

CHAPTER 29 Section 3 (pages 417–422)

A Global Conflict

BEFORE YOU READ

In the last section, you read how the war was fought in Europe.

In this section, you will learn how the war affected the world.

AS YOU READ

Use the chart below to take notes on the effects of World War I around the world and on the home fronts.

TERMS AND NAMES

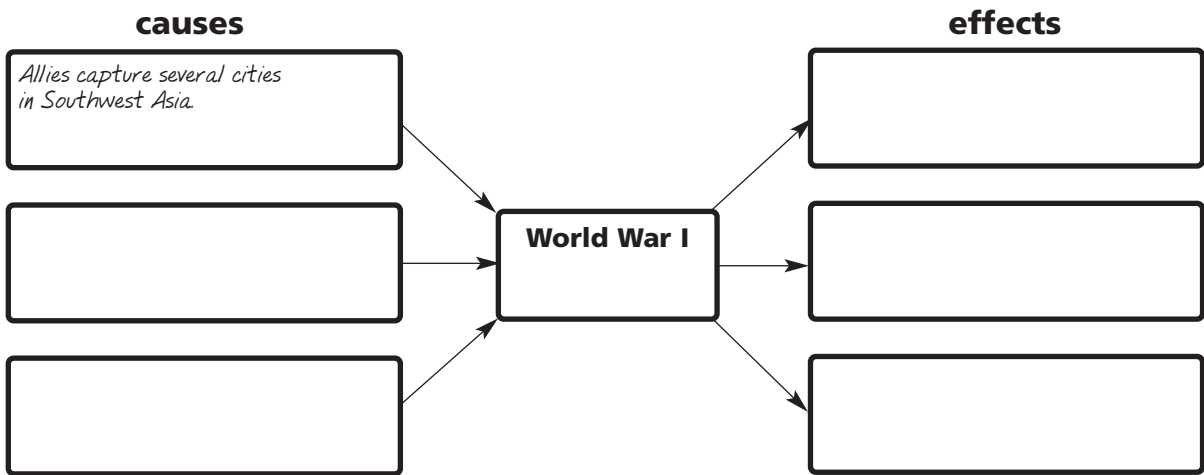
unrestricted submarine warfare
Using submarines to sink any ship without warning

total war War in which countries use all their resources for the war

rationing Control of the amounts and kinds of goods people can have

propaganda One-sided information designed to persuade

armistice Agreement to stop fighting



War Affects the World (pages 417–419)

What other areas of the world were involved?

The Allies hoped to take a part of the Ottoman Empire called the Dardanelles. The attack failed with great loss of life. A more successful operation was headed by a British officer named T. E. Lawrence. He helped lead an Arab revolt against Ottoman rule. As a result, the Allies were able to capture several important cities in Southwest Asia.

Japan took German colonies in China and the Pacific Ocean. The Allies also captured three of the four German colonies in Africa.

The British had used their strong navy to block all supplies from reaching Germany. The Germans

responded by increasing their submarine attacks on ships bringing food and supplies to the Allies. They used **unrestricted submarine warfare**. This meant sinking any ship without warning in the waters around Great Britain.

When American ships were sunk and lives were lost, the American people grew angry. Then the British intercepted a secret message from Germany to Mexico. This message asked Mexico to ally itself with Germany. In return, Germany offered to help Mexico regain land lost to the United States in the 1840s. In April 1917, Congress declared war on Germany.

1. What areas outside of Europe were affected by the war?

War Affects the Home Front

(pages 419–420)

What happened on the home fronts?

By 1917, the war had already killed millions. It had drastically changed the lives of millions more—people at home as well as soldiers. This “Great War,” as it was called, was a **total war**. It demanded all the resources of the countries that fought it.

Governments took control of factories. It told them what to produce and how much of it to make. Governments also used **rationing**. This limited how much food and other goods people could buy and hold. That way armies in the field would have the supplies they needed. Governments used **propaganda** to get support for the war. They also took steps to stop *dissent*, or opposition to the war.

With so many men in the military, women played a growing role in the economies of the countries at war. They worked in factories, offices, and shops. They built planes and tanks, grew food, and made clothing. These changes had an impact on people’s attitudes toward what kind of work women could do.

2. What were three ways that the war affected people’s day-to-day lives?

The Allies Win the War

(pages 420–421)

Why did the Allies win?

In 1917, the United States entered the war. And Russia left it. Suffering during the war chipped away at the Russian people’s support for the *czar*. In March, he stepped down. The new government hoped to continue fighting the war, but the Russian armies refused. Just months later, a new revolution broke out. Communists seized Russia’s government. They quickly made a treaty with Germany and gave up huge amounts of land in return for peace.

In March 1918, Germany tried one final attack. Once again, the German army nearly reached Paris. But the soldiers were tired, and supplies were short. The Allies—now with fresh American troops—drove the Germans back.

Bulgaria and the Ottoman Empire surrendered. In October, a revolution overthrew the emperor of Austria-Hungary. In November, Kaiser Wilhelm II was forced to step down in Germany. The new government signed an **armistice**, an agreement to stop fighting. On November 11, 1918, Europe was finally at peace.

3. What were the final problems that Germany and Austria-Hungary faced?

The Legacy of the War

(page 421–422)

What was the cost of the war?

World War I had a devastating effect on the world. About 8.5 million soldiers had died. Another 21 million had been wounded. Countless civilians had suffered as well. The economies of the warring nations had suffered serious damage, too. Farms were destroyed, and factories ruined. One estimate said the war had caused \$338 billion in damage.

The war also had an emotional cost. People felt all the suffering did not seem to have a purpose. The art and literature of the years after the war reflected a new sense of hopelessness.

4. Name one political, economic, and emotional cost of the war.
