

History Department: Conflict & Tension, 1894-1918

GCSE Paper 1: Part 1: The Causes of the First World War. (AQA SECTION B: TOPIC A)

<u>Sub-topics</u>	
1.1	The Alliance System
1.2	The Anglo-German Naval Race
1.3	The assassination of Archduke and the July Days.

Key facts

- In the late nineteenth century the major countries of Europe had started to form defensive alliances. The alliance of France and Russia was set against the alliance of Germany, Austria-Hungary and Italy.
- Britain became involved through the Entente Cordiale with France and then the Triple Entente which also included Russia.
- Britain and Germany were rivals at sea, with the economy and Germany also desired colonies overseas.
- The Anglo-German naval race was a visible sign of completion.
- The assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand set in motion the events which spiralled out of control and led to war.
- The Schlieffen Plan, designed to allow a quick German victory over France, had the effect of Britain declaring war on Germany.

Possible tasks:/GCSE style Questions/ Practice Exam Questions

Each depth study has four questions

1) Source analysis. Practice Q1, page 206.

2) How useful are sources...? Practice Q2, page 206

3) Write an account... Practice question, page 208

4) Essay question...how far do you agree? Practice question, page 214.

The first and second questions test AO3 and require the analysis and evaluation of sources. One source is supplied for the first question and two sources for the second. Different types of sources will be used, including visual and written sources. The focus of the sources will arise from Part one, two or three of the specified content.

The third question tests AO1 and AO2. It is a narrative account, which uses knowledge, understanding and analysis of the second order concepts of cause and/or consequence. The focus will arise from Part one, two or three of the specified content.

The fourth question tests AO1 and AO2. It requires knowledge, understanding and analysis of historical events utilising any of the second order historical concepts. This will be an essay question requiring a judgement. It is an extended response which will give students the opportunity to demonstrate their ability to construct and develop a sustained line of reasoning which is coherent, relevant, substantiated and logically structured. Marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG) will also be available. The focus will arise from Part one, two or three or may cover more than one part of the specified content.

Key Vocabulary

<u>Key terms</u>	
Nationalism	Support for the interests of one's own nation often to the detriment of another nation; political independence of a particular people.
Imperialism	A policy of extending a nation's power and influence through the colonisation of territory.
Weltpolitik	Kaiser Wilhelm II's imperialist foreign policy, hoping to extend Germanic influence across the globe.
Jingoism	Extreme patriotism, often in the form of aggressive and warlike foreign policy.
Encirclement	A military term for a situation when a force believes itself to be surrounded by enemies. (Germany's perceived position c.1910-14)
Entente	A friendly understanding between nations; not a formal alliance.
Pan Slavism	The desire for the union of all Slavic peoples in one nation.

Stretch and Challenge/I Wider reading/independent research

Niall Ferguson, *'Pity of War'*, Penguin, 2009 (ISBN-13: 978-0140275230).

Summarised arguments of opposing historians such as James Joll, Fritz Fischer and Berghahn.

Complete research into

- Kaiser Wilhelm
- Princes

Listen to the 5 podcasts on GCSE Pod

On the GCSE pod Go to supplementary resources and find

Road to War - 5 podcasts

WW1 Origins - 6 podcasts

WW1 Military tactics