

Guided Questions for WWI Documents

Documents A and B

1. The map (*Document A*) shows the alliance arrangement in Europe in 1914. In what year did World War I begin? (Hint: Remember the video)

2. a) What countries made up the Triple Alliance?

b) What countries made up the Triple Entente?

3. Germany worried about, one day, having to fight a war on two fronts or two different borders. According to the map, was this fear justified?

4. a) According to *Document B*, what country concerned both Austria-Hungary and Germany?

b) Using *Document A*, why would this country be such a concern?

5. a) If either Austria-Hungary or Germany was attacked by the country they were both especially fearful of, what were they bound to do?

b) What if another country, allied with their number-one fear, attacked? How were they obligated to respond?

6. If *Documents A* and *B* were your only evidence, how could you use it to describe one possible underlying cause of World War I?

Documents C, D, and E

1. a) In millions of British pounds, how much did Germany and Austria-Hungary spend in 1890?

b) In 1914?

2. a) How much did Great Britain, Russia, and France spend in 1890?

b) In 1914?

3. a) Overall, which nation spent the greatest percent on its navy?

b) Why would it do that?

4. a) What reason does Emperor Wilhelm give for the rapid expansion of the German navy (*Document D*)?

b) Based on his words, how does England perceive German naval expansion?

9. How can an argument be made that an arms build-up might lead to peace? Explain.

Documents F, G, and H

1. What was the total area of British colonies in 1913?

2. a) What was the combined area of colonies held by the nations of the Triple Entente?

b) What was the combined area of colonies held by Germany and Austria-Hungary?

c) Which was bigger, and how might this create tension?

3. In what different ways could a large colonial population help the economy of the mother country? (Hint: Look at *Document D* as well).

4. What is the message of the German cartoon (*Document H*)?

Documents I and J

1. What is the overall message and tone of both of these songs?
2. Look at *Documents D* and *E*. Is there a similar attitude on the part of Germany?
3. How could such sentiment encourage warfare?

Documents K and L

- a) According to Mark Twain, what is the atmosphere in Austria-Hungary like?
 - b) Through close-reading and knowledge from the video clip, why would it be so tense?
- a) According to Twain, why will there not be revolution in Austria-Hungary?
 - b) Does this mean that there will not be conflict? Explain.
- a) Why does Colonel Dimitrevic say that war between Austria-Hungary and Serbia is inevitable?

- b) What area does Austria-Hungary have control over that contains Slavic people?
4. Return to *Documents A* and *B*. What massive nation is also full of Slavic people and is an ally of Serbia?
5. a) If Serbia and Austria-Hungary go to war, who will likely support Serbia and declare war on Austria-Hungary?
- b) Looking at *Document B*, what will this mean for Germany? (Hint: Remember the video.)