

Critical Thinking Skills

World War I

Skills For Critical Thinking		Background & Causes	Major Battles	U.S. Enters the War	Woodrow Wilson's 14 Points	Methods of Warfare	Outcomes
LEVEL 1 Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recall Details Match List 	✓	✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓ ✓	✓	✓ ✓
LEVEL 2 Comprehension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare & Contrast Summarize State Main Idea Describe Interpret 	✓	✓ ✓	✓	✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓ ✓
LEVEL 3 Application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Choose Information Identify Outcomes Apply What Is Learned Make Connections 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ ✓
LEVEL 4 Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draw Conclusions Identify Supporting Evidence Make Inferences Identify Cause & Effect Identify Relationships 		✓ ✓	✓	✓ ✓ ✓	✓	✓ ✓
LEVEL 5 Synthesis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Predict Design Create 	✓		✓	✓		
LEVEL 6 Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defend An Opinion Make Judgements Explain 	✓ ✓	✓ ✓			✓ ✓	✓ ✓ ✓

Based on Bloom's Taxonomy



The U.S. Enters the War



1. Use a straight line to match each word with its correct meaning. You may use a dictionary to help you.

1	neutral	organized spreading of certain ideas	A
2	allies	a special boat that is used underwater	B
3	propaganda	the way money and jobs are organized	C
4	submarine	the way people live	D
5	economy	someone united with someone else for a common purpose; friends	E
6	culture	not supporting either side in a disagreement	F

2. Sometimes countries choose not to take sides when an argument occurs. As a student, there may be times when you must face a difficult situation. What are some reasons why you might not want to take a side in an argument? Try to think of three reasons.

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____



The U.S. Enters the War

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hen World War One began in 1914 the United States was not involved. The U.S. wanted to be **neutral** and not take a side. For three years the United States stayed out of the war. In 1917 the U.S. changed its mind.

Even though they wanted to stay out of the war, the United States eventually did support one side. They sided with the Triple Entente. The U.S. called that side the **allies** and considered the Triple Entente countries to be friends. Not only did France and Britain have a similar **culture** to the United States, they were also trading partners. The Americans had a great deal in common with the allies.

Many people living in the United States did not want to get involved in the war. In order to get support for the war, the government introduced **propaganda**. This included pictures, advertisements in newspapers and magazines, and announcements over the radio. The ads showed the Triple Entente as being strong and good. It showed the Triple Alliance as being evil and bad.



Do you think that propaganda would work? Why or why not?

Reasons for Entering the War

For several years the United States did not get involved in the war. However, three major things happened that made the U.S. change its mind.

1. In 1915 a **submarine** called the Lusitania was sunk without warning. On board were 120 Americans.
2. One year later another boat, called the Sussex, was sunk. Americans were outraged.
3. In 1917, the German government sent a secret message to Mexico and Japan asking them to attack the United States. The British decoded the secret message. They told the Americans of the plan.

President Woodrow Wilson asked Congress for permission to enter the war. On April 6, 1917 Congress officially declared war. When the United States joined the war it meant that more soldiers and weapons were needed. Joining the war was actually good news for the **economy** because more people were needed to work. Jobs were created to help with the war.



The U.S. Enters the War



1. The following are multiple choice questions. Circle the correct letter.

- a) **When did the United States become involved in the First World War?**
 - A In 1918
 - B After the submarine, the Lusitania, was sunk
 - C April 6, 1917
 - D The United States did not become involved in World War One
- b) **Who was president of the United States during World War One?**
 - A John F. Kennedy
 - B Woodrow Wilson
 - C George Bush
 - D Theodore Roosevelt
- c) **Who did the Americans side with by the end of World War One?**
 - A The Triple Alliance
 - B Britain
 - C The United States remained neutral throughout the war
 - D The Triple Entente
- d) **What did the American government do to try and get support for the war?**
 - A Used propoganda
 - B Gave people money to support the war
 - C Made television commercials
 - D Visited people to discuss the war
- e) **Why were Americans outraged in 1916?**
 - A The war was over
 - B The Lusitania was sunk
 - C The president told Americans to be outraged
 - D The boat, the Sussex, was sunk

2. What are the three main reasons why the United States became involved in the war?
