The MAIN Causes of War

- Militarism
- Alliance System
- Imperialism
- Nationalism

Spark that started the war was the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand of Austria by Gavrilo Princip of the "Black Hand."

The Origins of WWI

A. Nationalism
1. Pan-German movement = seeking to unite all German-speaking peoples
2. Pan-Slavic movement: Austria-Hungary contains both

B. Militarism and Alliances
1. glorification of armed strength – competition
2. Triple Alliance = Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy
3. Triple Entente = Britain, France, and Russia

The Alliance System

http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/FWWschlieffenP.htm

1905 Schlieffen Plan

http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/FWWschlieffenP.htm

WWI Begins

France assumed that Germany would attack through Alsace & Lorraine...

Germany came strong through Belgium according to the Schlieffen Plan... came close to Paris before being bogged down into a dreaded Two Front War

Trench Warfare

1. Covered with barbed wire and land mines, centred by "no-man's land" a death zone.
2. Front - Stretched 600 kilometres from the North Sea to the Swiss border.
3. Battle of the Somme - Entente suffers 60,000 deaths in a day
What about Russia?

The Romanov Family

II. Political chronology

2. Nicholas II (1894-1917)
   - Social and political challenges

II. Political chronology: Nicholas II

- 1905 revolution

II. Political chronology: Nicholas II

- 1905 revolution
  - Reforms:
    - October Manifesto 1905
    - 1906 Fundamental laws: civil liberties, legislative Duma
    - Social reforms (land reform; unions)

IV. Nicholas II (1894-1917)

- Personal life

IV. Nicholas II (1894-1917)

- Love of military culture

Prince Charles & Russia
Empress Alexandra

Life of the Romanov Family
Tsarskoye Selo

Billiard Hall

City Life

Grigori Rasputin

Rasputin was seen by many as a “puppet master” controlling Nicholas and Alexandra.
Rasputin's corpse was exhumed and burned by a mob during the February Revolutions of 1917. News of Rasputin's death was celebrated, and the murderers were seen as heroes. One theory regarding Rasputin's ability to stop Alexei's bleeding is that he used an herbal tincture.

Tsar Nicholas II and Kaiser Wilhelm of Germany, with whom Russia went to war, were third cousins. Britain, who was third cousin to Nicholas. Alexandra was one of Victoria's many great-granddaughters.

The cruel enemy is making his last efforts and the moment is near when our valiant Army, together with the glorious Allies, will finally overthrow the enemy.

By the Grace of God, We, Nikolai II, Emperor of All the Russias, Tsar of Poland, Grand Duke of Finland and Hungary, King of Rumania, and Emperor of Bulgaria, have addressed the representatives of the nation, to conduct the Russian State in the way of prosperity and well-being, to obey the Tsar at the painful moment of national trial and to aid them, together with the Allied States, in concert with our glorious Allies, will finally overthrow the enemy.

Abdication of Nikola II, March 15, 1917


Death of the Romanovs

Abdication of Nikola II, March 15, 1917

Road to Disaster (1914-1918)

The Russian Revolution

1918 July 16: Imperial family executed in the basement of the home of Rasputin.

Did anyone Survive?

1914 July 28: Germany declares war on Russia. Start of World War I.

Other Fascinating Facts About Rasputin and the Romanovs:

- Abdication of Nikola II, March 15, 1917

- Death of the Romanovs

- Road to Disaster (1914-1918)

- The Russian Revolution
Why? Who/what is to blame?
- War?

Why? Who/what is to blame?
- Have’s and Have Not’s...

Why? Who/what is to blame?
- Social discontents?


III. The Bolsheviks’ dilemma
- Coming to power: draw support from popular opinion and values
- In power, having to contend with
  - Ideas and values about the revolution
  - Class suspicion of all elites
  - State must serve interests
- “Days of monstrous contradiction”

Lenin

Vladimir Lenin (1870-1924)
I. The Ambivalence of Bolshevism, 1917-1921

1. Uncertainty and ambivalence

2. Leninist conception of power
   a) "Commune state"
      - "creative enthusiasm of the revolutionary classes" who can perform "miracles"
      - "Take matters into your own hands from below, waiting for no one."
      - Lenin

2. Leninist conception of power:
   b) Authoritarianism: discourse of control, ruthless suppression, iron discipline, dictatorship

3. Early Bolshevik political practice: Emancipatory/libertarian measures
   - Land reform
   - Workers control
   - Self-determination
   - Zhenotdel (Women’s section of Communist Party)

3. Early Bolshevik political practice: Centralizing and authoritarian policies
   - One-party government
   - Cheka (Extraordinary Commission for the Struggle with Counterrevolution, Sabotage, and Speculation)
   - Controlling economy and labor

4. Civil War (1918-1920)
   - Authoritarianism, coercion, violence
   - Emancipatory idealism and experimentation

5. Devastation by 1921
   - Economic collapse
   - Social rebellion (Kronstadt)
   - Dissidence within party
II. NEP Society (1920s)
1. The New Economic Policy: mixed economy
   - State: "commanding heights"
   - Society: small scale production and commerce

III. A contradictory society
1. Economic progress
2. Cultural development
3. Civil society revitalized
4. Repression and control
5. Conflicts and struggles (class, generation)
6. Crime, homelessness, decadence
   public life, popular culture

III. A contradictory society
7. Idealism: efforts to transform everyday life
   - Communes
   - Women’s emancipation
   - "Orchestra without a Conductor"
   - "Down with Shame"

V. Modernism
- Machines and electricity
  "Iron Messiah" (Vladimir Krilov)
  There he is, the savior...
  In the sparkle of arcs of electricity...
  There he walks o'er the abyss of seas...
  The mountains give way before him...
  The earth's poles together are brought...
  To the world he brings a New Sun...
  He destroys thrones andJuju...
  He calls the passions to eternal fraternity...

The Soviet Union...

Lenin Today