

Causes of World War One

World War One broke out in late Summer 1914, but tension had been building in Europe since 1900.

The Main Causes

M	ilitarism
A	lliances
I	mperialism
N	ationalism

Glossary

Alliances	Agreements or promises to defend and help another country.
Imperialism	Trying to build up an empire.
Empire	Where a powerful country controls several less powerful countries.
Militarism	Building up armed forces and getting ready for war.
Nationalism	Having pride in your country and being ready to defend it.

Germany

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

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

Britain

As Britain had the most powerful navy in the World she was worried about other countries building up their armed forces. We could call this a worry about _____. Britain, Germany and other countries were keen to have large empires.

Europe

European people were very proud of their countries and would defend their country as well as they could. This is called _____.

Causes of World War One - page 2

Using your 'alliances map', complete the table below:

Alliance	Countries in the Alliance
Triple Entente	
Triple Alliance	

Complete the following text using the words on the right.

Words

stolen
worried
alliances
Europe
Entente
alliance
Austro-
Hungary
militarism
revenge
Britain

Europe was divided into two _____. These were called the Triple _____ and the Triple _____. Members of each alliance promised to fight for each other if they were attacked. It would only take a small incident to spark a war involving all of _____.

Germany had been trying to build up her navy and her empire. B_____ was _____ about this. Both countries raced each other to build the best navy. There was tension between both countries. This cause is called _____.

The area to the south-east of _____-_____ was known as the Balkans. The area was very unstable. The European alliances had different ideas on how to deal with the problem.

France was keen for _____ on Germany. Germany had taken land from the French in 1871 they wanted the land back. They said it had been _____ from them by Germany.