

## 12.2: Major Battles of WWI

### Learning Target & Success Criteria:

I can outline and \_\_\_\_\_ the major battles and events of World War I and explain how these events pushed the \_\_\_\_\_ into joining the war by scoring an 80% or higher on my mastery check.

### **Battles of the Western Front**

Battle of the \_\_\_\_\_

- September 1914, costly \_\_\_\_\_ victory
- British and French troops launched a counteroffensive along the Marne \_\_\_\_\_ to stop the advancing German forces
- Forced a German retreat, signaling the failure of Germany's \_\_\_\_\_ Plan, set the stage for a long and bloody stalemate on the Western Front

Battle of Verdun

- February – December, \_\_\_\_\_
- Germans launched relentless artillery attacks on fortified \_\_\_\_\_ of Verdun
- French soldiers managed to hold their ground but both sides took heavy losses, over \_\_\_\_\_ casualties, became symbol of the horrors and futility of the war
  - \_\_\_\_\_ = dead, severely wounded, or missing/captured

Battle of the \_\_\_\_\_

- July – November, 1916
- British and French troops attempted to relieve the pressure at \_\_\_\_\_ with an attack along a 15 mile line in northern France
- Battle continued for months with an \_\_\_\_\_ outcome, over one \_\_\_\_\_ casualties in total, one of the deadliest battles of the war

### **Battles of the Eastern Front**

Battle of Tannenberg

- August 1914, \_\_\_\_\_ victory
- German soldiers encircled and defeated the \_\_\_\_\_ Army
- Russia suffered heavy casualties and lost thousands of soldiers as \_\_\_\_\_
- Led to the Russian Revolution in \_\_\_\_\_ which caused Russia to \_\_\_\_\_ the war

### **Analyzing Charts**

1. Which country had the highest percentage of casualties?
2. Which country had the second highest?
3. What was the grand total of deaths in WWI?
4. How would this chart explain why Russia left WWI?

### **Does America Join the War?**

- America is \_\_\_\_\_ in the early 1900s
  - Isolationist = stays out of \_\_\_\_\_ affairs
- President \_\_\_\_\_ promised to keep America out of the war in Europe
- Two events change America's stance and lead to joining the war:
  - Sinking of the \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Telegram

### Sinking of the Lusitania

- May 7, \_\_\_\_\_, a British ship carrying \_\_\_\_\_ and military goods was torpedoed twice by a German U-boat and sank in fifteen minutes off the coast of \_\_\_\_\_
- This ship carried 128 \_\_\_\_\_ along with 900 others, all died in the sinking, which fueled American anger over Germany's "unrestricted \_\_\_\_\_ warfare"
- Wilson asked Germany to stop targeting peaceful ships and apologize in hopes to stay \_\_\_\_\_ in the war

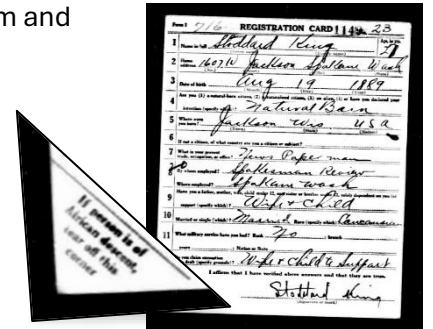
### Zimmerman Telegram

- January \_\_\_\_\_, a coded message from Germany to \_\_\_\_\_ was intercepted and deciphered by British intelligence
- The telegram proposed a military \_\_\_\_\_ between Germany and Mexico with the promise of returning lost \_\_\_\_\_ to Mexico from the United States if Mexico declared war on the \_\_\_\_\_
- This message further enraged Americans and fueled anti-German sentiment in the US, leading to a declaration of war on \_\_\_\_\_ in April 1917

### America Enters WWI

- Selective Service Act was passed in 1917 to require all \_\_\_\_\_ between the age of 21-30 to sign up for potential military service, a \_\_\_\_\_ system was used to select new recruits to join the war
- African Americans were required to sign up for the \_\_\_\_\_, but if chosen, had to fight in \_\_\_\_\_ units – draft cards had a tear-off corner to notate if the person was African American

- 2.8 million "\_\_\_\_\_ " were drafted into the armed forces and provided enthusiasm and reinforcements for the Allied forces
- US forces helped to lead the final Allied offensives in the summer of \_\_\_\_\_ and would establish the US as a global superpower



### Over The Top: A World War One Adventure Game

- What is "stand-in"? Describe what this drill would be like.
- What were some reasons you volunteered to join the war?
- Describe what is it like living in the trenches?
- What are some of the jobs you do in the trenches?
- What happened to your friend in the war?
- What is a parapet (click on the word to read its definition)? How did this help the soldiers?
- Why are you and the other soldiers happy when stand-down is over?
- What is for breakfast?
- Do you volunteer to fetch the communication wire or join the work party? Why?