Listening task:

The spark comes on __th June, in the city of Sarajevo. Archduke Franz Ferdinand, heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne, is assassinated by a ___ year-old Slav nationalist named Gavrilo Princip.

The Russian Tsar, Nicholas II, agreed to help **Austro-Hungary / Serbia** (circle the correct answer)

German Emperor, Wilhelm II, agreed to help **Austro-Hungary / Serbia** (circle the correct answer)

Wilhelm II sees war with Russia as inevitable – and the sooner the _____, as Russian strength _____ year on year.

Germany knows war with Russia means war with Russia's ally, _____.

It has developed the Schlieffen Plan to meet this threat of a war on two fronts – first, its armies will advance rapidly through neutral _____ to encircle and destroy French armies near _____, and win a quick victory.

Then its forces can move east to deal with _____, whose huge army will take much longer to mobilise.

And so _____ declares war on _____.

_____ million men are now marching to war across Europe.

_____ and the _____ _____ remain neutral. President Wilson and the American public have no desire to get entangled in Europe's war.

A British Expeditionary Force lands in _____, while the German invasion is held up for crucial days by Belgian resistance at the fortress-city of Liège. _____ troops commit several massacres against _____ civilians. The atrocities are inflated by Allied propaganda, and help turn public opinion in neutral countries against _____.

The British Expeditionary Force clashes with the _____ army at Mons.
But the British are heavily **outnumbered / outgunned.**
Soon, they join the French in **retreat / surrender.**

The Allies make their stand at the River Marne, _____ miles outside Paris.
Their desperate counterattack saves the city and drives the Germans back.
Both sides suffer a **quarter / half** of a _____ casualties.

The two armies then dig-in along the entire _____ mile front.

Listening script:

1914: the Great Powers of Europe are divided into two **rival alliances**: The Triple Entente: France, Britain and Russia, **united** by fear and **suspicion** of Germany, Europe's new strongest power. And the Triple Alliance: Germany, which fears **encirclement** by its **rivals**; Austro-Hungary, clinging onto a **fragile** empire; and Italy, seeking **gains** at French **expense**.

The spark comes on 28th June, in the city of Sarajevo. Archduke Franz Ferdinand, heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne, is **assassinated** by a 19 year-old Slav nationalist named Gavrilo Princip. Austro-Hungary **accuses** its Balkan **rival** Serbia of having aided the **assassin**, and sends an **ultimatum**, demanding **humiliating concessions**. Serbia **rejects** the **ultimatum**, and Austro-Hungary **declares** war. Within hours Austrian forces are **shelling** Belgrade.

The Russian Tsar, Nicholas II, feels honour-bound to defend Serbia, a fellow Slav nation, and orders the Russian army to **mobilise**. German Emperor Wilhelm II has promised his support to Austro-Hungary. He and his generals see **conflict** with Russia as **inevitable** – and the sooner the better, as Russian strength grows year on year. Russian **mobilisation** is used to **justify** German **mobilisation**, followed by a **declaration** of war on Russia.

Germany knows war with Russia means war with Russia's **ally**, France. It has developed the Schlieffen Plan to meet this threat of a war on two fronts – first, its armies will **advance** rapidly through **neutral** Belgium to **encircle** and destroy French armies near Paris, and win a quick victory. Then its forces can move east to deal with Russia, whose huge army will take much longer to **mobilise**. And so Germany **declares** war on France. Six million men are now marching to war across Europe.

Italy, however, remains **neutral**. The terms of the Triple **Alliance** don't **bind** it to join an **offensive** war. The United States also **declares** its **neutrality**. President Wilson and the American public have no desire to get **entangled** in Europe's war.

Britain is France's ally, but at first it's not clear if it will join the war against Germany. But when German troops **invade** Belgium, whose **neutrality** Britain has **guaranteed**, an **ultimatum** is sent from London to Berlin demanding they **withdraw**. It's ignored, and Britain declares war.

OPENING MOVES IN EUROPE

A British Expeditionary Force lands in France, while the German **invasion** is held up for crucial days by Belgian resistance at the fortress-city of Liège. German troops commit several massacres against Belgian civilians. The atrocities are inflated by Allied propaganda, and help turn **public opinion** in **neutral** countries against Germany.

France, unaware of Germany's great **encircling** attack, launches Plan XVII, an **offensive** into German **territory**. But in the Battle of the Frontiers they're driven back, with enormous losses on both sides. The British Expeditionary Force clashes with the German army at Mons. But the British are heavily **outnumbered**, and soon join the French in **retreat**.

The Allies **make their stand** at the River Marne, 40 miles outside Paris. Their desperate counterattack saves the city and drives the Germans back. Both sides suffer a quarter of a million **casualties**.

'The Race to the Sea' begins, as both sides try to **outflank** each other to the north. A series of **clashes** leads to the First Battle of Ypres, where the Allies desperately cling on and prevent a German break through. There are more heavy losses on both sides. The two armies then dig-in along the entire 350 mile front, seeking shelter from deadly machinegun fire and artillery shells. Trench warfare has begun.

Questions:

What were the two rival alliances called?

_____

Who assassinated Archduke Franz Ferdinand?

_____

What was Germany's plan to fight on two fronts called?

_____

Which countries were in the 'Triple Entente'?

_____

Which countries were in the 'Triple Alliance'?

_____

Why did Britain join the war?

_____

Where did the allies make their stand?

_____

Reading script:

How did WWI begin?

World War 1 started when Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria was **assassinated** on June 28, 1914. This was the **immediate** cause but there were a series of events which **triggered** the war.

Over 17 million people were killed in the First World War and the impact it had on the old empires and the politics of the world was enormous, but what were the causes of WW1 and how did it start?

The **immediate** cause for World War 1 was the **assassination** of the Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria and his pregnant wife Sophie. Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria was the nephew of Emperor Franz Josef and **heir** to the throne of Austria and Hungary. The **assassination** was planned by a Serbian terrorist group, called *The Black Hand*, and the man who shot Franz Ferdinand and his wife was a Bosnian revolutionary named Gavrilo Princip.

However, there were many other causes for the start of World War 1.

Before WW1 was **triggered**, a number of defence **alliances** existed between the major European countries. What this meant was that if one country **declared** war on another, the other countries would also have to enter the **conflict** because it was in the **treaty** they agreed.

Britain, France, and Russia were part of an **alliance** called the Triple Entente, while Germany aligned itself with Austria-Hungary – known as the Central Powers.

After the **assassination**, Austria-Hungary threatened war on Serbia. They set out some very **harsh** demands that Serbia must meet. Germany sided with Austria-Hungary, while Russia sided with the Serbians. At this point, Europe was at the brink of going to war.

One month after the Archduke's **assassination** – on July 28 1914 – Austria-Hungary **declared** war on Serbia with the **backing** of Germany. Germany then **declared** war on Russia on August 1, and on France on August 3.

On August 4 1914, the German troops marched on France and the route they took went through Belgium. Since Britain had agreed to **maintain** the **neutrality** of Belgium, they **immediately declared** war on Germany.

British and German forces first fought at the Battle of Mons in Belgium. This was the first of many battles between Britain and Germany on the Western Front and is when World War 1 started for Britain.

Vocabulary words:

Rival	**alliances/ally/allies**	**united**
suspicion	**encircle/encirclement/encircling**	**fragile**
gains	**expense**	**assassinated**
accuses	**ultimatum**	**humiliating**
concessions	**rejects**	**declares/declaration**
shelling	**mobilise/mobilisation**	**conflict**
inevitable	**justify**	**advance**
neutral/neutrality	**bind**	**offensive**
entangled	**invade/invasion**	**guarantee/guaranteed**
withdraw	**public opinion**	**territory**
outnumbered	**retreat**	**make a stand**
casualties	**outflank**	**clashes**
immediate	**series**	**triggered**
heir	**treaty**	**harsh**
backing	**maintain**	

True or false:

WWI began when Archduke Franz Ferdinand was murdered on June 31st, 1914. **TRUE | FALSE**

More than 17,000,000 people died in WWI **TRUE | FALSE**

The assassination of Franz Ferdinand was planned by a group called 'The Dark Hand' **TRUE | FALSE**

The assassination of Franz Ferdinand was the *only* cause of WWI **TRUE | FALSE**

Britain, France, and Russia were part of an **alliance** called the Triple Entente **TRUE | FALSE**

Germany aligned itself with Austria-Hungary **TRUE | FALSE**

Austria-Hungary set out some very easy demands that Serbia must meet. **TRUE | FALSE**

Fill in the gaps:

Archduke Franz Ferdinand was killed on _____ 1914

One month later, Austria-Hungary _____ _____ on Serbia.

Germany declared war on Russia on 1st of _____.

Germany declared war on _____ on 3rd of August.

August 4th 1914, German soldiers marched towards _____ by going through _____.

The first battle between British and German forces was at the Battle of _____ in _____.

***Paraphrasing* –Rewrite the sentences without changing the meaning:**

"WWI started when Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria was **assassinated** on June 28, 1914."

_____

"There were a **series** of events which **triggered** the war.

_____

"They set out some very **harsh** demands that Serbia must meet."

_____

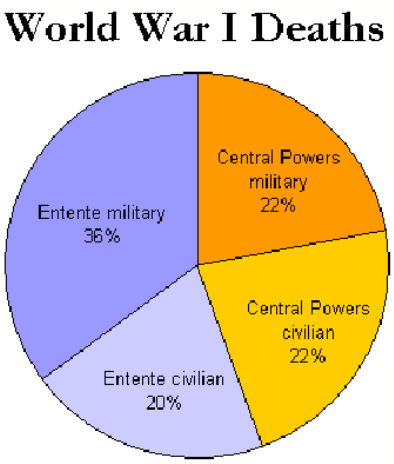
"Germany sided with Austria-Hungary, while Russia sided with the Serbians."

_____

"At this point, Europe was at the brink of going to war."

_____

Writing:



WWI resulted in quite a few casualties. There were over 17 million deaths and 20 million wounded. Below are graphs that show the breakdown of these casualties by nations.

Describe what this graph shows, in your own words:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Below are two opposing arguments to the question *"Is war ever justified?"* from debate.org



What are *your* opinions on the subject?

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____