

UNIT 8: THE NEW IMPERIALISM
Reading Guide 51: The Great War

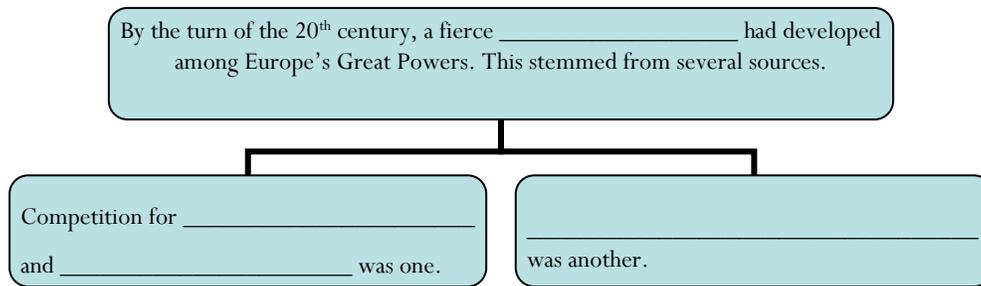
Directions: Complete each question after reading.

29.1: Marching Towards War

• **Objective A: Identify the political and military forces at work in Europe in the late 1800s.**

1. At the turn of the 20th century, the nations of Europe had been largely at _____ with one another for nearly _____ years. Some Europeans believed that progress had made _____ a thing of the past.

2.



3. Another force that helped set the stage for war in Europe was _____. The quest for _____ sometimes pushed European nations to the brink of war.

4. Yet another troubling development was the rise of dangerous European _____. The nations of Europe believed that to be truly great, they needed to have _____.

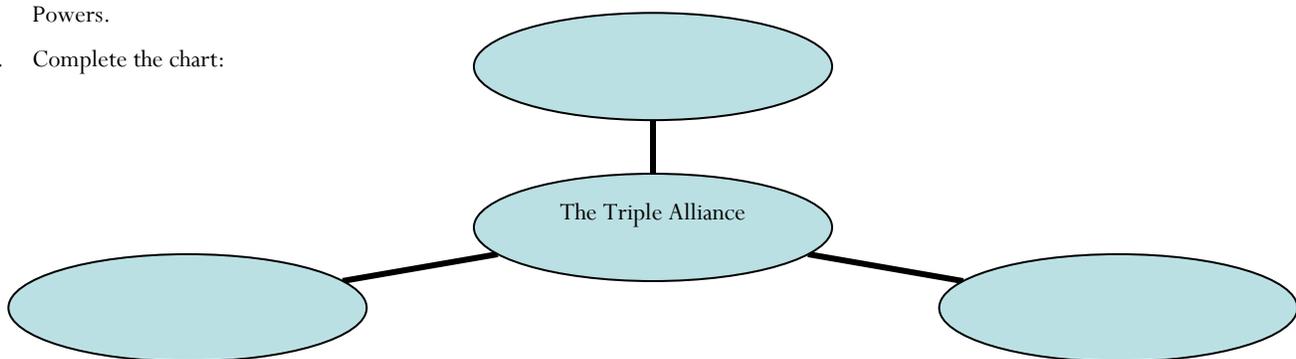
5. Define *militarism*:

6. **Critical thinking:** What is a major argument against militarism?

• **Objective B: List the countries that made up the Triple Alliance and the Triple Entente.**

7. Growing rivalries and mutual mistrust had led to the creation of several _____ among the Great Powers.

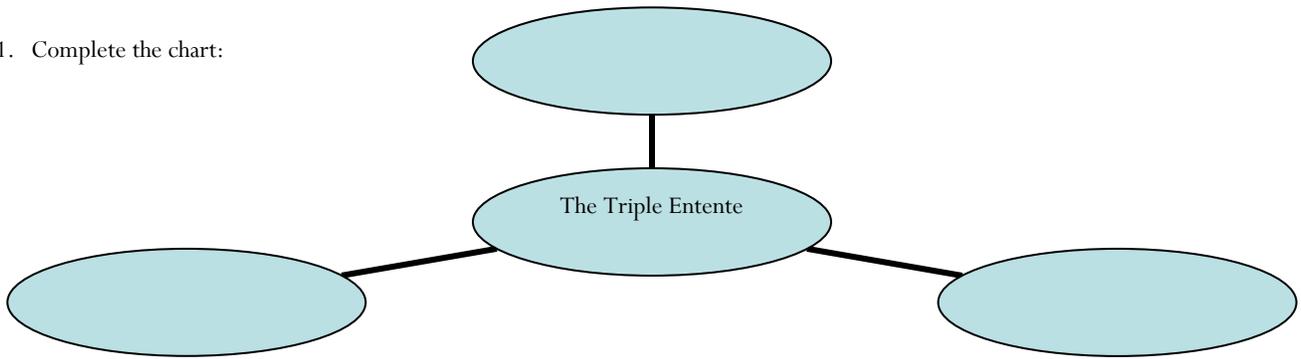
8. Complete the chart:



9. Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany, _____, and _____ were all cousins.

10. Explain why Bismarck feared an alliance between Russia and France:

11. Complete the chart:



12. **Critical thinking:** How could a dispute between the Triple Alliance and the Triple Entente draw all of Europe into the conflict?

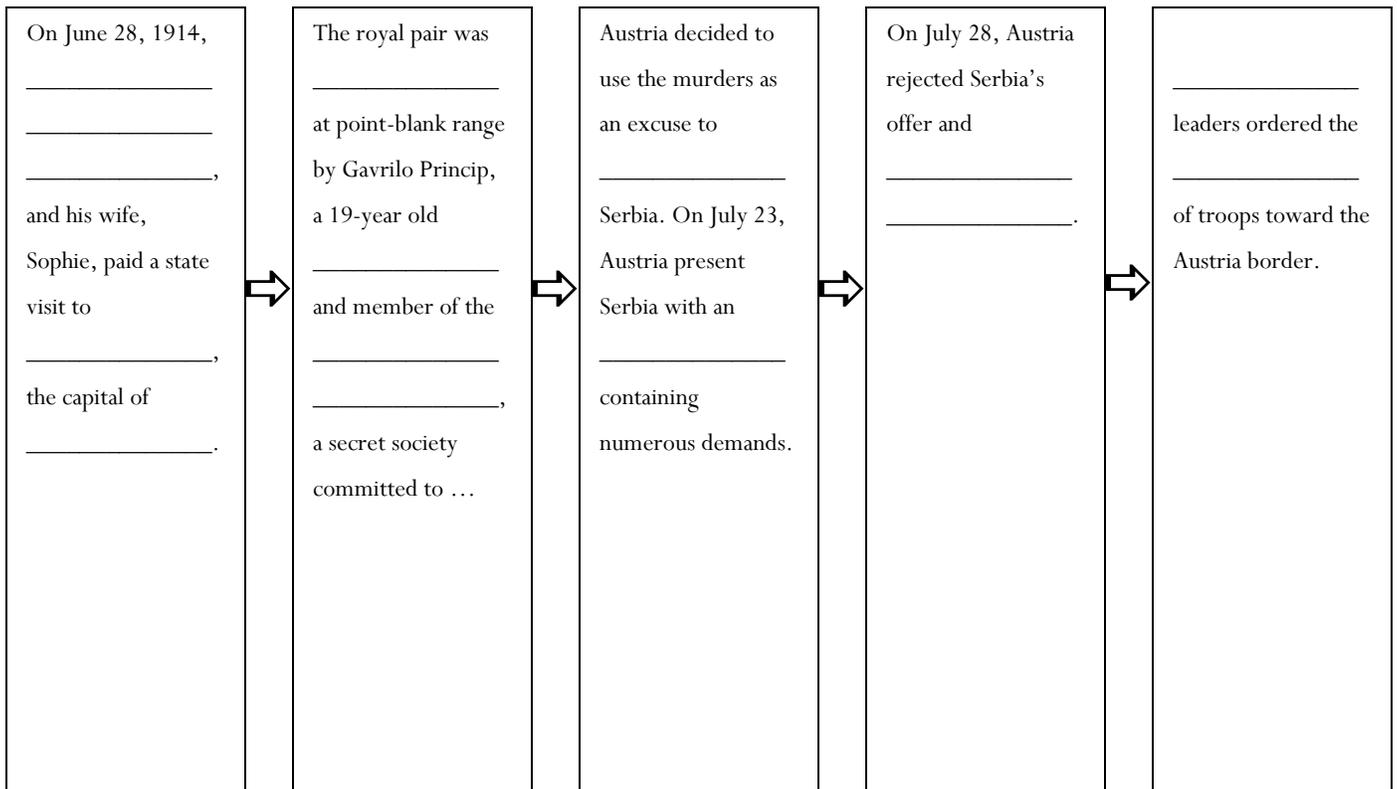
• **Objective C: Summarize the events that set World War I in motion.**

13. The _____ was known as the “_____” of Europe.

14. Why did Russia support Serbian nationalism?

15. What caused the hostility between Austria-Hungary and Serbia?

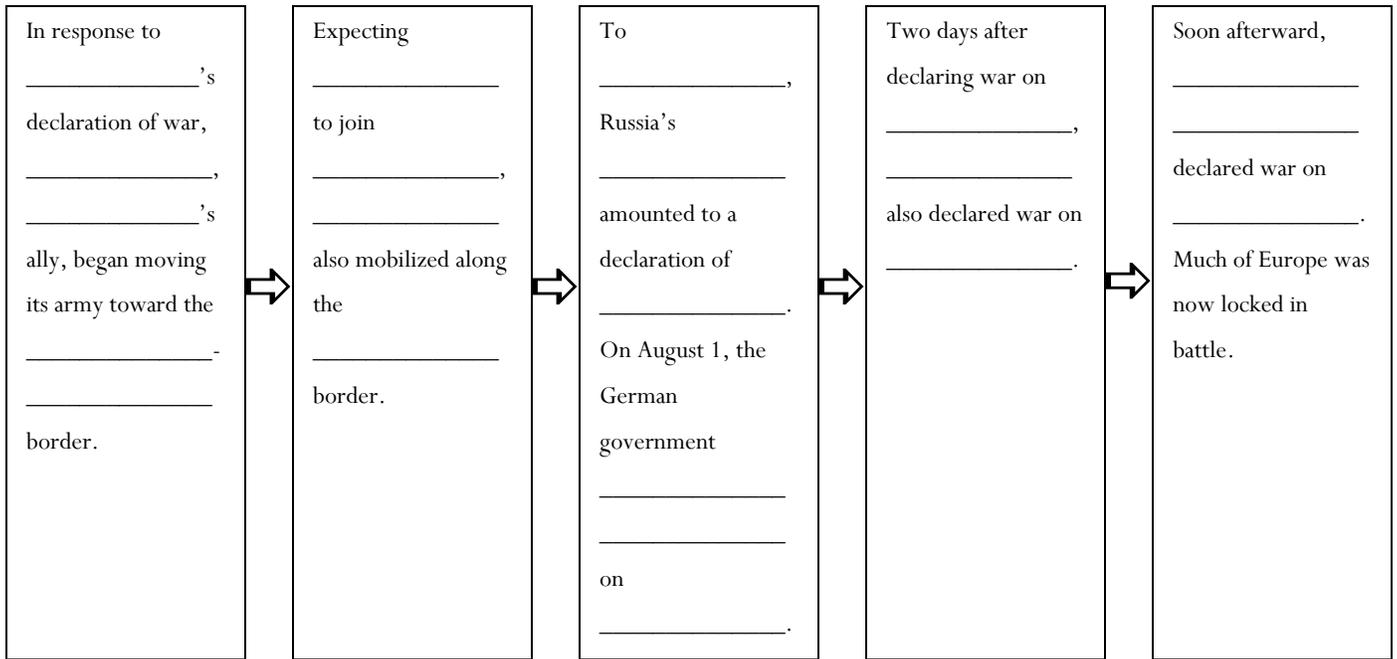
16. Complete the flow chart of the events which triggered World War I:



29.2: Europe Plunges into War

- **Objective A: Describe the reaction to Austria's declaration of war.**

17. Complete the flow chart of the events which triggered World War I:



18. **The Central Powers**

-
-
-
-

versus

19. **The Allies**

-
-
-
-
-

- **Objective B: Summarize military events on the Western Front.**

20. As the summer of 1914 turned to fall, the war turned into a long and bloody _____. The deadlocked region in northern France became known as the _____.

21. Describe the strategy behind the Schlieffen Plan:

22. Describe how France won the First Battle of the _____ in September 1914:

23. Describe in detail why that battle is considered to be perhaps the single most important event of the war:

Name: _____ Period: _____ Date: _____

24. Describe soldiers' experience of fighting trench warfare:

25. Explain why the space between opposing trenches won the grim name "no man's land."

26. Some of the new weapons of war were:

- a. Poison gas – some caused _____ or severe _____, others death by _____
- b. _____ - much improved by the time of World War I, it could wipe out waves of attackers and thus make it difficult for forces to advance
- c. _____ - was introduced by the British in _____ at the Battle of the Somme
- d. _____ - in 1914, the _____ introduced it as an effective warship; its primary weapon against ships was the _____

27. By the time the Battle of the Somme ended, each side had suffered more than _____ casualties. Near Verdun, the Germans advanced about _____ miles; in the Somme valley, the British gained about _____ miles.

• **Objective C: Explain the development of the war on the Eastern Front.**

28. The Eastern Front:

- a. Was a stretch of battlefield along the _____ and _____ border
- b. _____ and _____ battled _____ and _____
- c. Was a more _____ war than in the west but _____ and _____ were common

29. By 1916, Russia's war effort was near _____. Unlike the nations of western Europe, Russia had yet to become _____. The Russian army had only one asset – its _____.

30. As the war raged on, fighting spread beyond Europe to _____, as well as _____ and _____.