

# Leveled Texts for Social Studies



The 20th Century



SHELL EDUCATION

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## Leveled Texts

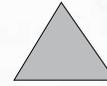
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# How to Use This Product

## Readability Chart



Title of the Text	Star	Circle	Square	Triangle
The Industrial Revolution	2.1	3.2	5.0	6.7
Men of the Industrial Revolution	2.0	3.2	4.8	6.5
European Immigration	2.0	3.3	4.9	6.5
Asian Immigration	2.0	3.3	4.7	6.8
World War I: The "Great War"	2.2	3.1	4.8	6.8
The Roaring Twenties	1.8	3.2	4.5	6.5
The Great Depression	1.6	3.1	4.6	6.5
World War II in Europe	2.0	3.0	4.6	6.5
World War II in the Pacific	2.0	3.0	4.5	6.6
World War II Leaders	2.2	3.2	4.7	6.9
The Civil Rights Movement	2.2	3.0	4.7	6.5
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.	2.2	3.0	4.7	6.6
The Cold War	2.0	3.0	5.1	6.5
Conflicts in the Middle East	2.2	3.1	5.2	6.5
Modern World Leaders	2.2	3.2	5.0	6.6

## Correlation to Standards

The No Child Left Behind (NCLB) legislation mandates that all states adopt academic standards that identify the skills students will learn in kindergarten through grade 12. While many states had already adopted academic standards prior to NCLB, the legislation set requirements to ensure the standards were detailed and comprehensive. In many states today, teachers are required to demonstrate how their lessons meet state standards. State standards are used in the development of Shell Education products, so educators can be assured that they meet the academic requirements of each state.

Shell Education is committed to producing educational materials that are research and standards based. In this effort, all products are correlated to the academic standards of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense Dependent Schools. A correlation report customized for your state can be printed directly from the following website: <http://www.shelleducation.com>. If you require assistance in printing correlation reports, please contact Customer Service at 1-877-777-3450.

## McREL Compendium

Shell Education uses the Mid-continent Research for Education and Learning (McREL) Compendium to create standards correlations. Each year, McREL analyzes state standards and revises the compendium. By following this procedure, they are able to produce a general compilation of national standards. The social studies standards on which the texts in this book focus are correlated to state standards at <http://www.shelleducation.com>.

# How to Use This Product (cont.)

## Components of the Product



### Primary Sources

- Each level of text includes multiple primary sources. These documents, photographs, and illustrations add interest to the texts. The historical images also serve as visual support for second language learners. They make the texts more context rich and bring the texts to life.

### Comprehension Questions

- Each level of text includes one comprehension question. Like the texts, the comprehension questions were leveled by an expert. They are written to allow all students to be successful within a whole-class discussion. The questions for the same topic are closely linked so that the teacher can ask a question on that topic and all students will be able to answer it. The lowest-level students might focus on the facts, while the upper-level students can delve deeper into the meanings.
- Teachers may want to base their whole-class question on the square level questions. Those were the starting points for all the other leveled questions.

### The Levels

- There are 15 topics in this book. Each topic is leveled to four different reading levels. The images and fonts used for each level within a topic look the same.
- Behind each page number, you'll see a shape. These shapes indicate the reading levels of each piece so that you can make sure students are working with the correct texts. The reading levels fall into the ranges indicated to the left. See the chart on page 18 for specific levels of each text.

### Leveling Process

- The texts in this series are taken from the Primary Source Readers kits published by Teacher Created Materials. A reading expert went through the texts and leveled each one to create four distinct reading levels.
- After that, a special education expert and an English language learner expert carefully reviewed the lowest two levels and suggested changes that would help their students comprehend the texts better.
- The texts were then leveled one final time to ensure the editorial changes made during the process kept them within the ranges described to the left.



Levels  
1.5–2.2



Levels  
3.0–3.5



Levels  
4.5–5.2



Levels  
6.5–7.2

# World War I: The “Great War”

A war began in 1914. It took place in Europe. More nations fought in this “Great War” than in any war before. The war lasted for four years. About 65 million men fought. More than 19 million people died. It is one of the worst human disasters of all time. Today, we call it World War I.



## The War Begins

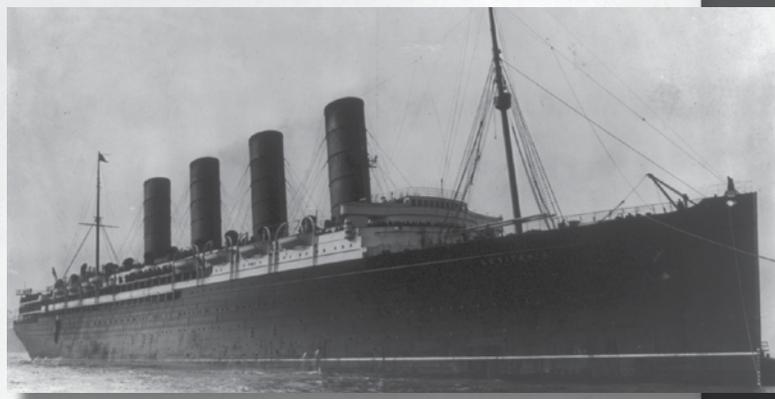
Archduke Francis Ferdinand was going to be a king. He would rule Austria-Hungary (AW-stree-uh HUHNG-guh-ree). He and his wife went to Bosnia (BAHZ-nee-uh). A man assassinated (uh-SAS-uh-nay-tuhd) them. This means he killed them. The man who shot them lived in Serbia (SIR-be-uh). So, Austria-Hungary blamed Serbia for the deaths. Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia. Soon, other countries joined in. The Germans declared war on France. Great Britain wanted to stop Germany. So, Great Britain entered the war.

By August 1914, there were two alliances (uh-LYE-uhntz-ez), or groups, and they were enemies. Austria-Hungary and Germany were the Central Powers. The Allies were Great Britain, France, and Russia. The Central Powers were against the Allies.

## The War Grows

German troops came on strong. They attacked Serbia. They drove the Russians out of Poland. They pushed them from the states that border Russia. The Germans felt things were going well. They planned to build an empire. An empire is a group of nations that has the same ruler.

Germany wanted to stop ships. Ships carried munitions (myoo-NIH-shunz). Munitions are guns, bullets, and bombs. So in February 1915, Germany said that Great Britain’s waters were a war zone. Germany said it would sink all boats. It would tell its submarines to sink every ship.



This threat included U.S. ships. U.S. President Woodrow Wilson did not want to take sides. But the threats made him mad. So, Germany backed down. Germany did not want to bring the United States into the war. Then, in January 1917, Germany fired on all ships, including U.S. ships. The German leader said this would win the war. Ships sank. Some U.S. citizens died. President Wilson stopped talking to Germany.

## A Famous Telegram

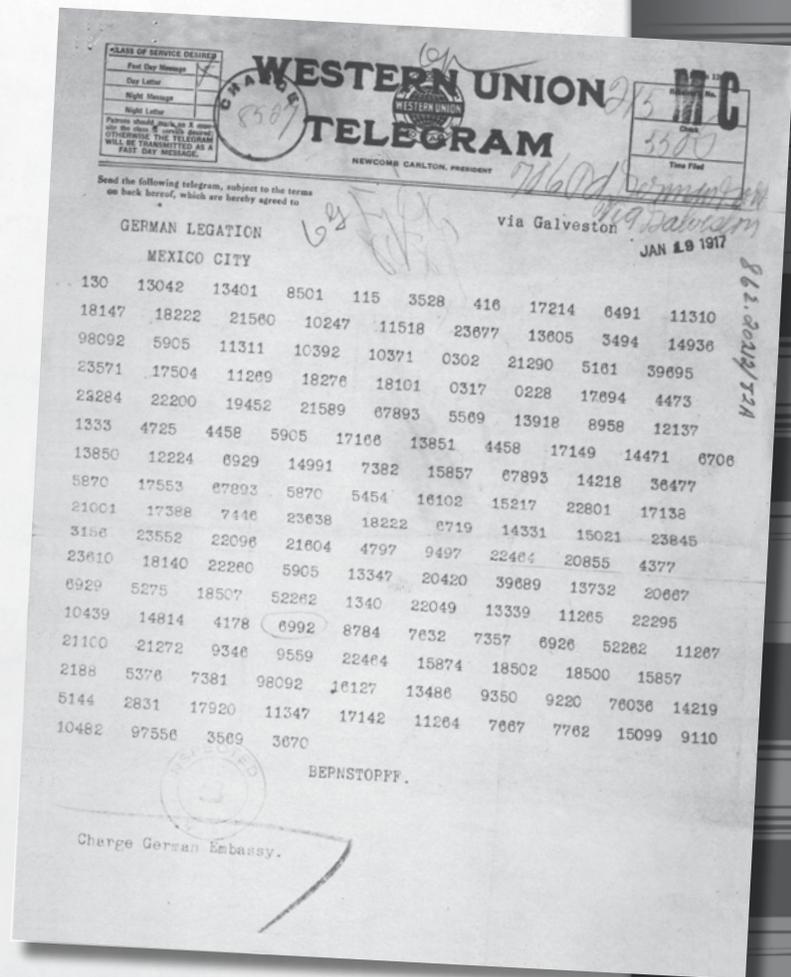
In early 1917, a British spy intercepted (in-tur-SEP-tuhd) a secret note. This means he got one of the enemy's messages. The spy secretly read the message. A German had written it. His name was Arthur Zimmermann. So, the telegram is called the Zimmermann telegram. In the telegram, Germany asked Mexico to join sides with them. It said that Germany would own the United States after the war. Then, Germany would give Mexico land from the United States.

The American people heard about this. They were mad. The United States joined the Allies. This was bad news for the Central Powers. They would lose the war.

## The Central Powers Weaken

By November 1918, Germany asked for peace talks. On November 11, 1918, Germany signed an armistice (ARE-muhs-tuhs), or peace treaty. The Allies won the war. So, they set the terms. Germany had to give up its air force. It had to give up its navy. It could keep an army of just 100,000 men.

The war had cost the Allies a lot of money. They told Germany to pay them back. But this was a big burden. It ruined the German economy. It set the stage for another world war.



## Comprehension Question

What did the Zimmermann telegram promise Mexico?

# World War I: The “Great War”

In 1914, a war began. At that time, it was called the “Great War.” It was fought in Europe. More nations battled in it than in any war before it. It lasted for four years. About 65 million troops fought. More than 19 million people died. It is one of the worst human disasters of all time. Now we call it World War I.



## The War Begins

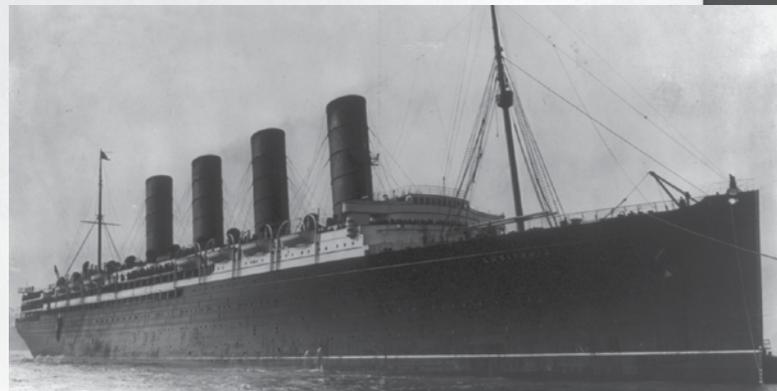
Archduke Francis Ferdinand was going to be a king. He would rule Austria-Hungary (AW-stree-uh HUHNG-guh-ree). He and his wife visited Bosnia (BAHZ-nee-uh). A Bosnian (BAHZ-nee-uhn) assassinated (uh-SAS-uh-nay-tuhd) them. This means he killed them. The man lived in Serbia (SIR-be-uh). So, Austria-Hungary blamed Serbia for the deaths. It declared war on Serbia. Soon, other nations in Europe joined in. The Germans declared war on France. Great Britain wanted to stop Germany. So, it entered the war.

By the middle of August 1914, there were two sides fighting the war. This means that there were two alliances (uh-LYE-uhntz-ez), or groups. Austria-Hungary and Germany were the Central Powers. The Allies were Great Britain, France, and Russia. The Central Powers and the Allies fought each other. They were enemies.

## The War Grows

At first, it seemed like Germany would win. German troops attacked Serbia. They pushed the Russians out of Poland. They pushed them out of the states that border Russia. The Germans planned to have a huge empire. An empire is a group of nations that has the same ruler.

U.S. President Woodrow Wilson did not want to take sides. In February 1915, Germany said that the waters around Great Britain were a war zone. It wanted to stop ships that carried munitions (myoo-NIH-shunz) to the Allies. Munitions are guns, bullets, and bombs. The Germans said that they would wreck all boats. Their submarines would sink every ship.



This included U.S. ships, too. It made President Wilson mad. So, Germany backed down from its threat. The Germans did not want to bring the United States into the war. But then, in January 1917, Germany changed its mind. It fired on all ships. The German leaders said this would win the war. Ships sank. Some U.S. citizens died. President Wilson broke off talks with Germany.

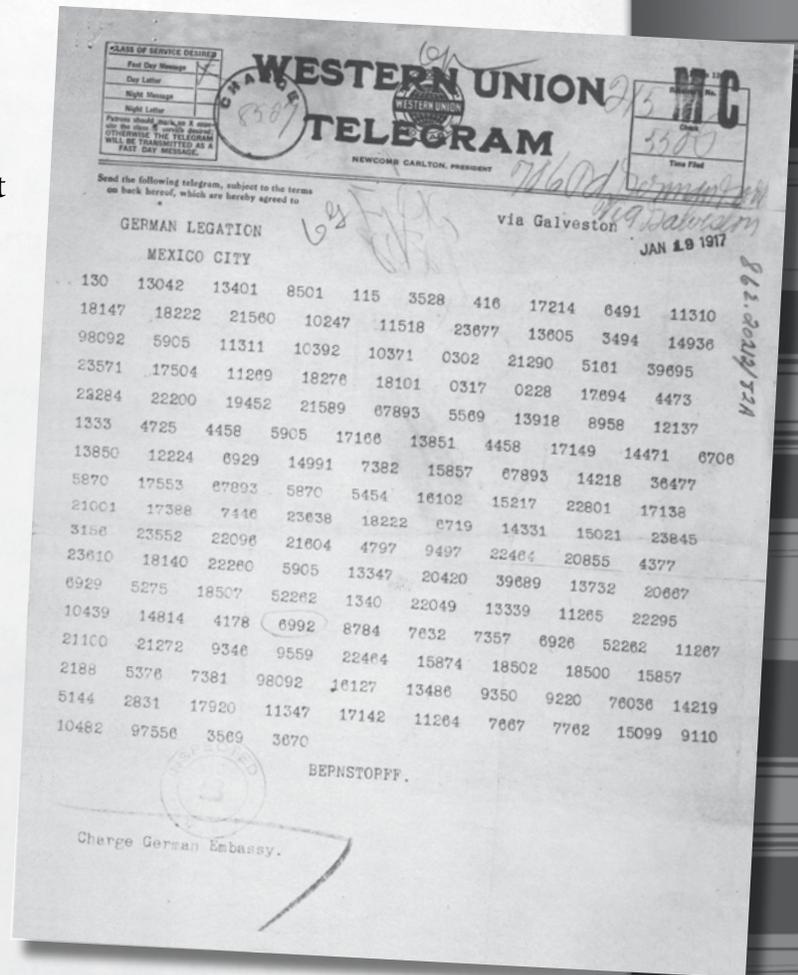
## A Famous Telegram

In early 1917, the British intercepted (in-tur-SEP-tuhd) a secret message. This means they secretly got an enemy message. Then, they read it. A German leader named Arthur Zimmermann had written it. In the Zimmermann telegram, Germany asked Mexico to join them. It said that Germany would own the United States after the war. Then, it would give Mexico land from the United States. The American people heard about Germany's plan. They were mad. The United States joined the Allies. This was bad news for the Central Powers.

## The Central Powers Weaken

By November 1918, Germany asked for peace talks. On November 11, 1918, Germany signed an armistice (ARE-muhs-tuhs). An armistice is a peace treaty. Since the Allies won the war, they decided the terms. Germany had to give up its air force and its navy. It could keep a standing army of just 100,000 men.

The war had cost the Allies a lot. They wanted Germany to pay them back. This was a big burden. It ruined the German economy. And, it set the stage for another big world war.



## Comprehension Question

What was the Zimmermann telegram about?

# World War I: The “Great War”

In 1914, the “Great War” began in Europe. More nations battled in this war than in any war before it. It lasted for four years. A total of 65 million soldiers fought. More than 19 million people died. It is one of the worst human disasters ever. Today, we call it World War I.



## The War Begins

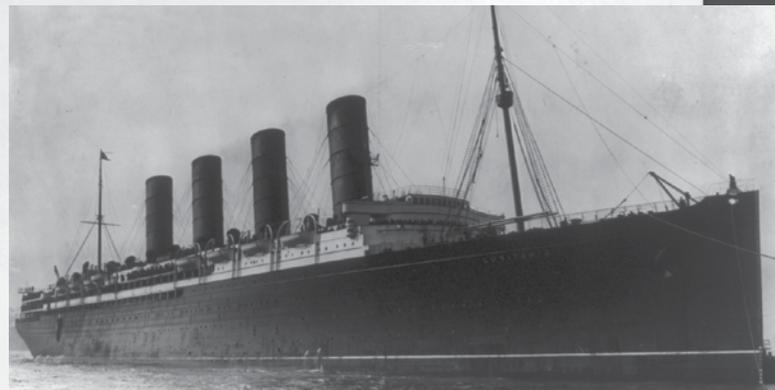
Archduke Francis Ferdinand was the future king of Austria-Hungary (AW-stree-uh HUHNG-guh-ree). He and his wife traveled to Bosnia (BAHZ-nee-uh). While there, a Bosnian (BAHZ-nee-uhn) man assassinated (uh-SAS-uh-nay-tuhd) them. The killer lived in Serbia (SIR-be-uh). So, Austria-Hungary leaders blamed Serbia for the murders. They declared war on Serbia. Soon, some of the powerful nations in Europe joined the war. The Germans declared war on France. Great Britain wanted to stop Germany and entered the war.

By the middle of August 1914, the two sides were clear. There were two great alliances (uh-LYE-uhntz-ez). Austria-Hungary and Germany were the Central Powers. On the other side were the Allies of Great Britain, France, and Russia.

## The War Grows

At first, it seemed like Germany was unstoppable. German troops attacked Serbia. They pushed the Russians out of Poland and the Baltic States (Estonia, Lithuania, and Latvia). These states bordered Russia. Things were going so well that the Germans began to plan a huge German empire in eastern Europe.

U.S. President Woodrow Wilson did not want to take sides in Europe’s war. In February 1915, Germany said that the waters around Great Britain were a war zone. It wanted to stop the ships that carried munitions (myoo-NIH-shunz) to Great Britain. Munitions were guns, bullets, and bombs. The Germans said that its submarines would torpedo all boats in those waters.



This included U.S. ships, too. It made President Wilson angry. Germany backed down from its threat. It did not want to bring America into the war. But then, in January 1917, Germany changed its mind. It fired on all ships. The German leaders thought it was the only way to win the war. When ships sunk, some U.S. citizens died. President Wilson broke off talks with Germany.

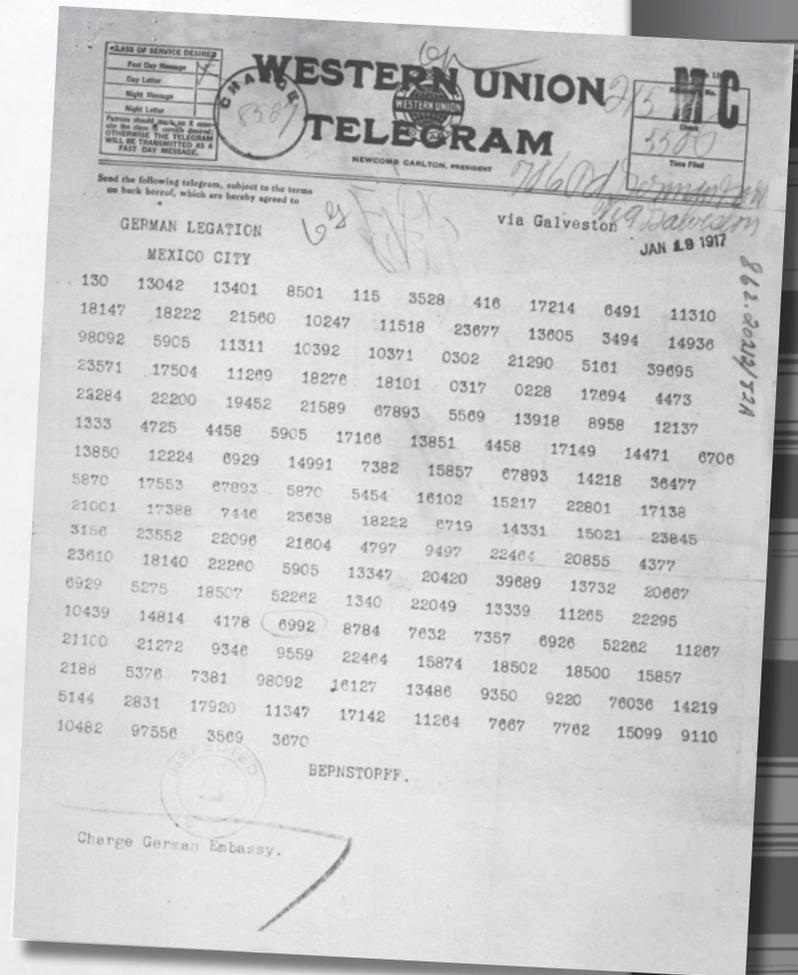
## A Famous Telegram

In early 1917, the United States learned shocking information. The British intercepted (in-tur-SEP-tuhd) a message to Mexico. A German official named Arthur Zimmermann had written the telegram. In the Zimmermann telegram, Germany asked Mexico to join the Central Powers. The Germans said they would own the United States after the war and would give Mexico land from the United States. When the American people found out about Germany's plan, they were upset. The United States joined the Allies. It was the beginning of the end for the Central Powers.

## The Central Powers Weaken

By November 1918, Germany had asked for peace talks with the Allies. On November 11, 1918, Germany signed an armistice (ARE-muhs-tuhs). The Allies decided the terms of this peace treaty since they had won the war. Germany had to give up its air force and its navy and could only maintain a standing army of 100,000 men.

The war had cost the Allies a lot of money. They expected Germany to pay them back. This was a heavy burden, and the Germans complained. However, the Allies made the Germans accept all the blame for the war. This ruined the German economy and set the stage for World War II.



## Comprehension Question

Why did the Zimmermann telegram upset the American people?

# World War I: The “Great War”

In 1914, the “Great War” began in Europe and lasted for four years. More countries battled in this war than in any war before it. A total of 65 million soldiers fought and more than 19 million people perished in one of the worst human disasters in history. Today, we call this conflict World War I.



## The War Begins

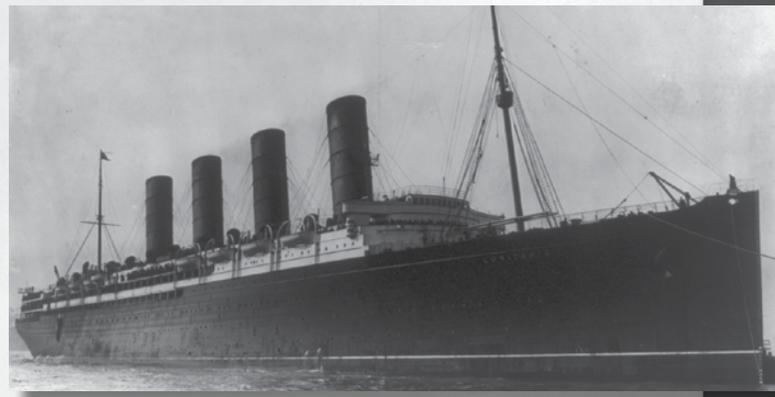
Archduke Francis Ferdinand was the future king of Austria-Hungary (AW-stree-uh HUHNG-guh-ree). He and his wife, Sophie, traveled to Bosnia (BAHZ-nee-uh). While there, a Bosnian (BAHZ-nee-uhn) man assassinated (uh-SAS-uh-nay-tuhd) them. The killer lived in Serbia (SIR-be-uh). So, Austria-Hungary’s leaders blamed Serbia for their murders and declared war on Serbia. Soon, some of the powerful nations in Europe joined the conflict. The Germans declared war on France, and Great Britain wanted to stop Germany. The British entered the war.

By the middle of August 1914, two major alliances (uh-LYE-uhntz-ez) had formed. On one side of the conflict were the Central Powers of Austria-Hungary and Germany. Opposing them were the Allies, consisting of Great Britain, France, and Russia.

## The War Grows

Initially, it seemed like the German army was undefeatable. German troops attacked Serbia and pushed the Russians out of Poland. They defeated the Russians in the Baltic States (Estonia, Lithuania, and Latvia) on the coast of the Baltic Sea. These states also bordered Russia. Things were going so well that the Germans began planning a huge German empire in eastern Europe.

U.S. President Woodrow Wilson refused to take sides in Europe’s war. In February 1915, Germany announced that the waters around Great Britain were a war zone.

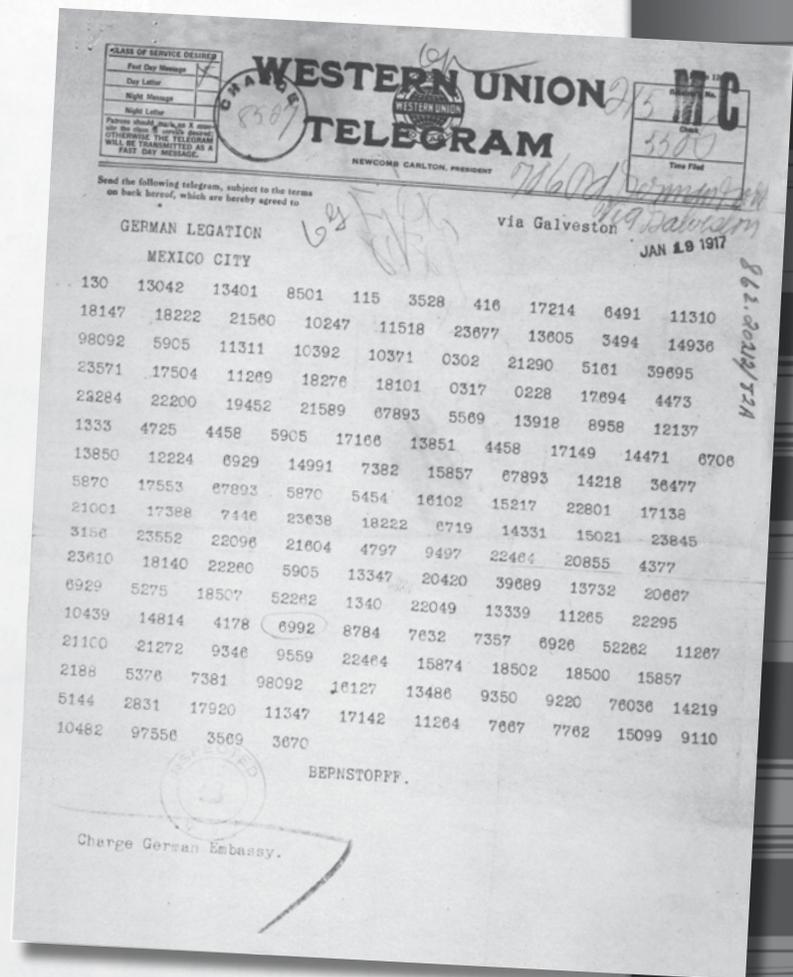


The Germans declared that they would torpedo all ships in those waters in order to stop munitions (myoo-NIH-shunz) (guns, ammunition, and bombs) from reaching Great Britain.

This included U.S. ships and made President Wilson so angry that Germany backed down from its threat. The Germans did not want to bring America into the war. But in January 1917, Germany started firing on all ships because its leaders thought it was the only way to win. Many ships went down, and some American citizens died. President Wilson broke off official talks with Germany.

### A Famous Telegram

In early 1917, the United States learned shocking information. The British had intercepted (in-tur-SEP-tuhd) a coded telegram to Mexico. A German official named Arthur Zimmermann wrote the telegram. In the Zimmermann telegram, Germany encouraged Mexico to join the Central Powers. The Germans said they would control the United States after the war and would give Mexico land from the United States. When the American people discovered Germany's plan, they were furious, and the United States entered World War I on the side of the Allies. It was the beginning of the end for the Central Powers.



### The Central Powers Weaken

By November 1918, Germany had requested peace talks with the Allies. On November 11, 1918, Germany signed an armistice (ARE-muhs-tuhs). Since they won, the Allies established the terms of this peace treaty. Germany had to give up its air force and its navy and could only maintain a standing army of 100,000 men.

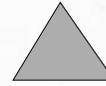
The war had been expensive for the Allies, and they expected Germany to pay them back. Unfortunately, this heavy burden ruined the German economy and set the stage for World War II.

### Comprehension Question

How did the Zimmermann telegram affect Wilson's decision to join the war?

# How to Use This Product

## Readability Chart



Title of the Text	Star	Circle	Square	Triangle
The Industrial Revolution	2.1	3.2	5.0	6.7
Men of the Industrial Revolution	2.0	3.2	4.8	6.5
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The Great Depression	1.6	3.1	4.6	6.5
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World War II in the Pacific	2.0	3.0	4.5	6.6
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The Civil Rights Movement	2.2	3.0	4.7	6.5
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.	2.2	3.0	4.7	6.6
The Cold War	2.0	3.0	5.1	6.5
Conflicts in the Middle East	2.2	3.1	5.2	6.5
Modern World Leaders	2.2	3.2	5.0	6.6

## Correlation to Standards

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