# War Reaches Alabama

Trace how a world war began, reached the United States, and changed lives.

**SS24.5.5** "Summarize the primary causes and consequences of World War I. 5a Identify and explain international events that led to the United States' entry into World War I..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

## 1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Underline two causes that helped the war spread, circle three events that pushed the United States toward joining, and number two ways Alabamians helped the war effort. Use your marks to trace causes and effects.

### From Europe to Alabama

1. In 1914, European countries were tied together by alliances. The Triple Entente included Britain, France, and Russia. Germany and Austria-Hungary were the main Central Powers, later joined by the Ottoman Empire and Bulgaria. Rivalries over land and military power raised tensions. After a Serbian nationalist killed Austria-Hungary's heir, Austria-Hungary attacked Serbia. Alliances helped turn that fight into a much larger war.

2. The United States stayed out at first, but events at sea changed public opinion. German submarines sank ships, including the British passenger ship Lusitania in 1915; Americans died aboard. In 1917, Germany restarted attacks on ships without warning. That year, Britain shared the Zimmermann Telegram, in which Germany offered Mexico help in regaining U.S. territory if Mexico joined a war against the United States. Congress declared war in April 1917.

3. Alabamians helped in more than one way. The 167th Infantry Regiment, once called the 4th Alabama, fought in France as part of the Rainbow Division. Soldiers trained at Camp McClellan near Anniston and Camp Sheridan near Montgomery. The Port of Mobile handled ships carrying war supplies. The war ended in 1918 after millions died; afterward, new national borders and a peace treaty that punished Germany left tensions in Europe.

## 2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did the attack on Austria-Hungary's heir and the alliances help a fight become a larger war?

2. Which two events in 1917 helped lead the United States to enter the war? Explain why one of them mattered.

3. Which countries belonged to the Triple Entente, and which two countries were the main Central Powers?

4. How did the 167th Infantry Regiment and one place in Alabama each help the war effort?

## 3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine you worked at the Port of Mobile. Write a four-sentence letter to a cousin in 1919 that connects a cause of the war, an event that led the United States to join, Alabama's work, and one result of the war.

ANSWER KEY

# War Reaches Alabama

GRADE 5 · SS24.5.5

## PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two causes that helped the war spread, circle three events that pushed the United States toward joining, and number two ways Alabamians helped the war effort. Use your marks to trace causes and effects. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

## PART 2 · ANSWERS

| # | QUESTION | ANSWER |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | How did the attack on Austria-Hungary's heir and the alliances help a fight become a larger war? | **The killing led Austria-Hungary to attack Serbia. Alliances drew other countries into the fighting.** |
| 2 | Which two events in 1917 helped lead the United States to enter the war? Explain why one of them mattered. | **Germany restarted attacks on ships without warning, and Britain shared the Zimmermann Telegram. The telegram showed that Germany had offered to help Mexico regain U.S. territory if Mexico fought the United States.** |
| 3 | Which countries belonged to the Triple Entente, and which two countries were the main Central Powers? | **The Triple Entente included Britain, France, and Russia. Germany and Austria-Hungary were the main Central Powers.** |
| 4 | How did the 167th Infantry Regiment and one place in Alabama each help the war effort? | **The 167th fought in France. Camp McClellan or Camp Sheridan trained soldiers, or the Port of Mobile handled ships carrying supplies.** |

## PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Dear Cousin, rival alliances helped turn a fight between Austria-Hungary and Serbia into a larger war. When Germany began attacking ships without warning again, the United States joined the war. Here at the Port of Mobile, we handled ships carrying war supplies. The fighting ended last year, but millions had died and Europe had new borders.

Accept either training camp or the Port of Mobile for question 4. For the letter, accept other accurate causes, U.S. entry events, Alabama contributions, and consequences from the passage.