

Canada and the First World War Questions

Use the Counterpoints textbook to answer these questions – pages 25-44

1. When did the First World War begin? What did many young people in Canada think about the war?

2. Identify the countries on this 1914 map of Europe. (If you are missing a few, see the map on page 28.)

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6.  
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8.

3. Which three countries formed the Triple Alliance? Which three countries formed the Triple Entente?

4. Why did the alliances formed between the countries actually increase the threat of war?

5. Who was Gavrilo Princip and why did he assassinate Archduke Franz Ferdinand?

6. Put the following events in the correct order:

\_\_\_\_\_ Archduke Franz Ferdinand is assassinated      \_\_\_\_\_ Britain declares war on Germany

\_\_\_\_\_ Germany invades Belgium      \_\_\_\_\_ Russia mobilizes its troops

\_\_\_\_\_ Austria-Hungary declares war on Serbia      \_\_\_\_\_ Germany offers Austria-Hungary a blank cheque

7. Why did Canada automatically go to war? If Canada could have made an independent decision, do you think it would have joined the Triple Alliance, Triple Entente, or would it remain neutral? Why?

8. What were some of the reasons why Canadians volunteered to fight in World War One?

9. Which groups of Canadians were not wanted to fight in World War One?

10. What was the Canadian Expeditionary Force? What was the benefit of it fighting as a separate unit?

11. How did Sam Hughes fail as head of the Ministry of Militia?

12. What did the Canadian troops think about the Ross rifle?

13. What were internment camps and what kind of people in Canada were detained there?

14. What was the Schlieffen Plan and why did its failure result in a stalemate on the Western Front?

15. Describe life in the trenches.

16. Describe two new technologies used during World War One.

17. How did gas affect Canadian troops at Ypres? Do you think that gas should be allowed during war?

18. Why was the Battle of the Somme a failure for the Allies?

19. What was unique about the Battle of Vimy Ridge compared to earlier battles Canadians fought in?

20. Describe the battlefield conditions at Passchendaele that increased the number of casualties.

21. What role did women have on the Western Front?

22. Why was being a pilot in World War One so dangerous? What were the planes used for?

23. What was the role of Canada's merchant marine during World War One?

24. Why were German U-boats so effective in battle?

25. How did the Allies counter the effectiveness of German U-boats?



33. Why were many people from Quebec opposed to conscription?

34. Do you agree with Henri Bourassa's anti-conscription views? Why or why not?

35. Who is a conscientious objector? Why do you think Prime Minister Borden didn't allow conscientious objectors to vote in the election of 1917?

36. How did people in Quebec react to conscription and Borden's victory in the 1917 election?

37. What two events changed the direction of the war in 1917?

38. Where did Canadian troops win battles during the Hundred Days Campaign?

39. Why did the Central Powers collapse?

40. When was the armistice, or truce to end the war, signed? At what time was the war stopped? What is significant about this date and time?

41. What was the significance of Canada having a formal place at the Paris Peace Conference and in signing the Treaty of Versailles?

42. Briefly describe five of the terms of the Treaty of Versailles.

War Guilt Clause	
German Territory	
German War Reparations	
German Army, Navy and Air Force	
German Alliance with Austria	

43. Many historians believe that, instead of lasting peace, the Treaty of Versailles brought the certainty of renewed war. Why might this be true?