

Canada and World War I

Resource: *Counterpoints: Exploring Canadian Issues*, Chapter 2

The Beginning of World War I

1. Put the following events in the correct order.

<u>2</u>	assassination of Franz Ferdinand and Sophie
<u>4</u>	invasion of Belgium
<u>1</u>	creation of the Triple Alliance
<u>5</u>	Britain declares war on Germany
<u>3</u>	Russia mobilizes its troops
2. Which countries formed the Triple Alliance?
 - *Germany*
 - *Austro-Hungary*
 - *Italy*
3. Which countries formed the Triple Entente?
 - *France*
 - *Russia*
 - *Great Britain*
4. Define *nationalism*.
A strong attachment to one's country.
5. Define *militarism*.
A nation's policy of building and maintaining powerful armed forces.
6. What is meant by the term *balance of power*?
Where alliances try to maintain the same level of armed forces as its opponents.
7. List three causes or factors that contributed to the outbreak of World War I.
 - *Nationalism in Europe.*
 - *Competition for colonies in Africa and Asia.*
 - *The assassination of Arch-Duke Ferdinand.*
8. Who were the *Allies* in World War I?
France, the British Empire, Russia, Italy and eventually the US.

Canada's Response to the War

9. Look at the two posters on p. 25. What do they tell you about the attitude of people in Canada toward participation in the war?
Varied.
10. What attitudes in Canada in 1914 led to the exclusion of women and other groups from participation in the war?
Too frail and emotional; needed at home to care for children and to support the men.
11. Read the quotation in the second column on p. 26. How does it show a growing Canadian identity among the troops.
Varied.
12. Why did the government need the power of the *War Measure Act* to fight World War I?
Varied – granted extraordinary powers for the government to fight the war.
13. Name the civil Liberties that were threatened by the War Measures Act.

- *Mail could be censored.*
 - *Allowed arrest without trail – suspended habeas corpus.*
 - *Set up internment camps.*
14. Define *habeas corpus*?
The right to appear before a judge when arrested.
 15. What were *internment camps*?
Detention centers for anyone the government saw as a threat.

The War on Land

16. What was the Schlieffen Plan?
German plan to conquer France by attacking through Belgium prior to attacking Russia.
17. Why did the Schlieffen Plan's failure result in a stalemate on the Western Front?
Trench warfare, new means of warfare made it hard for any side to advance
18. Describe three new inventions used in World War I.
Varied descriptions of things such as: dirigibles; airplanes; machine guns; submarines; tanks; poison gas.
19. Describe life in the trenches.
Varied.

The Canadian Expeditionary Force in Battle

20. What was "new" about the *Battle of Ypres*?
Gas was used by the Germans.
21. What strategy did the British General Douglas Haig use at the *Battle of the Somme*?
Repeated waves of frontal assaults.
22. What was unique about *Vimy Ridge* compared to many earlier battles?
Better training and planning; underground tunnels to transport troops; the Canadians took the objective where others had failed.
23. Why was the Allied victory at *Passchendaele* so expensive for Canada?
A quagmire in which many drowned plus high casualties.
24. What role did women have in Canada's war in France?
Nurses and ambulance drivers.

The War in the Air

25. What was the average life expectancy of a pilot in the Royal Flying Corps during the First World War?
Three weeks when dog-fighting peaked in 1917.
26. How many pilots and aircrew died in WWI? *50,000*
27. Why is Billy Bishop remembered?
He shot down 72 German aircraft.

The War at Sea

28. What was the role of the submarine during WWI?
To destroy Allied shipping.

29. How did the Allies counter the effectiveness of German U-boats?
Used convoys escorted by warships and underwater listening devices.
30. What role did Canada's navy and merchant marine have during WWI?
Escorted convoys; Halifax was a major refitting base and departure point.

The War at Home

31. Describe the impact of WWI on Canada's economy.
- *Increased manufacturing and resource production.*
 - *Built up a demand for higher pay after the war.*
32. List three ways Canada's government paid for the war.
- *Bonds.*
 - *Taxes – introduced an income tax of 3-4%.*
 - *Borrowed from other countries – especially the US.*
33. List three ways Canadian women contributed to war.
- *Volunteers in organizations such as the Red Cross.*
 - *Worked in factories etc. when men were unavailable.*
 - *Worked as nurses and ambulance drivers in France.*
34. What is propaganda?
Information presented such a way as to promote an organization's cause.
35. What were the purposes of the poster on p. 38?
Varied.
36. How was propaganda used to portray Germans?
Varied – generally portrayed as evil barbarians.
37. How did this affect the German residents of Berlin, Ontario?
Residents changed its name to Kitchener.
38. Describe the Halifax disaster.
Two ships collided and 2500T of dynamite aboard one exploded; 2000-3000 people killed; 10,000 injured; much of harbour and city destroyed.

The Conscription Crisis

39. What was conscription?
Mandatory service in the armed forces.
40. Why did Prime Minister Borden believe conscription was necessary?
PM Lloyd George of Britain convinced him that more troops were needed in France.
41. Why were many Canadians opposed to conscription?
- *The French feared they would be spread throughout English-speaking units.*
 - *French-Canadians had no particular loyalties to France or Britain.*
 - *Farmers needed workers.*
 - *Industry needed workers.*
42. Why might Henri Bourassa have claimed that conscription was not good for Canada?
Felt it would divide the nation; war was already expensive and the cost of conscription would bankrupt the nation.
43. Why do you think Robert Borden did not allow conscientious objectors to vote in the 1917 election?
Wanted support for the war and feared conscientious objectors would oppose the government.

44. Why do you think Borden gave only women with husbands or children in the war the right to vote in the 1917 election?
He thought they were more likely to support his government than women whose men might be subject to conscription in the future.
45. How did people in Quebec react to conscription and Borden's victory in the 1917 election?
Continued protests and riots.

The Central Powers Collapse

46. What two events occurred in 1917 – and what effect did they have on the course of the War?
- *Czar abdicates, communist revolution and Russia quits the war freeing German troops for use on the Western Front.*
 - *The US enters the war bringing its material and manpower resources.*
47. What was the effect of Germany's successful 1918 offensive on its ability to wage the war?
It used up scarce resources and the Germans were not able to resist Allied counter-offensives.
48. Where did Canadian troops win battles in the last 100 days of the war?
Arras, Cambrai, Valenciennes.
49. What was the significance of Canada having a formal place at the Paris Peace Conference and in signing the Treaty of Versailles?
It asserted Canada's independence and recognized its material contributions and the successes of its troops.
50. List four terms of the Treaty of Versailles.
- *German had to accept responsibility for the war.*
 - *German had to pay reparations of \$30,000,000,000 to the victors.*
 - *Germany was partitioned.*
 - *The size of Germany's armed forces was limited.*
51. What is meant by the term *collective security*?
Members of a group pledge military support and cooperation to resist aggression.
52. What was the purpose of the League of Nations?
To ensure the security of its members.
53. Which countries supported the League and which didn't?
Small powers tended to support it, large powers didn't.
54. Explain why the League was viewed differently by countries?
Small powers saw the League as protection from stronger imperialist powers; the Great Powers saw it as a limit on their imperial ambitions in Asia and Africa.
55. Describe how the Spanish Flu spread and what its impact was in Canada and the world.
Soldiers brought it home; 22,000,000 died worldwide; 50,000 died in Canada; some communities required people to wear protective masks.