for the other members if they were attacked. It would only take a small incident to spark a war that involved all of Europe.

Germany had been trying to build up her navy and her empire. Great Britain was worried about this. Both countries competed against one another to build the best navy. There was tension between the 2 countries. This cause of war is known as militarism.

The area south and east of \_\_\_\_\_ -- \_\_\_\_\_ was known as the Balkans. This whole area was very unstable. The European alliances had different ideas about how to deal with the ethnic conflict in the Balkans.

France wanted \_\_\_\_\_ on Germany. Germany defeated France in 1871 and took some of her land. They wanted it back. They said it had been \_\_\_\_\_ from them by Germany.

WORD BOX

STOLEN  
 WORRIED  
 ALLIANCES  
 EUROPE  
 ENTENTE  
 ALLIANCE  
 AUSTRIA-HUNGARY  
 MILITARISM  
 REVENGE  
 BRITAIN