

WWI
Supplemental
Pack

Europe Before World War I

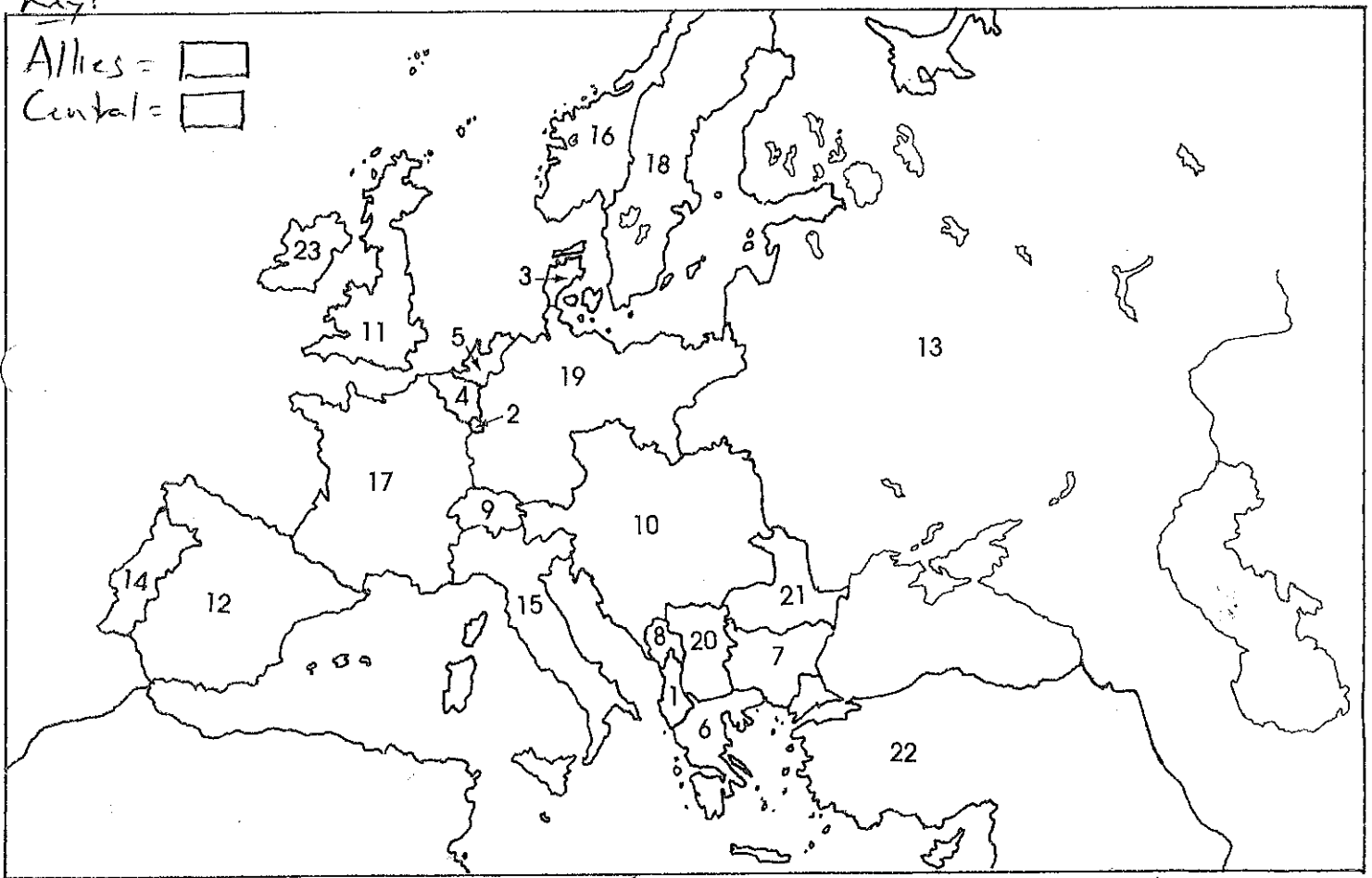
Map
Unit 7

Use the map below to identify the following nations by placing each country's number from the map beside its name. Use the map key to identify and color-code the Allies, the Central Powers, and the Neutral nations.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| — Germany ★ | — England ★ | — Belgium ★ | — Montenegro |
| — Turkey ★ | — Ireland ★ | — Spain ★ | — Switzerland ★ |
| — Serbia ★ | — Austria-Hungary ★ | — Denmark ★ | — Luxembourg ★ |
| — Greece ★ | — Rumania | — Norway ★ | — Portugal |
| — Netherlands ★ | — Albania | — Russia ★ | — Sweden ★ |
| — France ★ | — Italy ★ | — Bulgaria | |

Key!

Allies = ☐
Central = ☐



Europe as it existed in 1914, prior to the war.

For Study

- Research each country to determine how it participated before the war in diplomatic relations. For example, did the country try to remain neutral, did it assert its independence, did it look to a larger country for protection, or did it try to become a more powerful nation through colonialism?
- Compare the nations of Europe in 1914 to those of 1920. Which nations lost territory? Which ones gained territory? Why might this have created resentment that led to World War II?
- Compare the Europe of 1914 to current maps. Identify areas of potential military conflict. Is the tension different today than in 1914? How might society avoid worldwide conflict in the future?

The Appeal of War

When the war began, people in the countries involved were very excited and patriotic. They looked forward to quick victory after dashing deeds on the battlefield. These lyrics from two patriotic songs of the times express these sentiments.

A) "Over There" by George M. Cohan

Johnnie get your gun, get your gun,
get your gun,
Johnnie show the Hun,
you're a son of a gun.
Hoist the flag and let her fly,
Like true heroes do or die.
Pack your little kit, show grit,
do your bit,
Soldiers to the ranks from the
towns and the tanks,
Make your mother proud of you,
And to liberty be true.

© Leo. Feist (NY), 1917, renewed 1945

B) "You'll Be There"

words by J. Keirn Brennan
music by Ernest R. Ball

Now the time has come when we must
go to war,
You'll be there! You'll be there!
You will go just like your Daddy did before,
They have dared, we're prepared!
For our race was never known to run,
When they come we'll meet them gun to gun,
North and South, yes, ev'ry mother's son,
You'll be there! You'll be there!

© M. Witmark & Sons, 1915

Directions: Identify the expressions of, and appeal to, patriotism, idealism, and excitement in these lyrics.

- ★ 1. Patriotism: _____
- ★ 2. Idealism: _____
- ★ 3. Excitement: _____

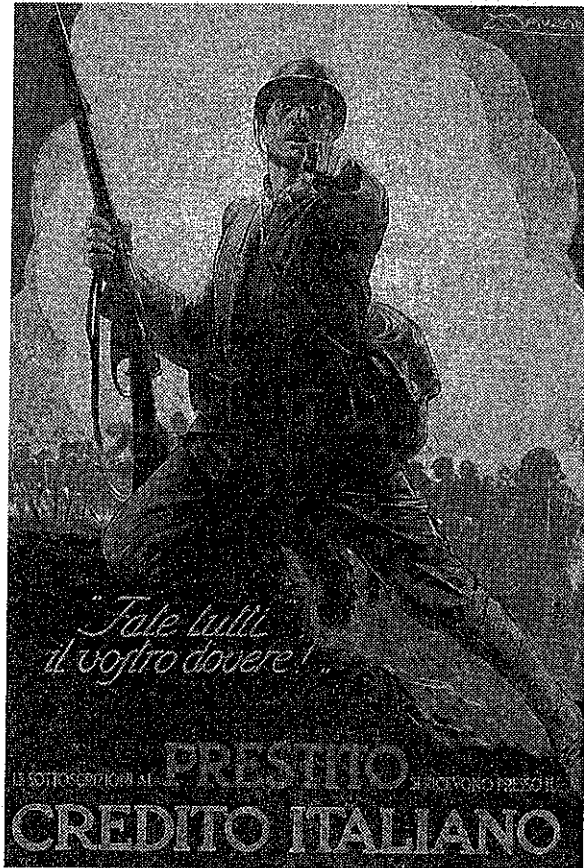
Extra Challenge: Find sheet music for these two songs and—solo or with classmates—perform them for the class. You could perform, or play recordings of, other World War I songs as well.



Choose 1

War Propaganda

Directions: Propaganda posters were an important part of World War I. All the major nations used them to promote various war aims. Study the posters shown on this page. Then answer these questions about each one: What war aim does this poster promote? (If you do not know Italian, try to figure out what the Italian poster might be promoting, based on the images.) What emotional appeal, symbol, or slogan does the poster use to get its message across?



1. War aim: _____
 Appeal, symbol: _____



2. War aim: _____
 Appeal, symbol, slogan: _____



Challenge Question: Why do you think the graphic style of these two posters, from two different countries, is so similar?

(continued)



War Propaganda *(continued)*

Directions: Quoted below are slogans from World War I posters from a variety of countries. Choose 4 any that interest you, and create actual posters with images that seem to you to be appropriate to promote the aims of the slogan.

1
On Her Their Lives Depend—
Woman Munition Workers—
Enroll at Once
(Great Britain)

6
That Liberty Shall Not Perish
From the Earth—Buy Liberty
Bonds
(United States)

2
A Last Effort—And We Will
Go On
(France)

7
Who's Absent?—Is It You?
(Great Britain)

3
Following the Paths of Our
Fathers in the Ranks of the
Polish Army for Motherland
and Freedom
(Poland)

8
For the Flag! For Victory!
Subscribe to the National Loan
(France)

4
Beat Back the Hun with
Liberty Bonds
(United States)

9
For France—Deposit Your
Gold—Gold Fights for Victory
(France)

5
Farm to Win "Over There"—
Join the U.S. Boys' Working
Reserve—The Army Behind
the Army
(United States)

10
1805—England Expects—
1915—Are You Doing Your
Duty Today?
(Great Britain)



The Terrible Trinity of World War I

How machine guns, artillery and fortifications changed war forever.

In the decades before World War I, two new weapons revolutionized warfare: the machine gun and indirect-firing artillery. When combined with extensive field fortifications (perfected during America's Civil War), this "terrible trinity" marked one of the most momentous tipping points in military history.

A) SANDBAGS, BARBED WIRE AND MAXIM GUNS

Until 1914, few military leaders fully comprehended that the shallow trenches and bulletproof parapets of the American Civil War had strengthened the defense to such a degree that nearly all frontal attacks were bound to fail. The problem was vastly intensified in World War I when machine guns and cannon were employed to protect field fortifications — extensive and elaborate trench systems and sandbagged bunkers positioned behind rows of barbed-wire obstacles. Each machine gun could duplicate the firepower of a thousand riflemen, and cannon could be emplaced far beyond the range of enemy small-arms fire.

American inventor Hiram Maxim perfected the machine gun in 1884. Although his native country largely ignored his so-called "Devil's Paintbrush," the European powers eagerly adopted it.

The most revolutionary developments in this terrible trinity, however, occurred in artillery.

B) KING OF BATTLE — AGAIN

Until 1897, "recoil" severely limited the effectiveness of field artillery pieces. The force of firing projectiles would thrust the weapons violently backward, and gunners had to push them back into position. Rates of fire therefore were very low. That year, however, the famous "French 75" appeared,

rendering all other artillery obsolete overnight. This 75 mm field gun featured a hydraulic-oil, compressed-air mechanism to absorb the recoil. Only the cannon barrel moved rearward upon firing, after which the mechanism returned the barrel to its original position. Since the gun's carriage remained in place, gunners were able to fire at the unheard of rate of 20 rounds per minute.

Nevertheless, because all artillery action was "direct fire" — the gun and its target were in sight of each other — field artillery remained vulnerable to fire from enemy riflemen. Military leaders faced a crisis in the Boer War (1899-1902) when Boers, employing the groundbreaking German Mauser 98 magazine rifle, shot to pieces the British artillery deployed in the open alongside the infantry. The Mauser 98 fired high-velocity bullets at ranges of up to 1,200 yards. Therefore, to survive, artillery had to find a way to conceal itself. Greatly in-

device, a forward observer accompanying the front-line infantry could send precise firing directions to artillery positioned far to the rear, safely out of rifle range. The process relied on ordinary trigonometry combined with the newly developed goniometric or panoramic sight mounted on each cannon. This sight permitted the guns to be aligned on a known base point. A battery of artillery, hidden thousands of yards from the enemy, could fire "indirectly" by calculating the range and direction to its targets. After the initial rounds were fired, the forward observer telephoned "corrections" to battery plotters who, using the base point as a reference, translated the corrections into firing data. The artillery gun barrels were then adjusted up, down, left or right so that the projectiles would strike the intended targets.

With forward observers acting as its remote eyes on the battlefield, artillery could now fire indirectly at any enemy target within its range. Indirect fire revolutionized artillery and positioned it once again as the unchallenged "King of Battle."

Both the indirect firing system and the modern machine gun were introduced during the Russo-Japanese War (1904-1905). By the time the war in Europe commenced in 1914, indirect fire had become established practice. The terrible trinity of artillery, machine guns and fortifications created a bloody stalemate on the Western Front. Only Germany's exhaustion in 1918 — and America's entry into the war — finally broke the battlefield impasse. ★

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ABOVE: July 1, 1916. British heavy artillery pieces fire in support of the attack on German positions near the Somme, France.

creased range and the invention of the telephone made that possible.

By 1910, the maximum effective range of rifled artillery had steadily increased to 6,000 yards — five times the range of infantry rifles. Improved fuses and powerful new smokeless-powder explosives were responsible for this increase. Development of these explosives had begun in Sweden in 1866 with Alfred Nobel's invention of dynamite.

Yet the field telephone made indirect firing of artillery feasible. When using this

The Horror of War

Choose 1

The reality of war soon erased the appeal of war for the soldiers on the front. Siegfried Sassoon and Wilfred Owen were English officers who were also poets. Many of their poems vividly expressed the dreadful reality of the war experience.

A) "Dulce et Decorum Est," final verse
by Wilfred Owen

[A sudden gas attack fills one soldier's lungs.]
He plunges at me, guttering, choking, drowning.
If in some smothering dreams, you too could
pace

Behind the wagon that we flung him in,
And watch the white eyes writhing in his face,
His hanging face, like a devil's sick of sin;
If you could hear, at every jolt, the blood
Come gargling from the froth-corrupted lungs,
Bitter as the cud
Of vile, incurable sores on innocent tongues,—
My friend, you would not tell with such high zest
To children ardent for some desperate glory,
The old Lie: Dulce et decorum est
Pro patria mori.*

* from Wilfred Owen, "Dulce et Decorum Est" in *Poems*.
London: Chatto and Windus, 1920

B) "Suicide in the Trenches"
by Siegfried Sassoon

I knew a simple soldier boy
Who grinned at life in empty joy.
Slept soundly through the lonesome dark,
And whistled early with the lark.

In winter trenches, cowed and glum,
With crumps and lice and lack of rum,
He put a bullet through his brain.
No one spoke of him again.

You smug-faced crowds with kindling eye
Who cheer when soldier lads march by,
Sneak home and pray you'll never know
The hell where youth and laughter go.*

* from Siegfried Sassoon, "Suicide in the Trenches"
in *Counterattack*. New York: E. P. Dutton &
Company, 1918

✦ **Directions:** Compare these poems with Cohan's lyrics for "Over There" and Brennan's lyrics for "You'll Be There" (Worksheet 6). What elements of the poems contrast sharply with the song lyrics?



Life and Death on the Western Front

Infantry soldiers in World War I lived for long stretches in trenches. When they emerged to attack, "no-man's land" confronted them. This was a barren and desolate killing ground between the Allied and German trench lines. Here are three men's accounts of their experiences on this western front.

Choose 2

A)

Guy Empey, World War I soldier, 1917

The dugout was muddy. The men slept in mud, washed in mud, ate mud, and dreamed mud. I had never before realized that so much discomfort and misery could be contained in those three little letters, M U D. The floor of the dugout was an inch deep in water. Outside it was raining cats and dogs and thin rivulets were trickling down the steps. From the airshaft above me came a drip, drip, drip. . . . The air was foul. . . . It was cold.*

* from Guy Empey, *Over the Top*. Albany: Knickerbocker Press, 1917

B)

Sir Philip Gibbs, World War I journalist, 1920

The rats—those big, lean, hungry rats of the trenches, who invaded the dugouts and frisked over the bodies of sleeping men—the lice that lived on the bodies of our men, the water-logged trenches, the shell-fire which broke down the parapets and buried men in wet mud, wetter for their blood, the German snipers waiting for English heads, and then the mines—oh, a cheery little school of courage for the sons of gentlemen!*

* from Sir Philip Gibbs, *Now It Can Be Told*. Garden City, NY: Garden City Publishing Co., 1920

C)

Wilfred Owen, poet and World War I officer, 1917

[He describes marching across no-man's land at night.] It was too dark, and the ground was not sloppy mud, but an octopus of sucking clay, 3, 4, and 5 feet deep, relieved only by craters full of water. Men have been known to drown in them. . . . No Man's Land . . . is pockmarked like a body of foulest disease, and its odour is the breath of cancer. . . . There is not a sign of life on the horizon, and a thousand signs of death. Not a blade of grass, not an insect; once or twice a day the shadow of a big hawk, scenting carrion.*

* from Wilfred Owen, "Memoir" in *The Poems of Wilfred Owen*. New York: The Viking Press, 1931

Directions: Imagine you are a World War I soldier fighting from the trenches, crossing no-man's land. Write a series of diary entries or letters home describing your experiences. Tell about specific incidents, discomforts, and dangers. Add some humor to what you write. Share these accounts with classmates.

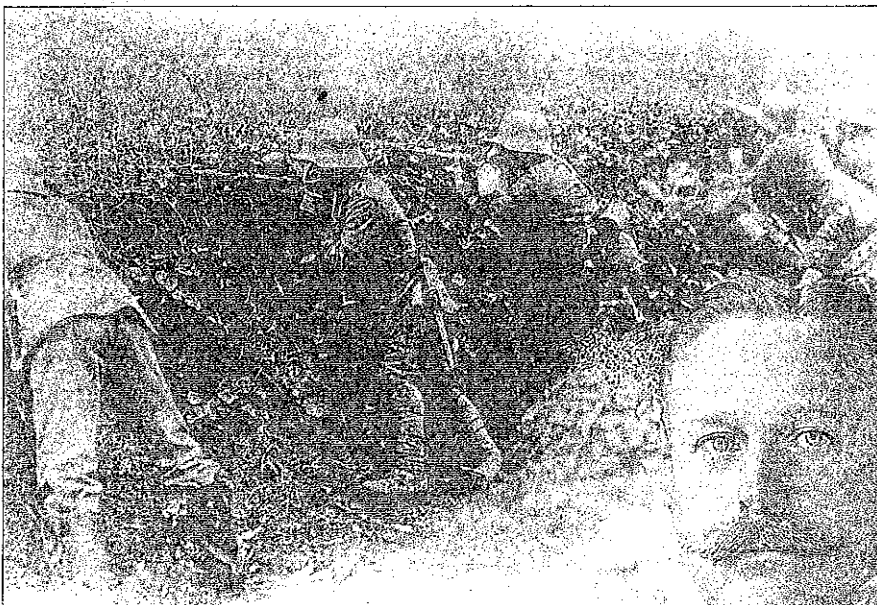


COMMAND DECISIONS

Haig at the Somme, 1916

A 90th-anniversary assessment of Britain's bloodiest day of war.

A British 8-inch howitzer pounds targets during fighting on the Somme Front.



The massive British artillery barrage that preceded Haig's attack on the Somme might have proved effective had German soldiers been occupying hastily dug trenches like this one. Most defenders, however, safely weathered the deadly rain of artillery deep in underground bunkers.

When General Sir Douglas Haig assumed command in December 1915 of British armies fighting in France and Belgium during World War I, the Western Front was well into a second year of bloody stalemate. The formidable barrier of long trench lines, bristling with machine guns, barbed wire and artillery, stretched from Switzerland to the English Channel.

No one had deliberately planned such deadly attrition warfare; yet, despite horrendous casualties, commanders on neither side seemed capable of developing a tactical scheme that could lead to a war-winning breakthrough. The prewar experiences of Western Front commanders — men who were often, and sometimes unfairly, criticized as “butchers and bunglers” — had miserably failed to prepare them for such a situation. Conditioned by their training and lacking innovations in tactics and technology that might, in a stroke, break through and end the stalemate, Great War generals relied on the only approach they knew to prosecute a war — kept “pressing on” to wear down the enemy forces in the hope that at last they would break.

NIGHTMARE - WAR IN THE INDUSTRIAL AGE

By 1916, World War I had become a nightmare of modern industrialized warfare. Massive citizen armies, backed by the full might of each belligerent's population who churned out the tools of war in unprecedented volume, killed each other's soldiers in horrific numbers.

With airpower in its infancy and armored fighting vehicles not yet developed, machine-gun bullets and high explosive artillery shells accomplished most of the killing. The American Civil War (history's first major Industrial Age conflict) and the 1904-1905 Russo-Japanese War (appropriately called “World War Zero” for its introduction of 20th-century weapons and tactics) provided previews of the

Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig commanded the British armies in France and Belgium during World War I and presided over Britain's bloodiest day of war, July 1, 1916.

[As a display of bravery it was magnificent;
as an example of tactics its
very memory made one shudder.]

slaughter that began in Europe in 1914. However, European observers saw these conflicts as the "affairs of amateurs" and failed to understand that technological advances in firepower made the defensive form of warfare increasingly dominant over the offensive form.

European military commanders chose instead to look back on the last Continental war fought by major powers, the Franco-Prussian War (1870-1871). This example proved particularly inappropriate to 1914 - Prussia's quick victory was due more to the efficiency of its finely tuned mobilization system than to the battlefield tactics employed by either side. And while the necessity to mobilize faster than one's opponent was a "lesson" learned only too well from the 1870-1871 conflict - it became a prime factor in hurling the World War I belligerents onto the irreversible path to war in 1914 - the other "lesson learned" proved tragic.

European commanders, the French in particular, came to believe that properly inculcated "offensive spirit" (*élan*) would permit their troops' attacks to succeed regardless of the defender's weaponry. Incredibly, greater firepower, in the form of improved rifles and deadly efficient machine guns, was considered to favor the *attacker*!

By the time Haig took command of Britain's Western Front armies, hopes of a quick victory by means of frontal attacks delivered with superior *élan* had inevitably faded. Yet no one seemed to know what else to do.

A HAIG'S DILEMMA A

The roots of the Somme tragedy lay in the problems Haig faced as 1916 began. The enormous losses sustained by his French ally meant that British forces were assuming a much greater role. However, since most of Britain's small but superbly trained professional army of 1914 had disappeared into the Western Front's meat grinder, the new troop levies filling the ranks - dubbed Lord Kitchen's New Army after England's venerable secretary of state for war - were assumed to lack the experience and tactical skills required to execute anything more difficult than tightly controlled frontal attacks.

B) Moreover, France's manpower crisis suddenly intensified when, in February 1916, German attacks at Verdun locked French forces into another bloody attrition battle. Literally bleeding to death, France looked to

British armies to launch an offensive to relieve pressure on their own fronts. French army chief "Papa" Joffre wanted Haig simply to kill as many Germans as possible. However, Haig was determined that the British attack planned for the Somme Front would go beyond mere attrition - he wanted a decisive breakthrough.

The real tragedy of the Somme is that after paying the huge "butcher's bill" Haig's breakthrough proved impossible to achieve in 1916.

JULY 1, 1916

After an eight-day artillery barrage pounded German positions along the Somme River with 1.5 million rounds of high explosive shells, Haig's soldiers climbed from their trenches and proceeded to walk slowly and deliberately across No-Man's-Land on July 1, 1916. Within minutes, German machine-gunners and riflemen emerged from underground bunkers and methodically mowed down Haig's well-dressed ranks. By the end of the day, 57,470

British troops lay dead or wounded.

Britain's bloodiest day of combat was followed by four months of British and supporting French attacks that ended in mid-November. The decisive "Big Push," which Haig had sincerely hoped would achieve a war-winning breakthrough, inevitably degenerated into another massive battle of attrition.

Although adjustments in tactics prevented a repeat of the first day's casualty figures, total British and French losses reached nearly 600,000. German losses were similar, but when combined with their massive casualties suffered at Verdun, the total was a staggering 1.8 million. Haig later claimed that the losses inflicted by his Somme attacks and those at Verdun made the Allied victory in 1918 possible. Perhaps.

Sir Edward Spears' observation is still the best epitaph for Britain's bloodiest day: "As a display of bravery it was magnificent; as an example of tactics its very memory made one shudder." ★

Colonel (Ret) Jerry Morelock, PhD, is Editor in Chief of ARMCHAIR GENERAL.

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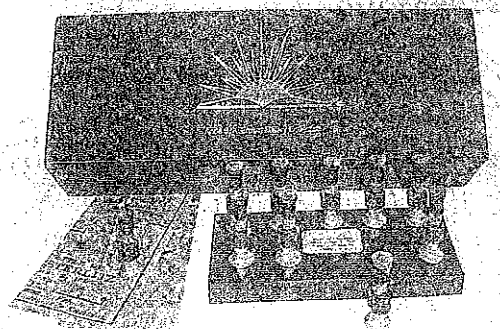
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John J. Pershing

Timeless leadership lessons from "Black Jack" Pershing.

Read:

General John J. Pershing was commander of the World War I American Expeditionary Force that helped the Allies defeat Germany in 1918. On September 3, 1919, Congress granted him the rank of general of the armies, the highest U.S. military rank ever created (George Washington was posthumously granted the rank in 1976). Pershing went on to become the U.S. Army chief of staff from 1921-24 and was a mentor to an entire generation of American generals who would win World War II, including George C. Marshall, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Omar N. Bradley and George S. Patton Jr.

A) Avoid Favoritism

It is human nature to acknowledge the admirable actions of those whom we like. However, the most effective military and business leaders reward deserving performance without showing favoritism, thereby fostering a culture of fairness that inspires the entire organization. Pershing had a rocky relationship with Billy Mitchell, America's outspoken air pioneer, yet after the September 1918 St. Mihiel offensive, Pershing wrote to Mitchell, "Please accept my sincere congratulations on the successful and very important part taken by the Air Force under your command. ... [It was] a fine tribute to you personally."

B) Show Enthusiasm

Pershing was reserved and tended to be aloof – a trait mirrored by his most famous protégé, George C. Marshall. Yet Pershing understood that subordinates, especially the Soldiers who bore the brunt of combat, responded to a leader's enthusiasm. Therefore when meeting with his troops, he made a concerted effort to demonstrate eagerness and a fighting spirit, often singling out an individual Soldier and praising him by saying, "He is a fighter, a fighter, a fighter."

October 1918. Leadership, organizational skills and dedication to his men and the mission made Pershing America's foremost military leader of World War I.

C) Keep It Simple

Pershing realized that the best plans were the simplest ones, and he demonstrated a knack for reducing job requirements to their most basic components. For instance, he believed that to fight effectively and possess the core discipline to follow orders, "all a Soldier needs to know is how to shoot and salute."

D) Enforce High Standards

Pershing demanded that his troops exhibit soldierly bearing at all times. As he worked to turn millions of citizen-soldiers into a cohesive, disciplined fighting force in France in 1917-18, he said, "The standards for the American Army will be those of West Point. The rigid attention, the upright bearing, attention to detail, uncomplaining obedience to instruction required of the cadet will be required of every officer and Soldier of our armies in France."

E) Realize Importance of Good Leadership

Organizations thrive when well led and properly motivated. Pershing stressed the importance of good leadership when he said, "A competent leader can get efficient service from poor troops, while on the contrary an incapable leader can demoralize the best of troops."

F) Capitalize on Everyone's Ability

In contrast to the prevailing racial attitudes in America at the time, Pershing saw past skin color to recognize every person's ability. In 1895 and 1898, he led the 10th Cavalry Regiment's famous Buffalo Soldiers, earning his "Black Jack" nickname. He became an outspoken advocate of the value of African-American Soldiers to the U.S. military and overcame others' objections to give those men a chance to fight in combat units during World War I. ★

Brian Sobel, president of Sobel Communications, is a frequent contributor to magazines, an on-air political and military analyst, and the author of "The Fighting Pattons."



Henry Johnson Harlem Hellfighter

In the darkness of No-Man's-Land,
the 369th Infantry Regiment spawned a one-man army.

★ ★
The night of May 14, 1918, was ominously quiet on the west bank of the Aisne River between Paris and the Belgian border. By 2:30 a.m., the moon had slipped below the horizon and Privates Henry Johnson and Needham Roberts could see nothing but the inky darkness beyond their fingertips.



Johnson and Roberts were members of the 369th Infantry Regiment, a New York Army National Guard outfit made up of African-Americans primarily from Harlem. General John J. Pershing, overall American commander of the still-segregated U.S. Army, assigned the all-black regiment to the French Fourth Army.

By May 1918, the regiment had gained the respect of friend and foe alike. French comrades in arms and senior commanders sang the praises of the 369th, and the German enemy nicknamed them the "Hellfighters of Harlem" due to their fierce fighting nature. After the night of May 14, fellow Americans also gained a newfound respect for the unit.

★ ★
Johnson and Roberts were part of a five-man squad that had been watching for the enemy since sunset. The corporal of the guard and two other members of the squad

Henry Johnson, a member of the Harlem Hellfighters, single-handedly fought off at least 28 German soldiers as they assaulted his trench line on the night of May 14, 1918. For his actions, he was awarded the Croix de Guerre with the Golden Palm, France's highest military honor. In 2003, he was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

were resting in a trench a few yards to the rear when Johnson and Roberts heard a faint metallic clicking coming from "No-Man's-Land," the deadly killing zone between the Allied and German trenches. It was the sound of wire cutters; a certain tip-off that enemy soldiers were quietly making their way through the maze of barbed wire that crisscrossed the front of the 369th's trenches. Both men shouted in unison, "Corporal of the Guard!"

Without waiting for a reply, Johnson fired a flare to illuminate the battlefield. Meanwhile, exploding hand grenades showered the two Americans with lethal steel fragments. Badly wounded, Roberts was unable to get back on his feet. The barrage also pinned down the other three men in the trench. Johnson was on his own against the German patrol.

Johnson lobbed a few grenades at the Germans; however, this failed to slow them. As the attackers approached his foxhole, he reached for his rifle, a French weapon with only three bullets. The first two shots missed their mark. By the time Johnson fired his last bullet, the rifle was pressed hard against the chest of one of the marauders. The shot killed the German instantly – but another was right behind him with a pistol aimed squarely at Johnson's head. Grabbing his empty rifle by the barrel, Johnson swung it like a baseball bat, crashing the butt against the enemy's skull. As the surprised German fell backward, he shouted in English, "The black bastard got me!" Johnson shouted back, "Damn right! And this little black bastard is going to get you again if you try anything!"

By this time, two other Germans had managed to get behind Johnson and were attempting to capture Roberts. Although his rifle was empty and he was suffering from three bullet wounds, Johnson was determined to save his buddy. He pulled an Army-issued bolo knife from his belt and leapt toward the enemy soldiers, sinking the blade into the head of the nearest one. As he pulled the bloody knife away, the German he had clubbed earlier with his rifle attacked him anew, all the while blazing away at Johnson with a Luger pistol. Shot a fourth time, Johnson's knees buckled. Before his attacker could finish him off, however, Johnson sank the foot-long blade

Having witnessed the fury of this one-man army, none of the other Germans wanted to tangle with Johnson.



Members of the 369th U.S. Infantry Regiment, recipients of the Croix de Guerre for gallantry in action, show off their awards while training in France.

of the bolo into the German's stomach.

Having witnessed the fury of this one-man army, none of the other Germans wanted to tangle with Johnson. As the remnants of the enemy patrol rushed back through the barbed wire, Johnson gave them a parting gift – another barrage of hand grenades.

When the members of the relief party finally arrived, they found a dazed and half-conscious Henry Johnson whispering repeatedly, "Corporal of the Guard ... Corporal of the Guard."

After sunrise, a patrol was sent to track down the attackers. Their trail, marked with pools of blood, dripping bandages and abandoned weapons and equipment, was easy to follow. The searchers found seven heavy-duty wire cutters, perhaps including the one whose telltale clicking the night before had alerted Johnson and Roberts to the enemy presence. In fact, the wire cutters were what led intelligence officers to conclude that Johnson had single-handedly engaged no fewer than 28 enemy soldiers – standard German army procedure was to issue one set to every four men. However, since the Germans took all their casualties with them as they withdrew, and it is impossible to know whether all their wire cutters were

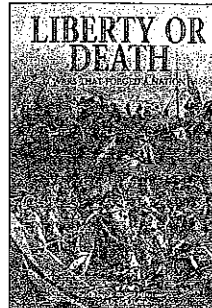
abandoned, Johnson may have fought off an even greater number of attackers.

For their actions of May 14, 1918, Henry Johnson and Needham Roberts became the first Americans ever to earn the Croix de Guerre, France's highest military honor. Additionally, Johnson's medal was enhanced with the rarely awarded Golden Palm, a symbol of extraordinary valor. However, since the 369th was serving with the French, the U.S. Army largely ignored Johnson's feat at the time.

Johnson's accomplishment and the outstanding service of the Harlem Hellfighters during World War I have since become a proud part of Army history, including being incorporated into one of the paintings in the well-known U.S. Army Historical Series. In 2003, Johnson was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, America's second highest award for valor. Recently, a congressional committee began considering him for the Medal of Honor, but a decision is still pending. ★

Bill Harris is the author of "The Hellfighters of Harlem," "The Congressional Medal of Honor" and several other books on American history.

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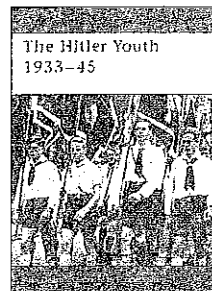
Liberty or Death

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The True Story of the 'Lost Battalion'

For Journal

During the American involvement in World War I, there were various battles that caught the American public's attention, but none were like the one like the story of the "Lost Battalion". This battalion consisted of about five hundred men of the 308th Infantry of the 77th Division along with attachments from other units. The commander of the 1st Battalion 308th Infantry Regiment was Maj. Charles Whittlesey, a former New York City lawyer. The 308th also consisted of attachments from the 306th Machine Gun Battalion and K Company from the 307th Infantry for their mission. This mission was to capture the Charlevaux Ravine in the Argonne Forest during the Meuse-Argonne offensive in October 1918. The offensive through the Argonne Forest would be a tough battle for the Americans since the Germans had dug themselves in over the last four years. Also the rough terrain would add to the difficulty in any attack in the Argonne. In theory, if the AEF broke through here, they could punch a hole all the way past the main lateral rail line the German Army needed to keep the front supplied. A major break through here would then be catastrophic for the Germans. When the attack commenced, Maj. Whittlesey's battalion reached its objective but because of the failure of the units on his flanks to maintain momentum with him, the Germans eventually surrounded the battalion. Members of Maj. Whittlesey's surrounded unit fought off repeated attacks by the Germans to drive them out which consisted of five days of continuous fighting. Five days later friendly forces would finally fight their way through and link up with Maj. Whittlesey's mixed unit. Of the five hundred men walked in the Argonne with Maj. Whittlesey only around 195 walked out with him after the five day siege.

The 308th Infantry Battalion was part of the 77th Division, which was originally raised primarily from New York City draftees, which gave the division its name of the 'Metropolitan Division'. These draftees consisted of many different types of men and they filled Camp Upton on Long Island in September 1917. They were mainly from the East Side of the City, so this group of soon to be soldiers were a real melting pot of men. Whittlesey graduated from Harvard Law School in 1908. He then went into practice with the firm Murry, Prentice & Howard. After a few years, Whittlesey went into practice with his friend at the firm Pruyn & Whittlesey in New York City. In August 1916, Whittlesey graduated from the military training camp at Plattsburgh, New York. He was then placed on active duty in August 1917 and reported to Camp Upton with the 308th Infantry of the 77th Division. Immediately upon his arrival to camp Upton, Whittlesey was to serve with the Headquarters Company of the 1st Battalion 308th Infantry Regiment.

The Meuse-Argonne Offensive in 1918 was going to be an attack on some 24 mile stretch that consisted of the 77th Division. During this attack the 77th Division would eventually be the only division that actually fought through the Argonne Forest. The 308th Infantry was starting to get much needed replacements, as well as the whole 77th Division, from the 40th Division which was made up of men from places like Montana, Washington State and Minnesota. One doughboy replacements from the 40th described being thrown in with the New Yorkers like-

"We walked to a place called Bourges. That's where they was gathering up men for the 77th Division. It had just made a forced stand at the Chateau Thierry sector and at Vesle and a lot of the division had been killed and taken prisoner. They threwed us western men in there to fill up the division. I was put in the 308th Infantry, Company H and it wasn't any time before we was part of the 77th and going over the top". -

Maj. Whittlesey of the advance Battalion was very concerned about his men when he received his orders. He had pointed out the difficulty of the land and the German defense to make such attack would lead to his battalion suffering unacceptable casualties since that many of his replacements were green inexperienced troops that hardly knew how to work their rifles. That point had been already argued up to the Division Commander General Alexander and the orders from Army command was to drive on no matter what the cost. At the same time the French were attacking and their drive had sucked in all the Germans that could do any damage by flank attack on the 308th. On October 2nd Maj. Whittlesey was advancing behind an artillery barrage regardless of

losses intent on reaching his objectives he was ordered, the Charlevaux mill area. The 308th was eventually surrounded due to the inability of the units to his left and right to advance equal to Maj. Whittlesey's command. There were two reasons why he could not try to move to safer ground even if Maj. Whittlesey had wished to. First, he was ordered to hold this position until the other elements came abreast of him, but because they didn't, the Germans were able to filter through both flanks and got in the 308th's rear. The Germans then strung wire across the path through the ravine linking up the two sections of the German trench system.

In the morning of October 3rd, the men trapped in the pocket had an encouraging event, K Company of the 307th led by Cpt. Holderman which gave 96 more men to the defense. With this added force, Whittlesey placed Holderman's company on the right side of the pocket and later tried to send his company south across the Charlevaux Brook to determine if he could get back to the 77th Division on the east side of the ravine. This could not happen since Holderman ran into a large number of Germans it became evident that they were surrounded by a powerful force. Later on the Germans tried to shell the American positions but it was unsuccessful due to the fact the pocket was on a reverse slope which the German artillery could not fire effectively due to the trajectory needed to hit them. This led to the first carrier pigeon message being sent at 8:50 A.M.

"We are being shelled by German artillery. Can we not have artillery support?"

At 10:45 A.M. Maj. Whittlesey sent another carrier pigeon that told regimental command

-that their runner post were broken, patrols east ran into Germans, located German mortar and sent platoon to get it, taken prisoner who says his company of 70 men were brought here last night from rear by trucks, German machine gun constantly firing on valley to our rear and E Company (sent to meet D and F) met heavy resistance with at least 20 casualties and two squads under Lt. Leake have just fallen back here.

At 3 P.M. came the first organized enemy attack from the ridge above the pocket. The Germans threw a shower of grenades to explode at the edge of the Charlevaux Roadway where the defending companies rushed to their forward firing lines. The fire from the rifles and chauchat machine guns poured into the bushes above the road, the attack ceased as suddenly as it had begun. The Germans commence another attack before 5 P.M.

"It combined rushes against the left and right flanks with a second grenade attack from the ridge. The ravine rang with echoes of machine guns, chauchats and rifles. Our machine guns worked splendidly and the enemy must have suffered heavy losses from this source alone."

MAJ. Whittlesey sent out his next carrier pigeon during this attack which stated that the Germans were on the cliff north of them and the situation was very serious. In this message he also reported casualties, remaining unit strength and a request for much needed supplies. The men in the pocket prepared for night. The men who had food shared with the men who didn't have time to grab some prior to the initial attack. The night of October 3rd passed quietly except for several scouts that were sent out and either returned wounded or didn't return at all.

On October 4th, Maj. Whittlesey sent out patrols from each flank and they hadn't gone 500 yards before they were driven back by heavy machine gun fire and rifle fire from the high ground behind the position. AT 7:25 A.M. and 10:55 A.M. carrier pigeons were sent back to Headquarters of the division stating that the men were suffering from hunger and exposure, the commands present combat effective strength, the number of wounded, and a request for support to be sent immediately. During the afternoon, the men were surprised to see a friendly artillery barrage that began to fall on the ridge to the southeast but then worked its way down the ravine and up to the Whittlesey's unit which devastated the already suffering battalion. They watch as over 30 of their men died in the friendly artillery barrage. This is when Whittlesey sent his last pigeon with this message:

"We are along the road parallel 276.4. Our own artillery is dropping a barrage directly on us. For heaven's sake, stop it"

When the shells started to fall less frequently, the Germans launched an attack from the ridge above. The Germans were beaten back this attack but a few patrols succeeded in penetrating the line of outpost. The attalion signalers reported they believed they had succeeded in attracting the attention of an American plane flying over head with two white battalion panels in the open spaces between the trees. The cold and hunger caused intense suffering amongst the men and the rain didn't help with the situation. The sound of American Chauchat rifles could be heard from the ridge to the south, this was a source of encouragement that gave hope.

The morning of October 5th brought the routine or more patrols and burying the dead. The outpost on the north reported seeing 200 Germans moving south to the hills in the rear of the position. Around 10A.M. another artillery barrage began, like the previous day, began to creep down the slope. Then the barrage lifted and started again on the ridge to the north where the Germans prepared their daily attacks. Whittlesey had known then that his carrier pigeon had gotten through to their headquarters the day before. Then for twenty minutes, the Germans laid down machine gun fire on every part of ground the surrounded command had. This was followed by German grenade attack from the north which was quickly repulsed. Repeatedly the men had to run from their holes to their positions on the edge of the Charlevaux road to route attacking forces.

- In the area for the wounded, the medics were using whatever they could for bandages including ones from the dead. They were even using web cartridge belts to cover wounds. Basically whatever they could find for the wounded to bind their wounds.

The night of the 5th came with another drizzling rain and a bitter cold which added to the suffering of the wounded and the tired defenders since they had hardly any food or sleep for 4 days.

The morning of the 6th found the men of the 308th too weak from lack of food to bury their dead. The dead were either covered with branches or left where they had died. A determined effort to get patrols through the German lines from different parts of the position took place. They were ordered to try their skill to work their way back to regimental headquarters. One of the three who did make it through was awarded the Distinguished Serve Cross for his actions. The day consisted of trench mortar, machine gun and sniper fire. The Germans attempted another heavy grenade attack around 5 P.M. and this attack was halted after twenty minutes of vigorous fire from the defenders rifles. Whittlesey's command lost two officers with the machine gun attachments. One thing that was remembered from the German grenade attack was that a potato masher grenade had struck Captain McMurtry and since he was already wounded in the knee by shrapnel, he refused to go down. Now Captain McMurtry continued the fight with the handle of the grenade sticking out of his back. Another interesting event that happened this day was that the air service tried to drop much needed supplies to the defenders but they fell in the German lines. The men didn't get the much needed supplies but they did know that there regiment knew where they were.

October 7th brought rain with it and as the men in the pocket would find out later, German *Strosstruppen* (Storm troopers) and the remnants of the 308th had barely any strength left to fight the surrounding enemy troops. At 4 P.M. a surrender note came to the command from the Germans carried by a private from H Company that had tried to get food from the airdrops and was captured. Maj. Whittlesey read the note aloud and the officers smiled since they took the note as a sign the enemy was weakening and had resorted to an appeal. Whittlesey told the men to take down the white airplane panels to prevent confusion as to their purpose because of the possible implications of the surrender note. The last German attack consisted of the *Strosstruppen* which used *Minenwerfers*, potato masher grenades, snipers and at the end flamethrowers. The enemy hoped to end all hopes of resistance with the use of flamethrowers at the end. Something almost strange happened on the part of the defenders during this last attack. The emotion of the dead-weary, starving, wounded, hysterical men was transformed into a wild rage that contained a furious desire for vengeance.

Wounded men rose from their holes and stumbled to their firing lines while those that could not walk loaded rifles. Everywhere the vengeance crazed defenders drove the German attack back. On the right flank, Cpt. Holderman broke a whole wave of Germans by himself with the help from a sergeant. On the left flank the flamethrowers were stopped by riflemen shooting the ones with the tanks of liquid. This ended the attack on the last day of the pocket being surrounded because shortly after they were finally relieved by the men of the 307th Infantry of the 77th Division.

Maj. Whittlesey led over 550 men into the Argonne Forest and when it was all over, he walked with 194 officers and men of the mixed unit. Killed were 107 men and officers. His battalion's position in the Argonne Forest resulted from the inability of the units on his left and right flanks to achieve the same level of momentum as did the 308th. With Maj. Whittlesey being a civilian soldier and following his orders to take the Charlevaux Mill area regardless of the costs, he did the best that he could with the situation he was in and with what little experience a nonprofessionally trained officer could do. With the stubborn defense of their position, allied forces were able to break through to them. Roughly five weeks later, the war was over. Unfortunately Charles Whittlesey ended his life on 26 November 1921. Some thought it was due to some guilt he had from the events while surrounded in the pocket in the Argonne Forest. Those that served with him thought that he was a casualty of the war and that he could never get rid of the constant reminders of the horrors of war that he experienced. Either way, Charles Whittlesey was always loved and respected by the men he served with in the 1st Battalion 308th Infantry

"The Great War in Numbers"

Task: In the coming weeks, your class will be studying the global event known as the 'Great War' or World War I. In order to understand the scope of this war you and your group will attempt to determine what the following statistics relate too. Good luck!!

1	4	24	35	132	450	466	1,000
2,600	4,278	5,200	58,000	100,000	116,000		
7,000,000	8,300,000	21,500,000	32,000,000	23,000,000,000			

Members of the Central Powers _____

American Military killed, all causes _____

Estimated British casualties, 1st day of Somme _____

German soldiers captured by Sergeant York on October 8, 1918 _____

Rounds per minute fired by a Lewis machine gun _____

Nations declaring war on 1 or More of the Central Powers _____

Range in Yards of a German Flamethrower _____

Deaths in 1918 Spanish Influenza Epidemic _____

Daily average caloric intake by a German Adult Civilian January 1918 _____

Allied ships sunk by German U-Boats _____

Trains required mobilizing the French army in August 1914 _____

Size of German Army allowed under the Treaty of Versailles _____

Estimated Artillery shells fired in Battle of Verdun _____

Estimated combatants maimed for life, all nations _____

Length of Western Front in miles October 1914 _____

Estimated combatants killed, all nations _____

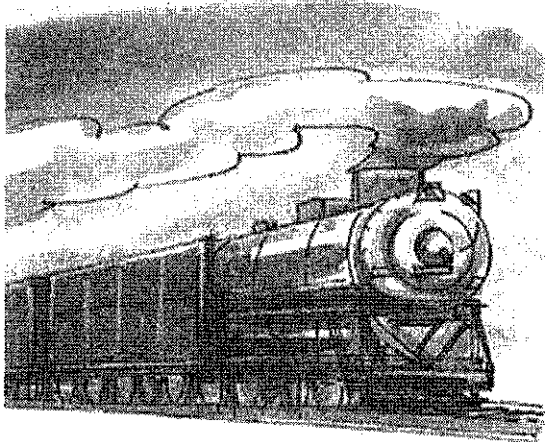
Reparations demanded by Allied Powers in Dollars _____

Still unexploded mine shaft at Messines (Yes, Today!!) _____

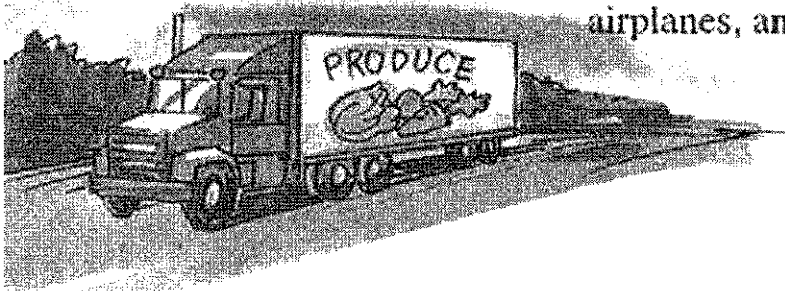
Movement

The way people, goods, and ideas travel from place to place is called **movement**.

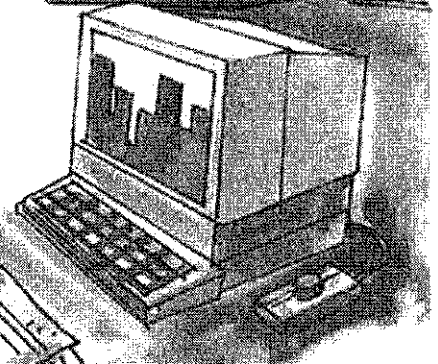
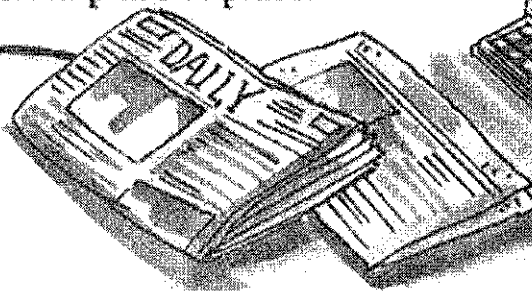
Today people move in hundreds of ways, from walking next door to flying in jets to faraway countries.



Goods move by many modes of transportation, including trains, airplanes, and trucks.



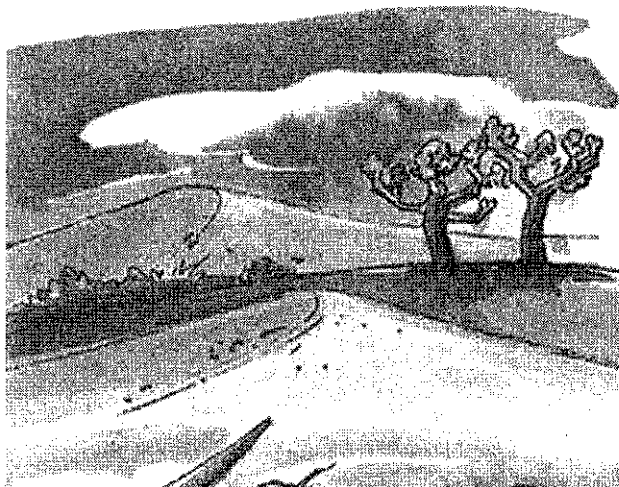
Newspapers, televisions, computers, and telephones are just a few of the many ways that ideas can move from place to place.



Question: What is the difference between the 2 types of movement **Migration** and **Immigration**?

Region

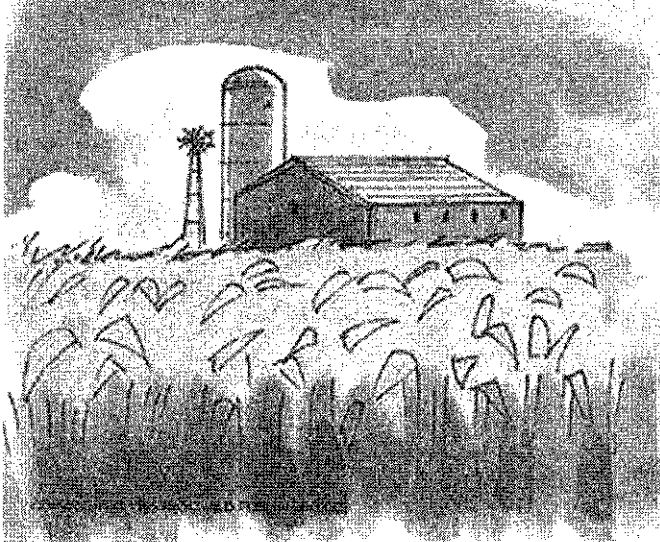
Areas of the world that have common characteristics are called regions.



The climate in an area can define a region. An area that receives very little rainfall would be considered a desert region.



Other regions are defined by physical aspects. Areas along an ocean, for example, are considered coastal regions.



Some regions are defined by economic activities. For example, the region in the United States where large amounts of corn are produced is called the Corn Belt.

Human-Environmental Interaction

Human-environmental interaction refers to the way the earth appears as a result of how humans have changed it.

Long ago, Algonquian Indians lived along the shores of New York Harbor in what is now Manhattan. They built small villages there.

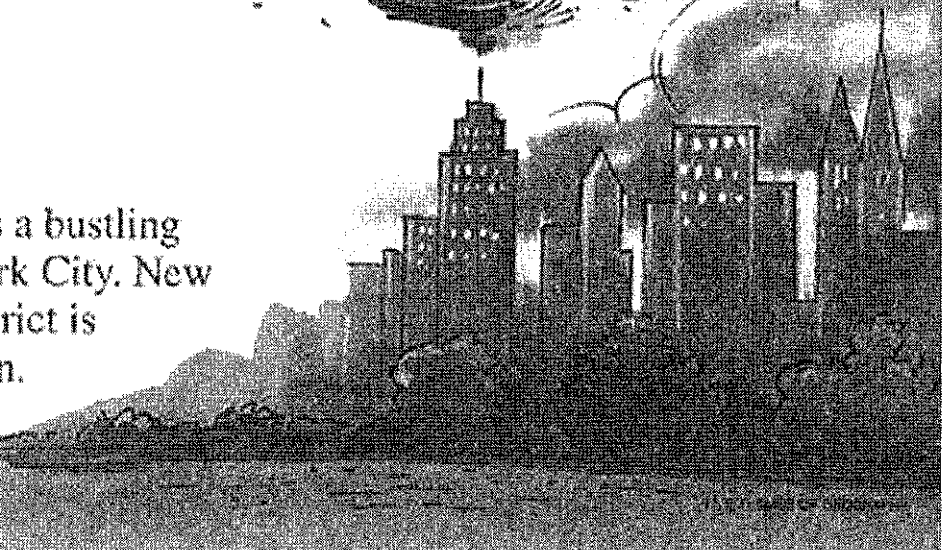
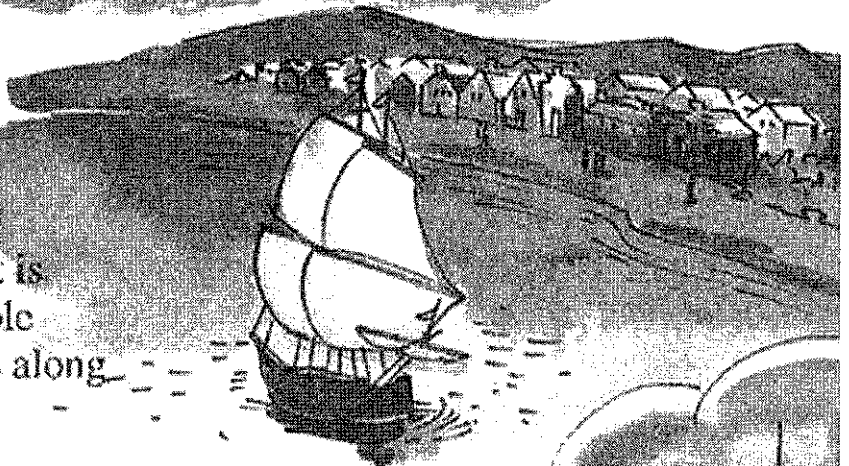
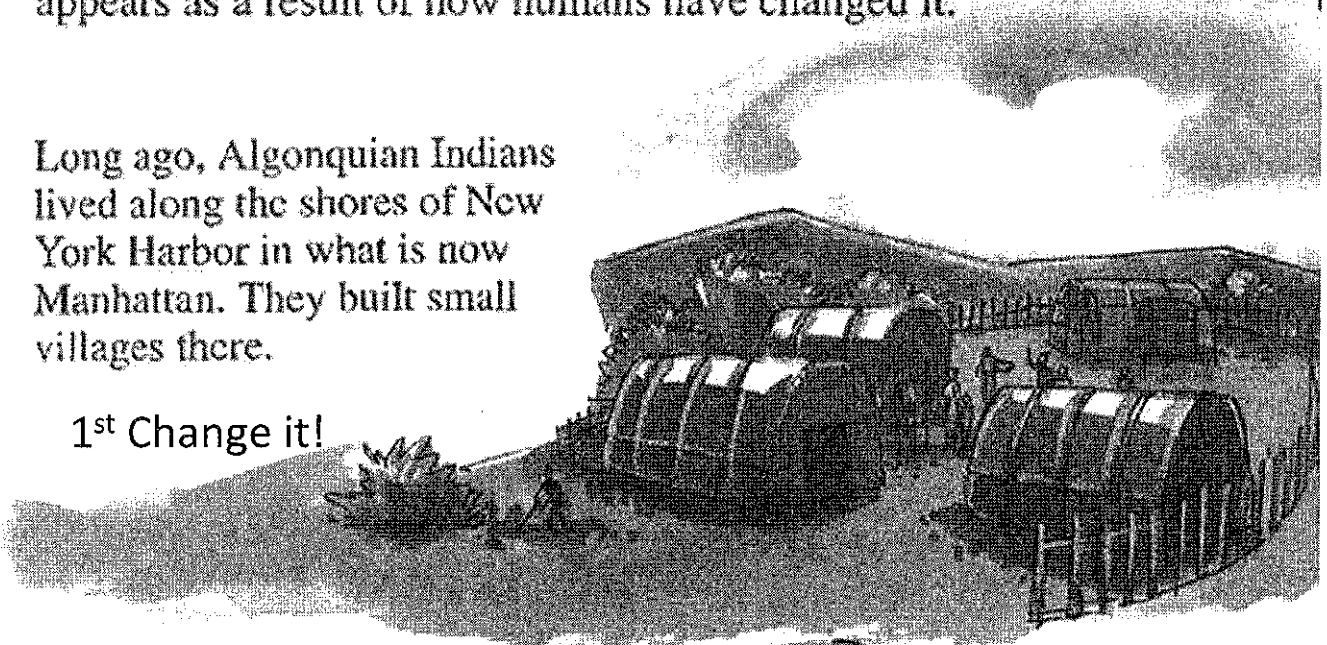
1st Change it!

During the 1600s a Dutch settlement called New Amsterdam began in what is now Manhattan. The people there built wooden houses along dirt streets.

2nd Change it!

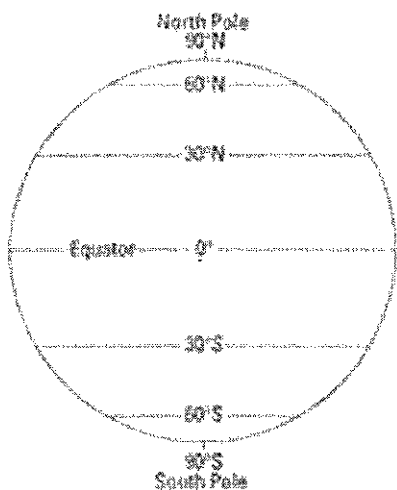
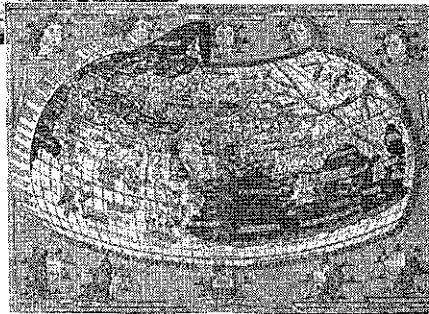
Today, Manhattan is a bustling borough of New York City. New York's financial district is located in Manhattan.

3rd Adapt to it



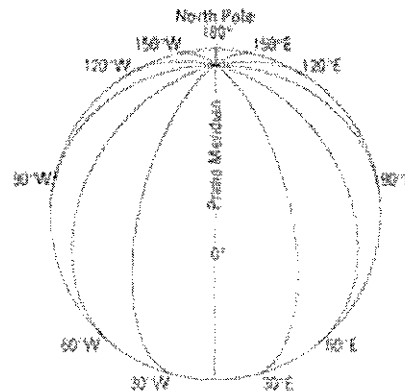
Location, Location, Location

A key geographical question throughout the human experience has been, "Where am I?" In classical Greece and China, attempts were made to create logical grid systems of the world to answer this question. The ancient Greek geographer Ptolemy created a grid system and listed the coordinates for places throughout the known world in his book *Geography*. But it wasn't until the middle ages that the latitude and longitude system was developed and implemented. This system is written in degrees, using the symbol $^{\circ}$.



When looking at a map, latitude lines run horizontally. Latitude lines are also known as parallels since they are parallel and are an equal distance from each other. Each degree of latitude is approximately 69 miles (111 km) apart; there is a variation due to the fact that the earth is not a perfect sphere but an oblate ellipsoid (slightly egg-shaped). To remember latitude, imagine them as the horizontal rungs of a ladder ("ladder-tude"). Degrees latitude are numbered from 0° to 90° north and south. Zero degrees is the equator, the imaginary line which divides our planet into the northern and southern hemispheres. 90° north is the North Pole and 90° south is the South Pole.

The vertical longitude lines are also known as meridians. They converge at the poles and are widest at the equator (about 69 miles or 111 km apart). Zero degrees longitude is located at Greenwich, England (0°). The degrees continue 180° east and 180° west where they meet and form the International Date Line in the Pacific Ocean. Greenwich, the site of the British Royal Greenwich Observatory, was established as the site of the prime meridian by an international conference in 1884.



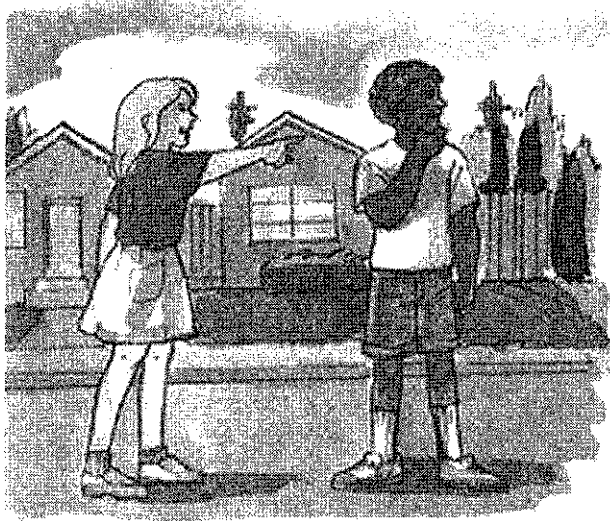
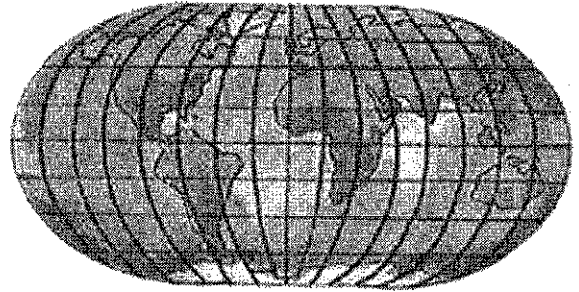
Location

There are two kinds of location.

The **absolute location** of an area is its exact location on the earth. People use lines of latitude and longitude to determine absolute location.

Lines of latitude go around the earth in an east-west direction above and below the equator.

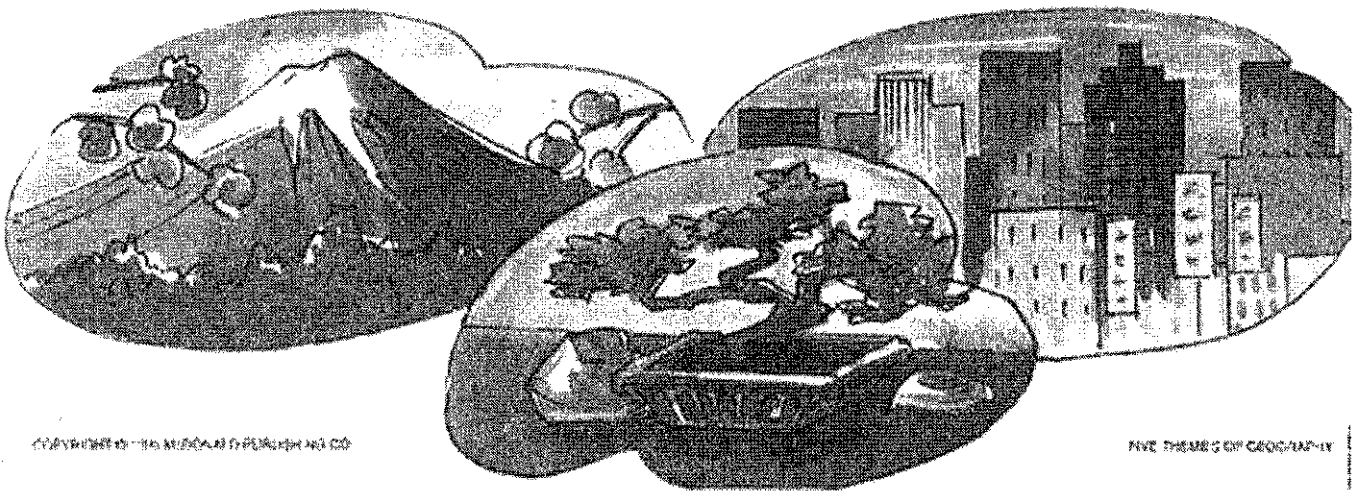
Lines of longitude run in a north-south direction and meet at the poles.



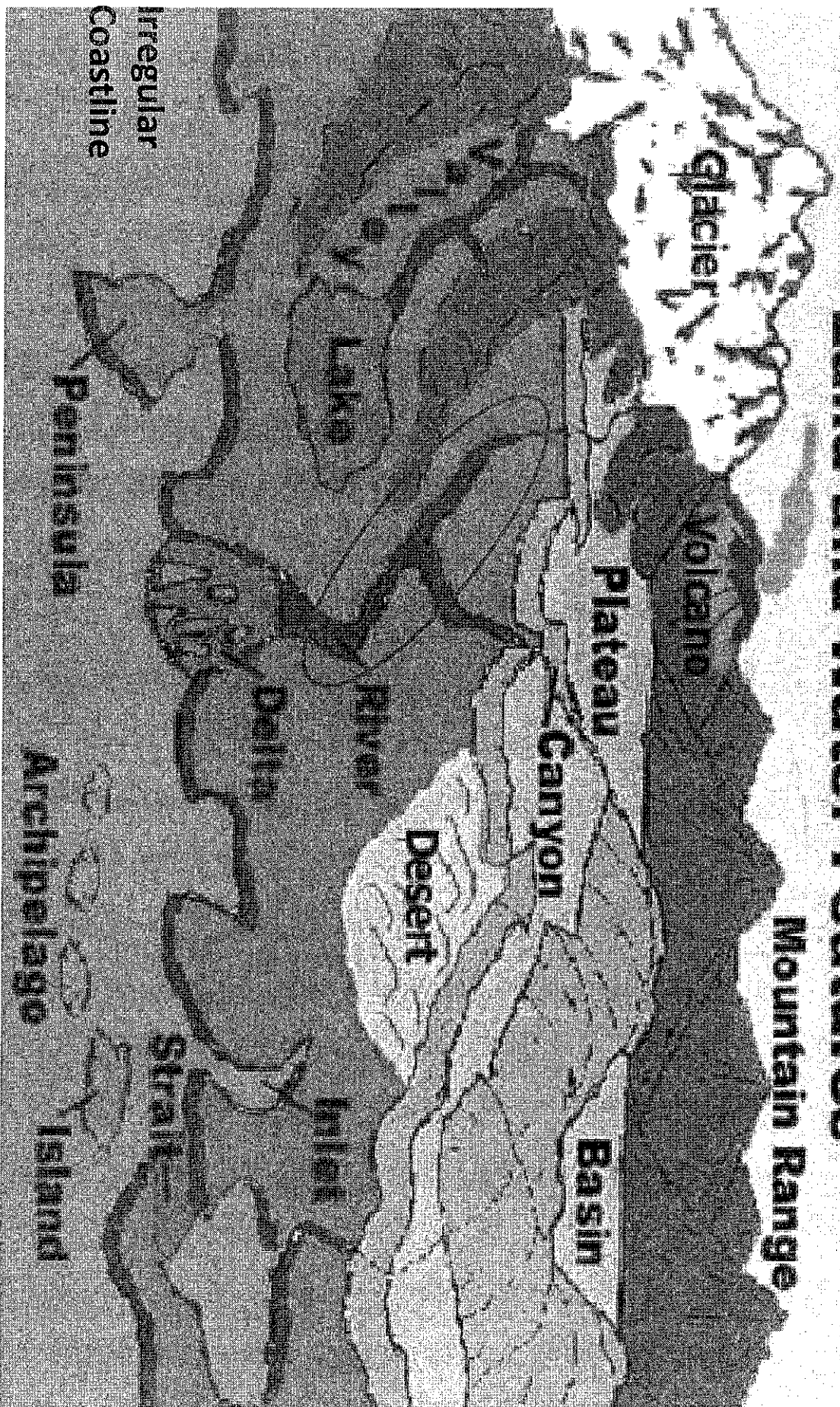
The **relative location** of a place refers to its position when compared to a known landmark. People often use relative location when giving directions. For example, you might tell a friend that your home is three blocks west of your school.

Place

Place refers to the physical and human characteristics of an area. These characteristics affect what it's like to be in the area.



Land and Water Features



Not Pictured: A **Regular Coastline** (Opposite of an Irregular Coastline)

An **Isthmus** (Similar to Strait but on Land)

Circle= A **River Valley** relates to the land itself not depth