

Name: _____ Date: _____

PER



World War I

War had been going on in Europe between the Central Powers (Germany, Austria-Hungary, Turkey, and Bulgaria) and the Allies (England, France, Russia, and Italy) since Austrian Archduke Francis Ferdinand had been assassinated in 1914. At first, U.S. President Woodrow Wilson called for Americans to be neutral in thoughts and in deeds. This was nearly impossible since one-third of Americans were foreign born or the children of immigrants and still had close ties to their European homelands.

By 1915, the war had turned into a stalemate with trenches dug across northern France. Neither side could gain victory on the battlefield, so they turned to brutal devices to win the war. The Germans began using deadly mustard gas. The British cut off German trade with neutral countries with a naval blockade. The Germans used submarines to cut England's supply lines. The airplane, machine gun, and tank were all used for the first time as war weapons.

Americans sailing on passenger ships were endangered by the German submarine blockade, and President Wilson insisted that the Germans must not attack these ships. However, in 1915, the *Lusitania*, a British ship with 128 Americans on board, was sunk. German attacks decreased for a time after the strong American protest, but in 1917, the Germans returned to submarine warfare. The United States then declared war against the Central Powers.

In June 1917, the American Expeditionary Force, led by General John J. Pershing, landed in France. Americans fought in the Battles of Château-Thierry and Belleau Wood. After suffering an internal revolution, Russia signed a peace treaty with Germany in March 1918, giving up much land and withdrawing from the war. American troops then helped stop the Germans at the Second Battle of the Marne in northern France and at battles at Meuse-Argonne and St. Mihiel.

Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany surrendered on November 11, 1918. Turkey, Austria-Hungary, and Bulgaria also surrendered. The Treaty of Versailles officially ended the war in 1919. The treaty, which included President Wilson's plans for a League of Nations, was rejected by the U.S. Senate. The United States and Germany signed a separate peace treaty in 1921.

Wilson had called World War I the "war to make the world safe for democracy." However, the war seemed to accomplish little in the way of stabilizing governments or producing democracy. In just 20 years, war would again break out in Europe and across the globe.

Word Scramble

Unscramble the following groups of letters to make words from the narrative above.

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. rcoeadycm _____ | 5. eamrgny _____ |
| 2. saoeylrptrenc _____ | 6. aselil _____ |
| 3. rytaoiedpxine _____ | 7. tisiualna _____ |
| 4. aenrm _____ | 8. aerncf _____ |

Name: _____

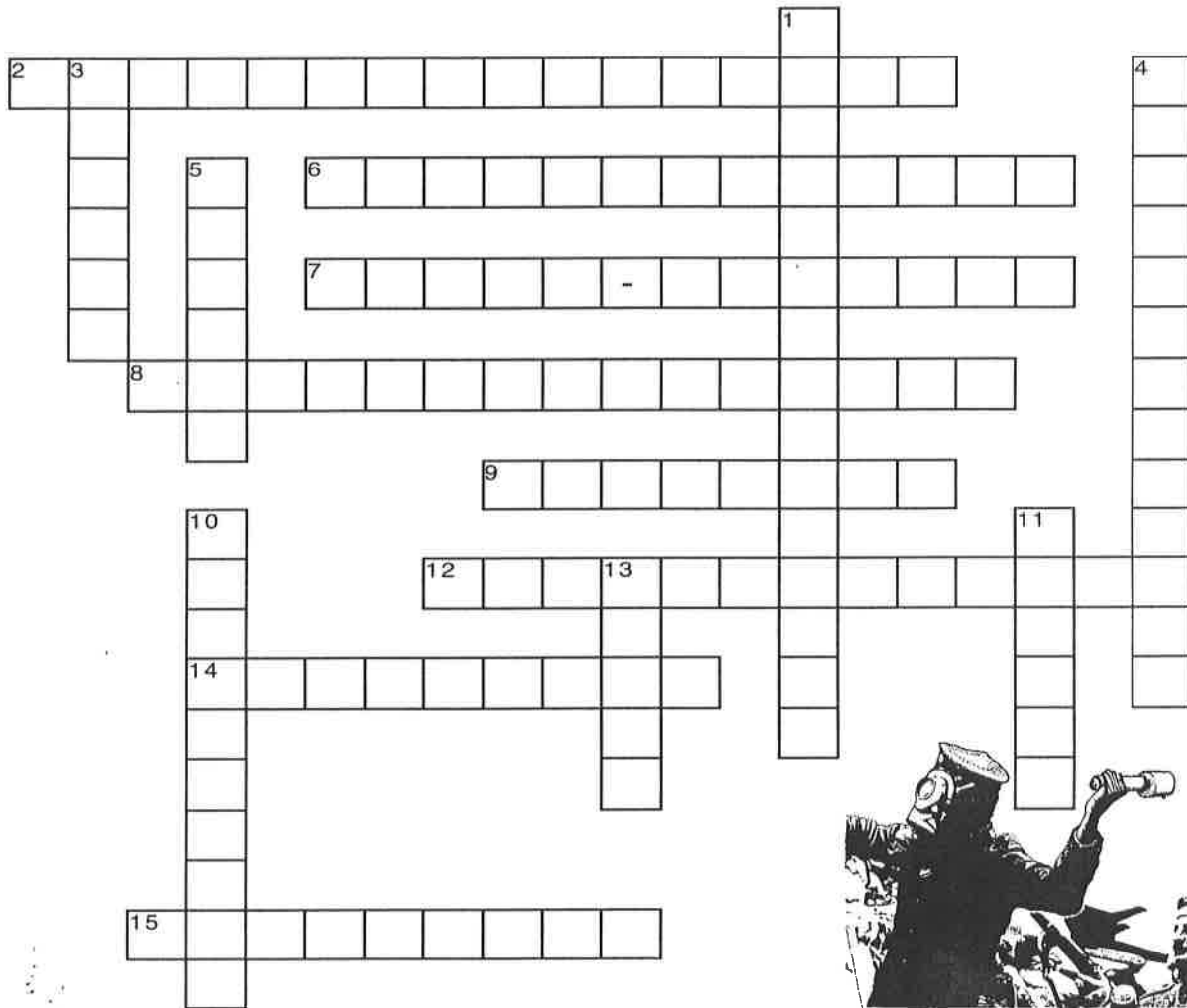
Date: _____

PER!



World War I Crossword Puzzle

Use the clues below to complete the crossword puzzle.



ACROSS

- 2. Austrian Archduke who was assassinated in 1914 (two words)
- 6. Commander of the American Expeditionary Force (three words)
- 7. One of the battles in northern France that Americans participated in
- 8. President Wilson's plans for a _____ were included in the peace treaty to end World War I.
- 9. A stalemate resulted when these were dug across northern France.
- 12. Germany, Austria-Hungary, Turkey, and Bulgaria were known as the _____.
- 14. Germans conducted _____ warfare against British ships.
- 15. World War I was called the "war to make the world safe for _____."

DOWN

- 1. The leader of Germany who surrendered on November 11, 1918 (three words)
- 3. This country withdrew from the war after suffering an internal revolution.
- 4. President who urged Americans to be neutral (two words)
- 5. England, France, Russia, and Italy were known as the _____.
- 10. This treaty officially ended World War I in 1919.
- 11. The U.S. _____ rejected the Treaty of Versailles.
- 13. One of the weapons used for the first time in World War I