

MAD SS9

Pre-WW1: Here Goes the Neighbourhood

Assigned: Wednesday, November 15 - Due: Monday, November 21

Name: _____

(include with assignment)

What we'll learn:

1. The pre-history of WW1 from the perspective of each significant country
2. The significance of events, people and places as relates to the situation
3. Critical thinking skills, where we need to transform a global conflict into a relatable situation

Description of the Assignment:

- Treat the countries and events as happening in a neighbourhood where people and families are having trouble with each other.
- Each house represents countries involved in the pre-WW1 events.
- You are a nosy neighbour who was not involved but saw it all playing out and are giving a statement to the police.
- Pick two countries as neighbours and give a brief reason for the reason to be in a fight with each other.
- Now take those reasons and write the story of why they were fighting to the police from the account given by the nosy neighbour.
- At this point, we are talking about Europe as a neighbourhood and the following families represent the countries in this pre-war drama. Pick two families below and explain the reason for the neighbourhood fight between them

(As an example, France and Germany had a previous war called the Franco-German war and at this point, the land France lost and the money they had to pay to Germany was a sore point for them and they wanted to get back at them)

The Germanys:

The Italians:

The Austria-Hungarians:

The British:

The Frances:

The Ottomans:

The Serbians:

The Russians:

Here's how **I** told the story:

Trouble in the Neighbourhood

A short historical drama

"Ma'am, if you could shed a little light on the trouble that's been happening around this neighbourhood, I would appreciate it.", Detective Salazar said, looking around at the mess. He could tell that this wasn't the end of things, as neighbour watched neighbour closely- some were crying, while others seethed with rage. They were headed for something much, much worse.

"Well, I don't want to tell on anyone around here, you understand, but it's been just awful. I don't know what's gotten into this neighbourhood, but I can tell you, everyone has helped make this place a real battleground!"

She was the typical snoop- hair in rollers, nightie on, and with a pair of binoculars around her neck. She was waving her phone under the noses of the police and once she started talking, she just wouldn't shut up.

The historical bit

The Frances and the Germans have had a beef with each other for years. It's all due to the scrap they got in over land- and when the dust settled, the Germans came out on top. The judge reset the property lines and gave two big pieces of France's yard over to the Germans- and made them pay a hefty fine, as well! I think if you ask me, and you did, the Frances have been looking for a little payback ever since. They found friends over at the Russians and the Britians, and have been making deals. The Germans are a tough bunch, but they better find someone to back them up, because they'll be coming to make real trouble next time. I already heard that the Italians were talking about changing sides, and I never thought I'd see that day! Of course, they've been waving their hands all around, saying, 'let's just talk this out, bros.' Let's see how well that works!"

End historical bit

The detective had been hearing stories like this all day. Fights over land, even some talk of murders and other heinous crimes. This place was headed for harder times, and this old crone wasn't going to let it all happen without her two cents being heard.

"Ma'am, I hate to bother you, but you wouldn't happen to know why those two were fighting as well, do you?" He was already tired of her company, but the woman did have a strong nose for trouble.

Smiling a mean smile, she showed him her phone.

"Oh, I've got it all on video, young man."

Here is a breakdown of each country's motivation as described in the War Museum of Canada:

Rival alliances, clashing interests, and secret treaties divided pre-war Europe, and set the stage for a war that would quickly engulf most of the continent, and much of the world.

The Triple Entente vs. the Central Powers

At the start of the war, the Triple Entente powers were:

- **Great Britain**
- **France**
- **Russia**
- Italy, a pre-war ally of Germany and Austria-Hungary, entered the war in 1915 on the side of the Entente.
- By 1918, many other countries had become involved, including the United States and Japan on the Entente's side.

On the other side, were the Central Powers:

- **Germany**
- **Austria-Hungary**
- The Ottoman Empire, often known as Turkey, was not part of the Central Powers alliance in August 1914, but it had declared war on most of the Entente Powers by the end of 1914.
- In October 1915, Bulgaria joined the Central Powers.

Causes of Tension

Long-standing territorial grievances, colonial competition, and fear of surprise attack plagued international relations in the run-up to war. Once fighting seemed

likely, no state wanted to mobilize last, lest its enemies use the opportunity to settle old scores. Mobilization schedules, martial rhetoric, and secret obligations set most of Europe on the path to war.

National Interests

All of the Great Powers of Europe had national interests that they hoped would be achieved by going to war.

Triple Entente

1. France was desperate to avenge its defeat by Germany in the Franco-Prussian War of 1870-1871 by regaining the lost provinces of Alsace and Lorraine.
2. Russia promised to support Serbia, a fellow Slavic nation, while also ensuring that Austria-Hungary did not expand its influence in the Balkans.
3. Great Britain supported Belgium and guaranteed its sovereignty, but also desired to retain the balance of power in Europe by restraining Germany.
4. Italy, initially allied to the Central Powers, refused to be drawn into what it viewed as their war of aggression, but in May 1915 joined the Entente hoping to acquire territory from Austria-Hungary and new colonial possessions, mainly in Africa.

Central Powers

1. Austria-Hungary wanted to suppress Serbian nationalism and to strengthen the unity of its empire, especially in the Balkans.
2. Germany supported Austria-Hungary in its war on Serbia. It also sought greater influence in Europe, primarily by reducing the strength of France and Russia, and more colonial possessions.
3. The Ottoman Empire (Turkey) wanted greater territorial control over the Turkic peoples, many of whom lived in Russia, and to secure its frontiers, mainly against Russia.

9	Exceeding	Proficient	Developing	Emerging
You can show why people, places, events and developments are significant	You've shown how the countries you've been writing about have a significant reason for going to war	You have pointed out what the countries are having issues with each over, but have not fully explained the significance	You have some details, but there is not enough information to really understand the significance of their issue with each other	You lack sufficient explanation for why there is a significant issue between your two countries

