

# HISTORY AQA GCSE

## Unit 1: International Relations:

### Part 1: The Origins of the First World War

#### A. Key Issue: Why were there two armed camps in Europe in 1914?

- Development of the Triple Alliance, Entente Cordiale and Anglo-Russian Agreement: Britain's Emergence from 'splendid isolation'.
- Kaiser Wilhelm II's aims in foreign policy: Weltpolitik; 'a place in the sun'; attitudes towards Great Britain; development of the Navy.
- Morocco Crises of 1905 and 1911 and their effects on the alliances.
- The Bosnian Crisis of 1908 - 1909 and its effects on the alliances.
- The arms race - military and naval: why did countries increase the size of their armies? The Anglo-German Naval Race.

#### B. Key Issue 2: Why did War break out in 1914?

- Aims of Austria-Hungary and Serbia in the Balkans: the role of the Black Hand.
- The assassination at Sarajevo: Gavrilo Princip; the response of Austria Hungary; the ultimatum and Serbia's response.
- The events leading to war; the role of the alliances in 1914.
- The Schlieffen Plan and its effects in the outbreak of war; its part in bringing about Great Britain's declaration of war on Germany.
- Responsibility for the outbreak of war and the escalation of the conflict.

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## Unit 1: International Relations:

### Part 2: Peacemaking 1918-1919 and the League of Nations

#### A. Key issue: How did the Treaty of Versailles establish peace?

- The Paris Peace Conference: the aims of Clemenceau, Lloyd George and Woodrow Wilson: the Fourteen Points.
- The main terms of the Treaty of Versailles: Diktat; territorial changes; military restrictions, war guilt and reparations.
- The strengths and weaknesses of the Treaty of Versailles: why Germany objected to it.

#### B. Key Issue: Why did the League of Nations fail in its aim to keep peace?

- Membership 191-1939: why and how it changed; how these changes affected the League.
- Organisation, powers and peace keeping role: the Assembly; the Council; the Permanent Court of Justice; military and economic sanctions.
- The Manchurian Crisis 1931-1933: events; action taken by the League; effect on the League as a peace keeping force.
- The Abyssinian Crisis 1935-1936: events; action taken by the League; effect on the League as a peace keeping force.
- The reasons for the collapse of the League.

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## Unit 1: International Relations:

### Part 3: Hitler's foreign policy and the origins of the Second World War

**A. Key issue: How did Hitler challenge and exploit the Treaty of Versailles between 1933 and March 1938?**

- Hitler's aims in foreign policy.
- The return of the Saar, 1935.
- The beginning of rearmament in Germany: withdrawal from the Disarmament Conference 1933; non-aggression Pact with Poland 1934; reintroduction of conscription from 1935; Anglo-German Naval Agreement 1935.
- The remilitarisation of the Rhineland 1936.
- The Anschluss with Austria 1938.

**B. Key Issue: Why did Chamberlain's policy of appeasement fail to prevent the outbreak of war in 1939?**

- Reasons for and against appeasement
- The Sudeten Crisis and Munich Agreement, 1938.
- The collapse of Czechoslovakia March 1939.
- The role of the USSR 1938-1939: the Nazi-Soviet Pact.
- Poland and the outbreak of war
- Responsibility for the outbreak of war.