

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

A Bloody Conflict: Webquest

Introduction: In this web quest you will visit and use specifically chosen web sites to learn about the importance of new military technology and tactics during WWI. World War I was the first global military conflict since the industrial revolution and brought with it a level of mass death and destruction that the world had never seen before. Along with sewing machines and automobiles the industrial revolution brought new and fantastic ways for nations to destroy each other. Through this web quest you will come to know and understand how technology contributed to the destructive nature of World War I and what the conflict was like for soldiers on the ground.

Directions: Follow the step-by-step instructions **IN ORDER** on this web quest sheet. The web addresses can be found on the class website under the Bloody Conflict Webquest Page. For each web site or web page you visit you will be required to answer a series of questions using the media and information provided on each Internet site. Make sure that you answer each question completely using **COMPLETE SENTENCES**.

WHATEVER YOU DON'T FINISH TODAY WILL BE HOMEWORK - NO MORE CLASS TIME

SECTION A

Direct your browser to the following web site:

<http://www.cumberland.kyschools.us/userfiles/13/Classes/441/trenchesrussia.pdf?id=4823>

For any video links that you can't get to work, go here to find the info that you need:

<http://www.kingherrud.com/video-library.html>



Fun Note from Bird: The old website died and the one I found to replace it looks nothing like those pictures, but I'm lazy and don't want to reformat the whole assignment

1. What was the name of the military strategy that made the German generals so confident that the war would be quickly and easily won AND explain what that strategy relied on:
2. What were the 4 different types of trenches used in WWI?
3. How did the German trenches differ from the trenches of the allies? Explain:

- Describe why poison gas tended to be more successful in the early morning hours:
- Was trench warfare more dangerous during the day or at night? Explain your answer:
- What does the term, “No Man’s Land”, refer to and what did each side do to make movement in these areas so deadly? (Be specific)

SECTION B

Direct your browser to the following web site:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/worldwars/wwone/total_war_01.shtml



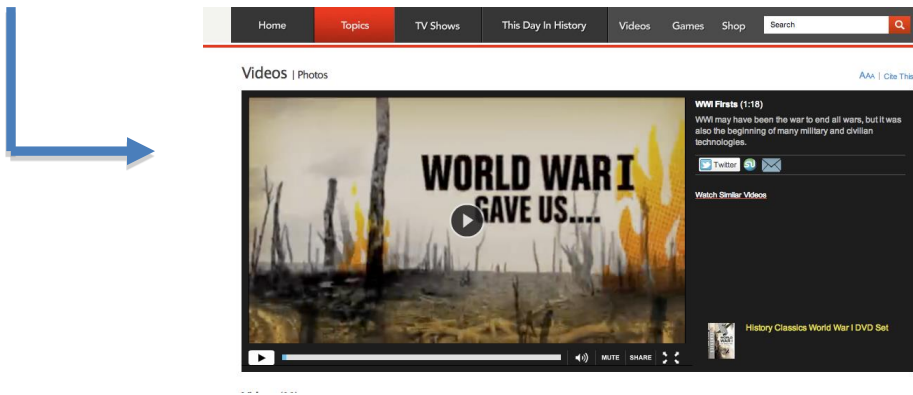
The screenshot shows the BBC History website. The main article is titled "The Western Front and the Birth of Total War" by Dr. Stephen Badsey, last updated 2013-03-08. The article's lead paragraph states: "World War One was the first mass global war of the industrialized age & demonstration of the horrendous power of modern states. Stephen Badsey tells the story of the birth of total war." Below the lead is a section titled "A new kind of war" which begins: "World War One was like no other war before in history. The main theatre of war, the Western Front, was deadlocked from a few months after the war's start in 1914 until a few months before its end in 1918, stretching in a continuous line of trenches from the English Channel to the Swiss Frontier. By 1916 the forces of Germany, France and the British Empire, armies millions of men strong, measured advances in terms of a few miles (or kilometres) gained over several months. Casualties for each big attack or 'push' ran into hundreds of thousands on both sides, with calculations for victory based on national birth-rates to replace the losses. This was not the kind of war that anyone, including the politicians and generals who directed it, wanted to fight." The article also mentions that the long-term impact of the Industrial Revolution was felt.

- What does the article mean when it says “calculations for victory were based on national birthrates”?
- Describe what the phrase “total war” mean?
- What effect did the age of iron and steam have on new developments in warfare?
- How did the Prussian Army revolutionize preparing for war in the late 1870s?
- What were the two “military needs” that technology struggled to meet on the battlefield during WWI?

SECTION C

Read: World War 1 was a war of “firsts”. This was the first global war since the industrial revolution and it saw the introduction of weapons, tactics, and strategies that had never been used in warfare. This is often as the first modern war. The following video will give you a great overview of some of the most important “firsts” that occurred during World War 1.

- Direct your browser to the following web site:
- <http://www.history.com/topics/world-war-i/world-war-i-history/videos/wwi-firsts>
Watch the video titled “WWI Firsts”.



1. Who had the most tanks in combat during WWI? How many tanks did the German's have? What strategic advantage do you think this gave the allied powers?
2. Of all the WWI “firsts” mentioned in the video, which do you think had the biggest impact on the outcome of the war? Why or how so?
3. Which WWI “first” did you find most interesting or unique and why?

SECTION D

Read: Trench warfare came to define the WWI experience. The Trenches were cramped, full of rats and lice, and breeding grounds for disease. However, the development of trench warfare occurred long before WWI and was designed as a defensive tactic by combatant nations.

- Direct your browser to the following web site:
<http://www.history.com/topics/world-war-i/world-war-i-history/videos/trench-warfare>
- Watch the video titled “Trench Warfare”.



1. When and where did trench warfare actually begin and why did it begin? Explain:
2. How did trench warfare actually end or what brought an end to trench warfare?

SECTION E

Read: 1916 represented the height of WWI. Trench warfare had cemented both sides against each other in a bloody stalemate where hundreds of thousands of lives were being lost with only tiny changes in the front lines and no clear victories. The Battle of the Somme is one of the most infamous illustration of the type of fighting that occurred during WWI and the inability of either side to make clear steps toward winning the war.

- Direct your browser to the following web site:
<http://www.history.com/topics/world-war-i/battle-of-the-somme>
- Watch the video titled “1916 Battle of the Somme”



1. What was the British strategy in the Battle of the Somme (2 parts)?
2. Why did the strategy that the British employed ultimately fail (2 parts)?
3. How many casualties did the British suffer at the end of the first day of the battle?
4. Explain, in your opinion, why you think that historians look back at the Battle of the Somme as “controversial”?
5. If the battle lasted 4 months and both sides had a combined total of 1,000,000 dead, how many deaths occurred per day on average?

SECTION F

Direct your browser to the following web site:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/interactive/animations/mark_one_tank/index_embed.shtml



1. What country invented the tank and what military goals was the tank designed to achieve (2)?
2. What made the conditions in the Mark I tank appalling? Be specific:

3. How many men were did it take to operate a single Mark I tank and what would a commander do if the tank ran into ground that was bad or a route that was uncertain?
4. WWI occurred during the age of the automobile. Describe how driving a Mark I tank was very different than driving an automobile:
5. Explain how well the tanks armor protected the crew and what (2) acted to limit the armor's effectiveness:

SECTION G

Watch this YouTube video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c-LxzD6Luj4>

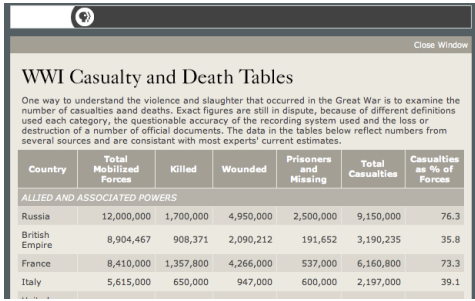
(use this teacher website if blocked: <http://www.kingherrud.com/video-library.html>)

- Watch the video called "WWI-Weapons and Technology"
1. What was the weapon used by the majority of American soldiers in WWI?
 2. What does "Big Bertha" refer to and which nation designed it?
 3. Why did some refer to WWI as the chemists' war?
 4. What effects did mustard gas have a soldiers exposed to it during WWI?
 5. Why were tanks developed and introduced to overcome in WWI? What was the German response to the introduction of the tank?

SECTION H

Direct your browser to the following web address:

https://www.uwosh.edu/faculty_staff/henson/188/WWI_Casualties%20and%20Deaths%20%20PBS.html



Close Window

WWI Casualty and Death Tables

One way to understand the violence and slaughter that occurred in the Great War is to examine the number of casualties and deaths. Exact figures are still in dispute, because of different definitions used each category, the questionable accuracy of the recording system used and the loss or destruction of a number of official documents. The data in the tables below reflect numbers from several sources and are consistent with most experts' current estimates.

Country	Total Mobilized Forces	Killed	Wounded	Prisoners and Missing	Total Casualties	Casualties as % of Forces
ALLIED AND ASSOCIATED POWERS						
Russia	12,000,000	1,700,000	4,950,000	2,500,000	9,150,000	76.3
British Empire	8,904,467	908,371	2,090,212	191,652	3,190,235	35.8
France	8,410,000	1,357,800	4,266,000	537,000	6,160,800	73.3
Italy	5,615,000	650,000	947,000	600,000	2,197,000	39.1

- Using this table, answer the following questions:
 1. What does the column titled, “Casualties as % of Forces” mean? (In your own words)
 2. Which nation mobilized the largest number of forces during WWI?
 3. **True or false:** the allied powers and Central Powers were equal in the total number of mobilized forces? What were their total mobilized numbers?
 4. **True or false:** the Central Powers had many more casualties than the Allied Powers?
 5. Which nation had the highest % of casualties during WWI?