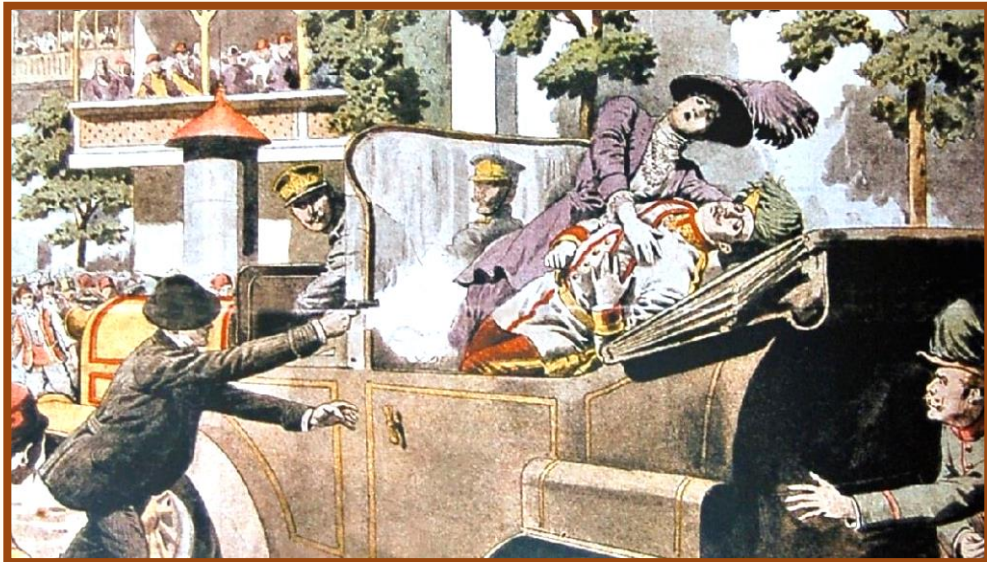


EUROPEAN HISTORY

LO9 abc

Causes of the First World War



Year 10

Third Edition – 2023

for History SEC 2025



Curriculum Centre Annex

LO9 a - Ideologies that caused the First World War

Militarism

In the years prior to the outbreak of the First World War, the German military establishment gained a great influence on government policy. This was mainly true during the reign of Kaiser William II (1890–1918).

Militarism led to the imperialist and expansionist ideologies of most of the European Great Powers of that time.

Militarism led to the expansion of armies, better training, weapons and means of communication for military purposes (e.g., railways).

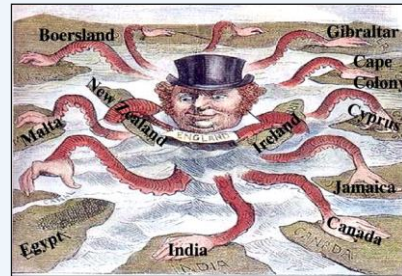


Kaiser William II inspecting a group of army officers.

Imperialism

Imperialism is the policy of extending a country's territories and influence through the acquisition of foreign lands using military force. European imperialism started in the early modern era during the Age of Discovery and Exploration.

In the 19th century, nationalism and the Industrial Revolution brought another upsurge of imperialism. European powers natural resources and markets to industrialise their economies.



Caricature representing British imperialism

Colonialism

In order to industrialise further, the European Powers conquered new lands in Africa and Asia. This new drive for colonial expansion resulted in a series of diplomatic incidents that increased rivalry and tension between the Great Powers. In some cases the dispute ended in an open conflict, as in the Anglo-Boer War (1899–1902) in South Africa and the Russo-Japanese War (1904–1905).

Between 1886 and 1914 there was the 'Scramble for Africa' during which that continent was divided up into colonies by the main powers of Europe. The colonisation of Africa brought various diplomatic disputes, namely the Fashoda Incident (1898) between Britain and France and the Moroccan Crisis (1905–1911).



The European powers grabbing colonies in Africa and Asia.

Nationalism

19th century nationalism meant the glorification of one's nation and the promotion of its culture and interest over everything else. Extreme nationalism often led to policies that advocated militarism and imperialism.

Nationalism in its most extreme form was to influence the doctrine of Fascism and Nazism in the first half of the 20th century.



Nationalist movements resulted in the creation of nation-states in 19th and 20th century Europe.

LO9 b - The European Alliances System, 1871-1914

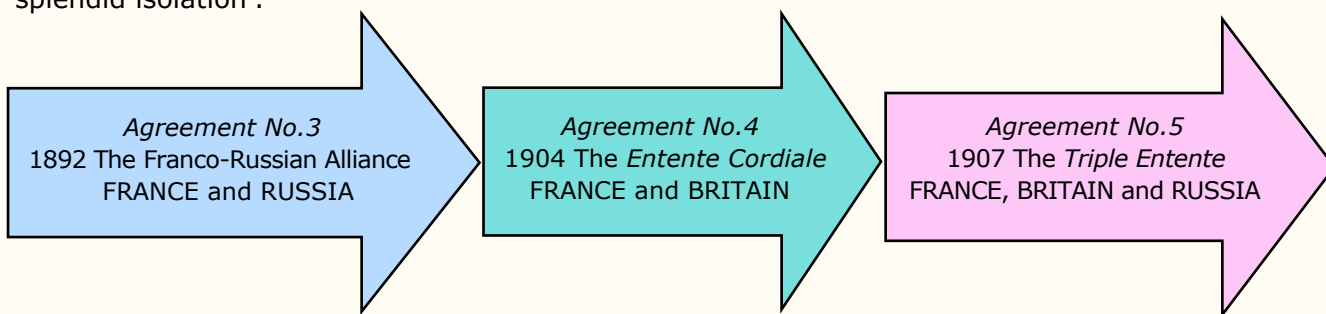
The situation of the Great Powers in 1871

Great Britain	was more interested in strengthening its colonial empire. For this reason, it was said that Britain was 'in splendid isolation'.
Germany, Austria-Hungary and Russia	were tied to each other by an agreement called the 'Three Emperors League'.
France	had very few friends because she had been defeated by Prussia in 1871 (Franco-Prussian War) and it was still licking her wounds.
Italy	had just been united and it was still not strong enough. It was trying, however, to build up her army and her Mediterranean navy.
The Ottoman Empire	was in rapid decline. It had lost most of her lands in the Balkan peninsula. By then it was called 'the sick man of Europe.'

2. How the European Alliance came into being



But soon it was Britain's turn to become worried. During the Boer War in South Africa, Germany showed sympathy with the Dutch Boers against the British. Britain started to mistrust Germany and looked for France for a friend in Europe. In 1903 King Edward VII visited France and signed the *Entente Cordiale*, meaning 'Friendly Understanding'. This meant that Britain was no long in 'splendid isolation'.



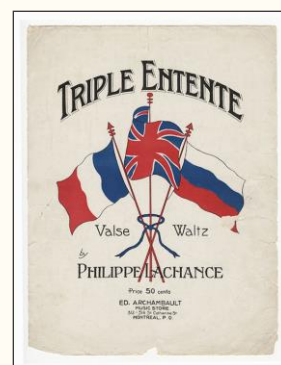
Three years later, Britain made a similar agreement with Russia who was already in alliance with France. So, by 1907 the European Great Powers were grouped in two rival armed camps. Only a trigger was needed to ignite a conflict involving all the European Great Powers.



Agreement No 2

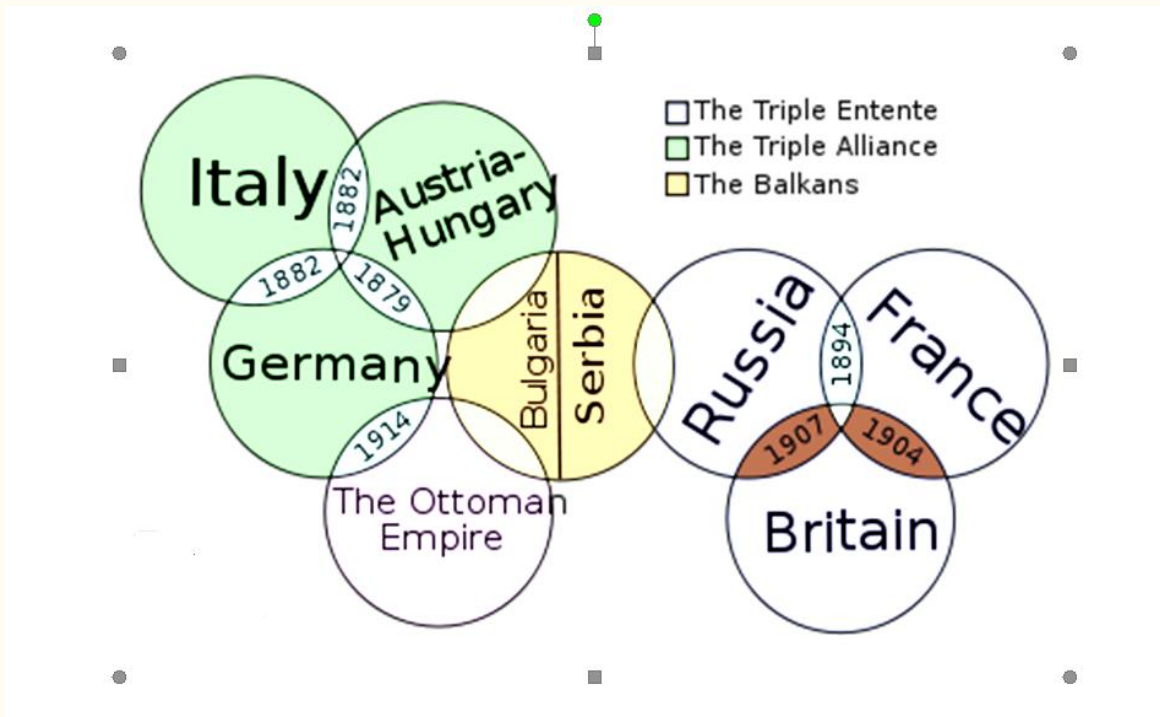


Agreement No.4

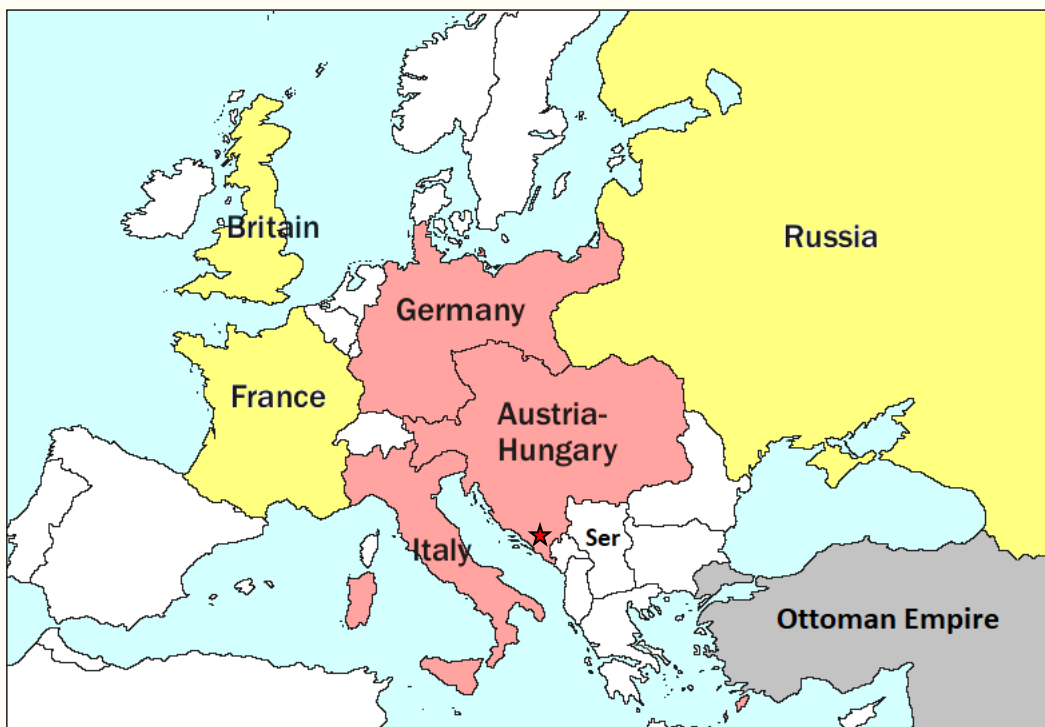


Agreement No.5

The diagram below shows the complexity of the European Alliances that were formed between 1879 and 1907.



The map below shows the European alliances as they existed at the time of the assassination at Sarajevo on 28 June 1914. The red star on the map shows the location of the town of Sarajevo in Bosnia-Herzegovina where the spark that started the First World War occurred.



LO9 ab - The European Alliances System, 1871–1914

1. Match these statements with their respective ideology. (4)

		Militarism	Imperialism	Colonialism	Nationalism
(a)	The naval race between Britain and Germany				
(b)	The 'Scramble for Africa'				
(c)	The Balkan Wars against the Ottoman Empire				
(d)	The expansion of the British Empire				

2. Which of the four ideologies mentioned in question 1 caused the following incident or event? (4)

(a)	The assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand at Sarajevo in 1914.	
(b)	The expansion of Krupp's armaments' factory in Germany.	
(c)	The war between Russia and Japan in the Far East.	
(d)	In 1882 the British occupied and added Egypt to their empire.	

3. To which Great Power do these statements apply in 1871? (5)

(a)	'Splendid isolation'	
(b)	The 'Sick Man of Europe'	
(c)	A defeated and diplomatically isolated power	
(d)	Sought to establish itself as a new Great Power	
(e)	The strongest Great Power on the European Continent in 1871.	

4. Fill in this matrix table about the European system of alliances. (15)

		Year	Name of alliance	The Great Powers in this alliance
(a)	Agreement 1			
(b)	Agreement 2			
(c)	Agreement 3			
(d)	Agreement 4			
(e)	Agreement 5			

5. Give **one** reason that briefly explains the aim of each of these five alliances. (5)

(a) Agreement 1:

(b) Agreement 2:

(c) Agreement 3:

(d) Agreement 4:

(e) Agreement 5:

6. (a) Who was the German statesman the contributed to the creation of the system of alliances in Europe after 1871?

(1)

(b) What were his **two** principal motives for doing so?

(2)

(c) Briefly explain how his work was undone after he was forced to resign from office in 1890.

(2)

7. (a) In what way was Germany's geographical location vulnerable in the event of a general war involving all the Great European Powers?

(2)

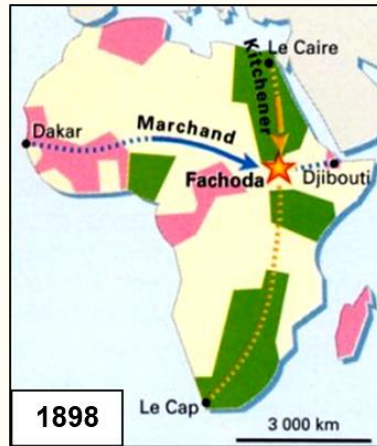
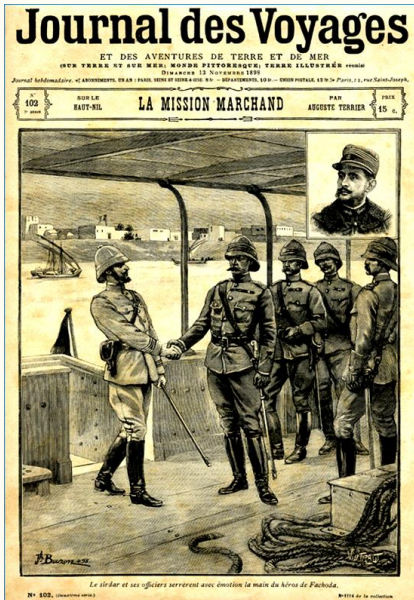
(b) Draw the relevant arrows on the map of Europe in 1914 in page 4 to explain Germany's vulnerability. (2)

(Total: 40 marks)

LO9 c (i) - Colonial disputes between the Great Powers

The Fashoda incident between Britain and France, 1898

The dispute arose from the common desire of Britain and France to link up their scattered colonial territories in Eastern Africa. A French expedition to Fashoda sought to gain control of the Upper Nile River basin and thereby excluding Britain from taking control of Sudan.



Left: The meeting of Generals Marchand and Kitchener at Fashoda from a contemporary French newspaper (left).

Above centre: Map showing the location of Fashoda in Eastern Africa.

Above right: Poster commemorating the Anglo-French Entente Cordiale in 1902.

The incident was a war scare in Britain and France. But historians consider this incident as a turning point in Anglo-French relations. It made Britain and France to meet and solve specific disputes, develop closer relations and avoid war between them. It was the first step which culminated in the signing of the Anglo-French Entente in 1902.

The Anglo-Russian Convention on Iran, 1907

This dispute was caused by the discovery of oil in Iran, the weakness of the Iranian monarchy, the expansion of Russia in the Caucasus region and in Central Asia and Britain's presence in India. The convention signed between Russia and Great Britain divided Iran in three zones: a large Russian zone in the north, a smaller Iranian 'neutral' zone in the centre, and a British zone in the south. This agreement was spearheaded by French diplomacy whose interests were to avoid a war between her two allies in Europe. The signing of the Triple Entente in 1907 between Britain, France and Russia ended France's isolation in Europe and exposed Germany to the danger of having to fight a war on two fronts.



Left: The partition of Iran in three zones at the Anglo-Russian Convention of 1907.

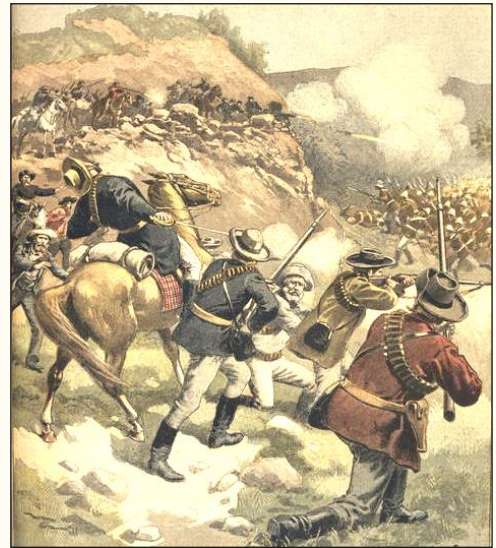
Centre; A caricature on the Anglo-Russian spheres of influence in Iran in 1907.

Right: A Russian poster commemorating the signing of the Triple Entente in 1907.

The Anglo-Boer War in South Africa (1899–1902)

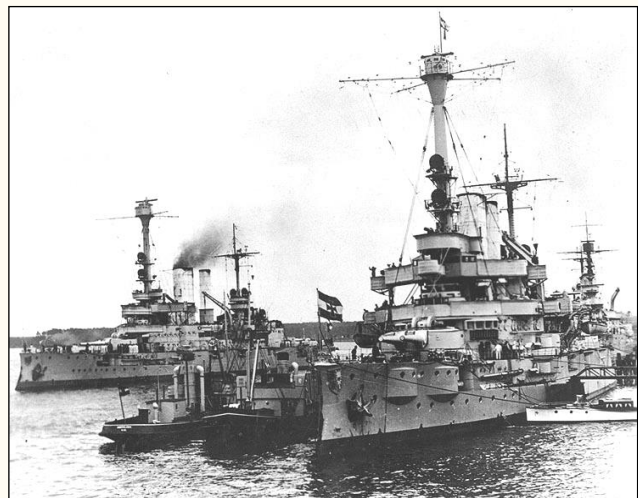
The Boer War was a conflict fought between the British Empire and the two Boer Republics, the South African Republic and the Orange Free State over the Empire's influence in South Africa. The conflict broke out when the Boer militia attacked colonial settlements in nearby British colonies. The Boer guerrilla campaign proved difficult for the British to defeat, due in part to British unfamiliarity with guerrilla tactics and support for the guerrillas among the civilian population in the Boer Republics. The war ended when the Boers surrendered in 1902. The former independent Boer republics were annexed to the British Empire as the Union of South Africa.

A contemporary print showing a group of Boers engaged in battle against the British.



The Anglo-German Naval Race

Germany's support for the Boers of South Africa brought strained relations between Britain and Germany which culminated in the Anglo-German naval race from 1897 onwards. This naval race began because Kaiser William II wanted Germany to become a naval world power. To achieve this, Germany needed a navy that challenged Britain which had the world's largest navy. The German Naval League was also set up to make the people more informed and interested in the navy. The race began in 1900 when a German Navy Law ordered the building of 41 battleships and 60 cruisers.



Left: An American caricature of 1908 on the naval race between five Great Powers with the caption 'No Limit'. The cartoon shows a high-stakes poker game with Uncle Sam, Kaiser William II of Germany, Emperor Meiji of Japan, President Armand Fallières of France, and King Edward VII of Great Britain. The Emperor of Japan is raising the bid by one battleship.
Right: A squadron of German dreadnoughts in 1914

But the British Admiralty was not prepared to allow this to happen. Britain needed a large fleet to protect its colonies and its trade routes. So the Admiralty took steps to enlarge the Royal Navy even more. Britain responded by building a new type of battleship called 'dreadnought' which was faster, had thicker armoured plates and had a fire range of 32 km. The naval race ended in 1912 when Germany reached an agreement with Britain to end Germany's isolation in Europe.

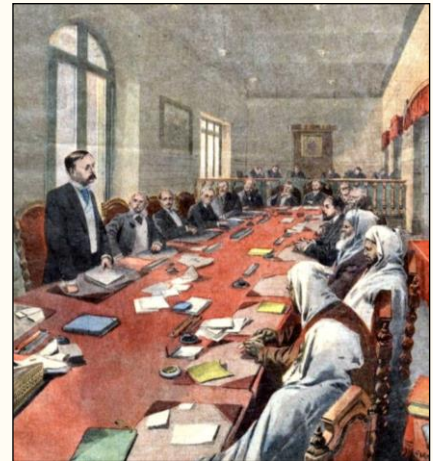
The two Moroccan crises of 1905 and 1911



Kaiser William II Sultan Abdulaziz Sultan Andulmehid

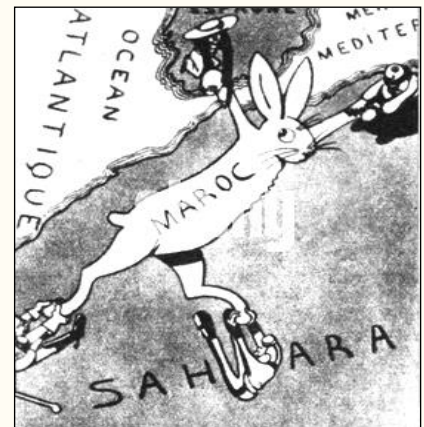
Above: The Conference of Algericas from the French journal 'Le Petit Parisien', 4 Feb. 1906.

Below right: A French caricature on the Moroccan Crises.



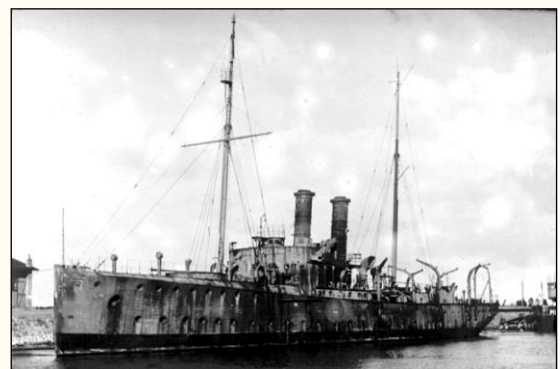
The Tangier Crisis of 1905-1906

In 1905 the French were getting ready to make Morocco into one of their colonies. Kaiser William II of Germany opposed this and went personally to Tangier to show his support to the Sultan of Morocco against a French attack. As the news spread in Europe, people wondered whether this would lead to war between Germany and France. For several weeks there was tension in Europe. Instead declaring war, they decided to hold a conference in the Spanish town of Algericas. The conference was a great disappointment for the Kaiser. France gained special rights in Morocco, but that country remained independent. As a result of this crisis, the Kaiser realised that while Britain and France supported each other by diplomacy, they were not ready to support each other in fight a war against Germany.



The Agadir Crisis of 1911

Five years later, the Kaiser interfered again in the affairs of Morocco. In 1911, Moroccan rebels attacked the town of Fez. The French government sent an army to help the Sultan drive them out. William accused the French of invading Morocco and so he sent a German warship to the Moroccan port of Agadir. Britain feared Germany would turn Agadir into a German naval base close to Gibraltar. The Royal Navy was made ready for war. This time it seemed that there would be war between Germany and Britain. At the last moment, the Kaiser gave way and ordered the German warships to leave Agadir. War was avoided but the incident scared both Britain and France. One result of this crisis was that *the race to build dreadnoughts became even more frantic*. Both countries prepared themselves for the next confrontation.



The German Panther dreadnaught anchored in Agadir harbour in Morocco during the Second Moroccan Crisis of 1911.

LO9 c - Colonial disputes between the Great Powers

1. (a) What caused the Fashoda Incident in 1898?

(2)

(b) What was its most important consequence?

(2)

2. (a) What caused the rivalry between Britain and Russia over Iran?

(2)

(b) How did the solution of this dispute improve relations between Britain and Russia after 1907?

(2)

3. Why did the Boer War in South Africa affect relations in Europe between Britain and Germany?

(2)

4. (a) What caused the naval race between Britain and Germany?

(2)

(b) Who won this naval race and why?

(2)

5. (a) What caused the two Moroccan Crises of 1905 and 1911?

(2)

(b) What lesson did the German Kaiser learn from the First Moroccan Crisis of 1905-1906?

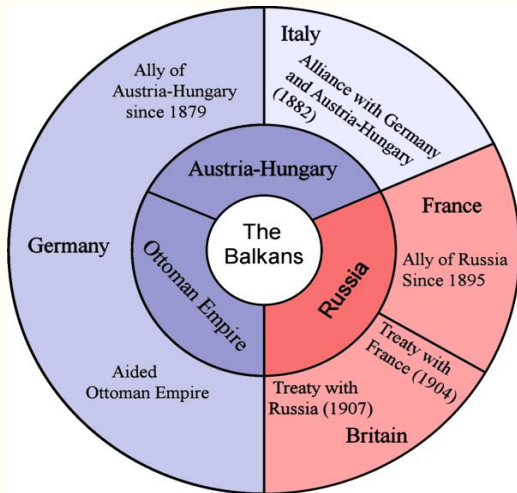
(2)

(c) Why was the Second Moroccan Crisis of 1911 more dangerous than the first one?

(2)

(Total: 20 marks)

LO9 c (ii) - Crisis in the Balkans



Left:
Diagram showing how the Great Powers became involved in the Balkans

Right:
Poster of the First Balkan War of 1912



The crisis over Bosnia-Herzegovina in 1908

Britain and the powerful countries surrounding the Balkan Peninsula (Russia, Austria-Hungary and Italy) were all interested in what was going on in the decaying Ottoman Empire. They could take advantage of Turkey's weakness to grab land and increase their influence in that area. The chance to do so came suddenly in 1908.

In that year the Young Turk Revolution broke out in Constantinople. A group of army officers took control of the government in Constantinople and forced the sultan to grant a liberal constitution. On hearing of what happened in Turkey, the King of Bulgaria declared his country independent from Turkey. The people of Crete broke away from Turkey and united with Greece. But it was Austria-Hungary that took the most advantage by seizing the provinces of Bosnia-Herzegovina from Turkey and joined it with Austria-Hungary. But this turned out to be a fatal mistake – the people of these provinces were mostly Serbs who wanted to unite with Serbia not with Austria-Hungary. This development was to bring more trouble in the Balkans, this time between Serbia and Austria-Hungary.

The two Balkan Wars of 1912-1913

After the Young Turk Revolution, Turkey grew more and more weak. The Balkan countries now saw a chance to drive out the Turks out of Europe. In 1912, the Kings of Greece, Bulgaria, Serbia and Montenegro joined together in the Balkan League and attacked Turkey. The First Balkan War was cruel and costly. The League proved stronger and after only fifty days of fighting Turkey asked for an armistice. Turkey gave up its remaining lands in the Balkans which were shared between the four victorious countries. A new country, Albania was created with the insistence of Austria-Hungary. But now the four kings of the League quarrelled about their share of the land which they received. This quarrel brought about the Second Balkan War in 1913. Serbia, Montenegro, Greece, Romania and Turkey attacked Bulgaria from four sides.

The country which came out best from the two Balkan Wars was Serbia which was doubled in size but which was deprived access to the Mediterranean Sea when Albania was created. Meanwhile the Serbs living in Bosnia-Herzegovina became restless and wanted more than ever before to unite with Serbia. As a result, the Austro-Hungarian government became alarmed that these peoples could rebel at any moment.

A war between Serbia and Austria-Hungary would drag her ally Russia into the war. In turn this would have forced the other Great Powers to join the war because of the system of alliances obliged them to support each other if war broke out.



The Balkan Wars marked the end of the Ottoman Empire in Europe.

LO9 c (ii) - Crisis in the Balkans

1. From the diagram in page 9, identify **three** Great Powers that had conflicting interests in the Balkans.

_____ (1)

2. Briefly explain what interest in the Balkans did of each of these three Great Powers have.

_____ (2)

_____ (2)

_____ (2)

3. In what way was Germany connected to the Balkans?

_____ (2)

4. Tick **five** statements that contributed to or were a consequence of the Bosnian Crisis of 1908. (5)

(a)	The Young Turk Revolution broke out in Constantinople.	
(b)	The Ottoman Empire lost all its territories in the Balkans.	
(c)	Britain took over Cyprus from the Ottoman Empire.	
(d)	Bulgaria declared its complete independence from the Ottoman Empire.	
(e)	Germany concluded a military alliance with the Ottoman Empire.	
(f)	Austria-Hungary annexed the province of Bosnia-Herzegovina.	
(g)	Crete broke away from the Ottoman Empire and joined with Greece.	
(h)	Italy invaded and occupied Albania.	
(i)	Russia promised to help Serbia if the latter was attacked by Austria-Hungary.	

5. What caused the First Balkan War in 1912?

_____ (2)

6. What caused the Second Balkan War in 1913?

_____ (2)

7. Why did the Balkan Wars bring the Great Powers on the brink of a general European war?

_____ (2)

(Total: 20 marks)

LO9 c (iii) The assassination incident at Sarajevo on 28 June 1914



The last living moments of Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife Sophie at Sarajevo on 28th June 1914.

The Black Hand

In 1911, in the Serbian capital Belgrade, ten army officers founded a secret society named 'Unity or Death', more commonly called as 'The Black Hand'. Their aim was to unite all the Slav peoples in the Balkans into a single country called Yugoslavia. They made sure that frontier guards on the border between Bosnia and Serbia were Black Hand members. Once in Bosnia, Black Hand terrorists planned to plant bombs or shoot enemies and then slip safely back into Serbia.

The Austro-Hungarian government feared that the Black Hand would start a rebellion in the province of Bosnia. In this tense imperial government took a foolish decision. They announced in the newspapers that the heir to the throne, Archduke Franz Ferdinand, would be visiting Bosnia's capital Sarajevo in June 1914 to assist in military exercises along the frontier with Serbia. The Black Hand made plans to assassinate the archduke. Three weeks before the visit, Gavrilo Princip, 19 years old, and two other Black Hand Serbs travelled from Belgrade to Sarajevo.

The Archduke's visit and murder at Sarajevo. 28th June 1914

On that fateful day, the Archduke and his wife Sophie arrived at Sarajevo railway station at 9:30 am. They travelled in an open-topped car to the Town Hall while crowds lined the streets. The Black Hand terrorists were in the crowd waiting for the right moment to act. As the car approached, one of them stepped forward and threw a bomb at it. But Ferdinand managed to deflect the bomb which exploded under the car behind. Ferdinand became furious and the town mayor decided to cancel the rest of the visit.

But then, on the return journey from the Town Hall to the railway station, the chauffeur took a wrong turning. By chance, Princip happened to be standing in that very street. As the chauffeur reversed, Princip stepped forward and fired two pistol shots. One bullet hit the Archduke in the throat, the other hit Sophie in the stomach. The royal couple died a few minutes later in the Governor's palace. Princip tried to commit suicide by swallowing poison, but it failed to work. He was arrested, questioned and beaten up by the police. He was later tried and sentenced to death by hanging.



*Left: Colonel Apis, founder of the Black Hand
Centre: The arrest of Gavrilo Princip moments after the Sarajevo murders
Right: Princip photographed by the Austrians during his arrest*

LO9 c (iv) - Preparations for war on land



The German Schlieffen Plan



The French Plan XVII (17)

By the summer of 1914, the European rival alliances were armed to the teeth and ready to fight each other using prepared detailed war plans. All these plans hoped for a quick and decisive victory over the enemy. What remained was an excuse to start a fight.

The German Schlieffen Plan

In 1905 the German General Alfred von Schlieffen prepared a plan on how Germany could fight her enemies if a war broke out in Europe. His plan was aimed to avoid Germany having to fight a 'war on two fronts' – against France and Russia simultaneously. If war began, the whole German army should invade France travelling at high speed through neutral Belgium and capture Paris. Having defeated France in just six weeks, the German army would then be sent in on the eastern front to fight the Russians. Although it was a simple plan, it made a war on two fronts even more likely if France was not defeated at once. By attacking France first, Germany made certain that France would not remain neutral in a war between Germany and Russia. General Schlieffen had made sure that any war fought by Germany would be a major European war.

Plan 17 of the French

The French had been planning a war of revenge against Germany since their defeat in the Franco-Prussian War of 1870-1871. They had made many plans. Finally, in 1913, General Joffre came up with Plan 17 which stated that if war broke out, the French army would make an all-out attack on their lost provinces of Alsace-Lorraine. Once these provinces were retaken, the French army would then cross the River Rhine into Germany and advance head on to capture Berlin.

Other plans

Britain, Russia and Austria-Hungary also had their war plans. Britain had already formed an Expeditionary Force whose task was to cross quickly to France as soon as war was declared. Russia started building up her armies in 1909. Austria-Hungary started producing large cannons at the Skoda arms factory in Bohemia.



A British trench in the Western Front



By the winter months of 1914, the situation on the Western Front had reached a stalemate where neither side managed to achieve a breakthrough and bring about a quick victory. The armies of both sides thus started digging trenches to defend their position.

LO c (v) - The countdown to war (28 June to 5 August 1914)

The results of the Sarajevo assassination

The Sarajevo murders led directly to another war in the Balkans. The Austro-Hungarian Government decided to teach the Serbs a lesson for secretly helping the Black Hand. It thus sent a long telegram to King Peter of Serbia, saying:

'The Sarajevo assassinations were planned in Belgrade, the arms and explosives ... were given to them by Serbian officers ... and the passage into Bosnia of the criminals and their arms was organised by the chief of the Serbian frontier service ...'

'The Austro-Hungarian Government expects the reply of the Royal Government at the latest by 6 o'clock on Saturday, 25th July.'

King Peter was given 48 hours to reply. The telegram was an ultimatum, or final demand. If he did not agree to its demands, Austro-Hungarian forces would invade his country. Shortly before the time expired, King Peter replied that his government would do all that the Austrians demanded, except for one exception: he would not allow Austro-Hungarian officials into Serbia for that would mean the end of Serbia's independence. When they received the reply, the Austro-Hungarian government declared war on Serbia and the next day cannons bombarded Belgrade.

In response, the Serbian Government asked Russia for help because the Russians were Slavs like the Serbs. After a few of hesitation, on 29th July, Czar Nicholas II ordered the Russian army to mobilise (prepare for war) to help Serbia against Austria-Hungary. This decision started the countdown to the biggest war the world had ever known.

The countdown to war

30 th July: 6 days to war	When Kaiser William heard that the Russian army was mobilising, he sent an ultimatum to Czar Nicholas, ordering him to stop.
Saturday 1 st August: 4 days to war	Czar Nicholas refused and so Germany declared war on Russia. As France was an ally of Russia, the French Government mobilised its army and declared war on Germany.
2 nd August: 3 days to war	When France rejected the German demand to stop its mobilisation, Germany declared war on France and started putting into practice the Schlieffen Plan by invading neutral Belgium.
3 rd August: 2 days to war	The British Government honoured its commitment to protect the neutrality of Belgium by issuing an ultimatum to the Kaiser ordering him to retreat from Belgium.
4 th August: 1 day to war	That evening, British politicians sat in the Cabinet room waiting for an answer. Since no answer came from Berlin when the time of the ultimatum expired at midnight, Britain declared war on Germany.
5 th August: 1 st day of war	Five of the Great Powers of Europe were now at war with each other: the Central Powers (Germany and Austria-Hungary) against the Triple Entente Powers (Britain, France and Russia).



By the early months of 1915 most of the fighting took place were the **Western Front** (between France and Germany) and the **Eastern Front** (between Germany and Russia). As the war progressed more countries joined in the fight, turning the war from a 'General European War' into the 'First World War' in modern history.

LO9 c (iii-v) The Sarajevo assassination and the countdown to war

1. What was the Black Hand and what was its main aim?

(2)

2. How did the Black Hand strain relations between Serbia and Austria-Hungary even further?

(2)

3. (a) Why did Archduke Franz Ferdinand visit Sarajevo in June 1914?

(1)

(b) How was this royal visit seen by the Serbian nationalists?

(2)

4. Identify **three** mistakes during this visit which caused the death of the Archduke and his wife?

(3)

5. What happened by chance during the return journey of the Archduke to the train station?

(2)

6. (a) What motive did the Austro-Hungarian government have when it issued an ultimatum against Serbia?

(2)

(b) Why the Serbian government agreed to all but one of the demands of the ultimatum?

(2)

7. Why were the other European Powers dragged into a general European war between 30 July and 5th August 1914?

(2)

8. Where did most of the fighting take place during the First World War?

(2)

(Total: 20 marks)

LO9 abc - Causes of the First World War

Source Question

'Germany shall increase to the utmost of her power irrespective of any proposals made to her by England or by Russia or by any other state ... But with the best will in the world I can see no solution to the present collision of ideals but a tragic one. England desires peace and will never make war on Germany. But how can the yout of Germany, that nation great in war, accept the world-predominance of England? The outcome is certain and speedy. It is war.'

Source A. Lecture given in October 1913 by an Englishman, J.A. Cramb, who lived in Germany for many years.

'I no longer have any doubt that England, Russia and Francehave agreed among themselves – knowing that our treaty obligation compel us to support Austria – to use the Austro-Serb conflict as a pretext for waging a war of annihilation against us ... we are either basely to betray our ally and leave her to the mercy of Russia – thereby breaking up the Triple Alliance, or as a reward for keeping our pledges get set upon and beaten by the Triple Entente, so that their longing to ruin us completely can be finally satisfied ... So the celebrated encirclement of Germany has finally become an accomplished fact, in spite of all the efforts by our politicians to prevent it ...'

Source B. Comments by Kaiser William II on a report in July 1914.

1. Why are the above sources both primary sources?
_____ (2)
2. Are these two sources compatible or conflicting in their view? Give a reason why you think so.
_____ (2)
3. To what tragic situation is the author of Source A refering in line 3.
_____ (2)
4. Source A refer to Germany as 'that nation great in war'. Mention **two** episodes from 19th century history that proves this point.

_____ (2)
5. From the evidence of these two sources, do you think that a general European war in 1914 could have been avoided? Include **two** reasons to prove your answer.

_____ (4)
6. Briefly explain why, according to the Kaiser, Germany was caught between two fires.

_____ (4)
7. Explain what the 'encirclement of Germany' (in Source B line 6) means in military terms?

_____ (2)
8. In what way Germany's foreign policy differ under Bismarck and Kaiser William II?

_____ (2)

(Total: 20 marks)

LO9 abc – Essay Questions on the Causes of the First World War

Carefully read these essay titles and then choose one to answer.

PAPER MQF 2-3

- Explain why Europe became divided in two rival alliances after 1879? (8)
 - Discuss how this system of alliances contributed to the outbreak of the First World War in 1914. (12)
- Mention four main disputes which increased tension between the European Great Powers in the late 19th and early 20th century. (8)
 - Discuss in more detail two diplomatic incidents from the four mentioned in question (a). (12)

PAPER MQF 1-2

- Identify the countries that made up these European alliances after 1879: the Dual Alliance, the Triple Alliance and the Triple Entente. (8)
 - Explain why these alliances were formed? (12)
- Identify four major disputes between the European Great Powers between 1879 and 1914? (8)
 - Explain how militarism, imperialism, colonialism and nationalism contributed to the outbreak of the First World War? (12)

