WORLD HISTORY

PART ONE

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I wish to state that I have prepared this material in the simplest form that may enable learners to understand and grasp the concepts of the Topics covered. I have also given the Sample Questions the learners may come across in an exam. It is hoped that the learners shall use the knowledge acquired in their daily lives as History is the study of the Past, the Present and the future.

TOPICS COVERED

-Unification of Germany

-Bismarck's foreign Policy

-The allied Powers

-The First World War; Causes, Course & Results

-The Peace Treaty of Paris 1919

-The League of Nations

-The Paris Conference and Versailles Peace Treaty

-The Rise of Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party

-The Rise of Benito Mussolini and Fascism in Italy

-The United Nations Organisations

WORLD HISTOTY 1864-1945

THE UNIFICATION OF GEMANY

In 1858 Kaiser William I became the King of Prussia. He was in favour of unifying Germany. To make his plans of unifying Germany work, he appointed a team of people to work with.

Therefore, Germany built a strong army to use at the appropriate time to expel **Austria** from German confederation and crush lesser states. **Van Moltke** was appointed Germany chief of staff while **Von Roon** was appointed **Minister of War**. Von Roon advised the king to appoint **Bismarck** as chancellor of Prussia. On 23rd September, 1862 Bismarck was appointed chancellor of Prussia. Since Bismarck believed that unification of Germany would only be achieved through war, he planned to fight three (3) major wars that would make that unification possible.

The Unification Process

- By 1871, the great powers of the world were Germany, Britain, Austria-Hungry, Russia and the Balkans.
- Before the Unification of Germany in **1871**, there were several German states and there several German states and there was no country known as Germany but Prussia. Attempts to unify them in **1848** had failed.
- It became clear that Austria would always oppose German unity and that German unity could not be achieved through **peace or constitutional** means but the **use of force.**
- Therefore, Germany built a strong army to use at the appropriate time to expel **Austria** from German Confederation and crush lesser states. The Prussian Army was built when William 1 became King of Prussia; Otto Von Bismarck became Chancellor (Prime Minister) of Prussia in **1862.** The cornerstone of his policy was to use the army to achieve the Unification of Germany.

- To achieve the Unification of Germany, three (3) deliberate wars were fought and these were;
  i. The Danish War of 1864
  ii. The Austria War of 1866 and
  iii. The Franco-Prussian War of 1870-1871

i) The Danish War (1864):

- This was the between Prussia and Denmark. Bismarck considered this war against Denmark for two (2) reasons. First, it might give rise to a quarrel with Austria and use it as a trial exercise.
- The issue that led to the war was connected to the Territories of **Holsten** and **Schleswig.** These territories were under the king of Denmark but were not part of Denmark.
- Holsten was a member of the German Confederation, but Schleswig was not. Schleswig had a population with the Germans as the majority, the Danes in minority.
- Denmark wanted both territories. Therefore, in 1863 Denmark annexed Schleswig. Bismarck invited Austria to cooperate and declared war on Denmark. Denmark was defeated.
- The result was that Prussia imposed the **Treaty of Vienna** of Denmark. By the treaty, Denmark lost **Holsten** and **Schleswig.**

Figure: German Confederation

ii) The Austria War (1866)

- This was the war between **Prussia** and **Austria.** It was seven (07) weeks war.
- The Holsten-Schleswig question caused the Austrian War. Prussia easily defeated Austria as it had problems with her subject. Bismarck's strategy was to isolate Austria.

- The result was that the **Treaty of Prague** was signed between **Prussia** and **Austria.** By this treaty, Prussia annexed Schleswig, Holsten, Hese, Nassan and Frankfort.
- Austria was defeated by Prussia at the **Battle of Sadowa**.

iii) The Franco – Prussian War (1870-1871)

- This was the war between **France** and **Prussia.**
- After Austrian war, Bismarck started preparations for the war against France. Bismarck increased armed forces and secured the neutrality of France's allies, Austria and Russia.
- The excuse for the war was the Spanish succession. The crown was offered to **Leopold,** a relative to the King of Prussia. France demanded that Leopold should withdraw and that he should never revive his candidate again.
- Therefore, Bismarck **distorted the report** of an interview between the **King** and the **French Ambassador.** The report was distorted in such a way that to the French ambassador, it appeared that the King had insulted the ambassador and to the Prussians, the ambassador had insulted the King.
- As the result of the misunderstanding was the outbreak of the war between France and Prussia.
- France was easily defeated. She was forced to accept the **Treaty of Frankfort.**

Terms of the Treaty of Frankfort

The terms of the Treaty of Frankfort were;

a) France was to Cede (give up power or Territory) Alsace-Lorraine
b) France was to pay an indemnity to the tune of 200 000 000 pounds and
c) France was to support the Germany army of occupation.

Figure: Alsace-Lorraine which was ceded by Prussia (Germany)

- The end of the war in **1871** actually marked the completion of the Unification Process. The Germany Empire was proclaimed at proclaimed at **Versailles** in the "**hall of mirrors".**
- William 1, the King of Prussia, was proclaimed Kaiser (Emperor) and Bismarck became the Chancellor.
- In a nutshell, the three (3) wars are called **"Wars of Unification"** by Germans because after these three (3) wars, a new nation was born called **Germany** under **William 1** as Emperor and Otto Von Bismarck as Chancellor.
- Germany emerged from these wars as the strongest power and richest nation in the world with her army regarded as the finest.
- However, the **"Unification Wars"** created enemies for Germany such as France, Austria and Denmark. Therefore, Bismarck had to find a way of dealing with these three (3) countries from 1871-1890.

Sample Questions

i. What were the three (3) wars that Prussia fought in the Unification called……**The Danish War, the Austrian War and the Franco-Prussian War (DAF Wars). DAF easy to remember…..D for Danish, A for Austria War and F for Franco-Prussian**

ii. List the three (3) wars that Prussia fought……**the Danish War, the Austria War and the Franco-Prussian War**

iii. Which territories were annexed from Denmark after the Danish war of 1864 and what treaty was signed……**Holsten and Schleswig…..the treaty of Vienna**

iv. Name any two territories that were annexed from Austria after the Austrian war of 1866 and what treaty was signed……**Hese and Nassan….the treaty was Prague**

v. What caused the Franco-Prussian war……**the distortion of the report**

vi. What treaty was signed between France and Prussia after the France-Prussian war……**the treaty of Frankfort**

vii. What were the terms of the treaty of Frankfort……**France to pay an indemnity of 200,000,000 pounds, France to cede Alsace-Lorraine and France to support Germany army of occupation**

viii. In which year was Prussia proclaimed as Germany……**in 1871**

BISMARK'S FOREIGN POLICY (THE ALLIANCE SYSTEM) 1870-1890

- By **1871, Bismarck** had achieved his Political aims. Germany was united and had the strongest army in Europe. Bismarck's main problem was now how to maintain Germany Foreign Policy under him.

Aims of Bismarck's Foreign Policy

The aims of Bismarck's Foreign Policy were;

a) To maintain **peace and status quo** in Germany
b) To **isolate France** so that she does not gain her allies
c) To **avoid a two (2) front war** by maintaining the relation on the western and the eastern coast.
d) Bismarck **hoped that Britain** would maintain its policy of splendid isolation.

The Alliances made by Bismarck

To achieve these aims, Bismarck signed the alliances. These were;

i. The Driekaiserbund Treaty (1872)
ii. The Dual Alliance (1879)
iii. The Triple Alliance (1882) and
iv. The Secrete Re-insurance Treaty (1887)

i) The Driekaiserbund Treaty (1872):

- The Driekaiserbund Treaty or three Emperors' League was the first of these alliances.
- The members of this alliance were **Germany, Austria-Hungry** and **Russia** as shown below on the map.

Figure 2: Driekaiserbund Alliance (Germany, Austria-Hungry & Russia)

The Terms of the Driekaiserbund Treaty

The terms of the Driekaiserbund Treaty were;

- To work together to maintain the status quo (Balance of power)
- To work together to solve the Eastern Question (Balkans)
- To present a common front against Socialism and Republicanism

The Treaty broke up in **1878** when it tried to solve or settle conflicts over the Balkan area.

ii) The Dual Alliance 1879

- The Dual Alliance was signed between **Germany** and **Austria-Hungry.**
- The breaking up of the Driekaiserbund Treaty resulted into the formation of the **Dual Defensive Alliance.**

Terms of the Dual Alliance

The terms of the Dual Alliance were;

- Each power was to assist each other in case of an attack by **Russia**
- If France attacked either Germany or Austria-Hungry, the other would remain neutral
- If Russia joined France in an attack on either Germany or Austria-Hungry, both powers would go to war.

It is important to note that the Dual Defensive Alliance remained until the First World War (WW1)

iii) The Triple Alliance 1882

- In **1882,** France occupied Tunisia with the full encouragement of Bismarck. Bismarck particularly encouraged the French action in order to embroil **France** and **Italy** for the latter was interested in the same territory.
- Feeling threatened, **Italy** joined the **Austria-Germany camp**. Thus, the Triple Alliance was signed in 1882.
- Therefore, the members of the Triple Alliance were Germany, Austria-Hungry and Italy.
- Below is the Map showing the members of the Triple Alliance in yellow colour.

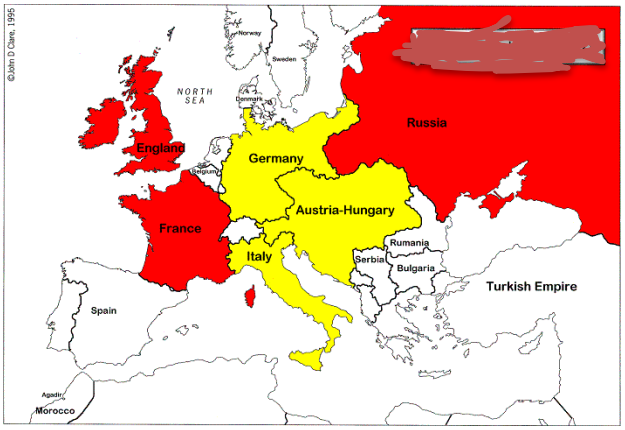


Figure 3: members of the Triple Alliance in Yellow Colour

The Terms of the Triple Alliance

The terms of the Triple Alliance were;

- Germany was to help Italy if attacked by France

- Italy agreed to help Germany in case of an attack by France
- If France and Russia attacked any of the members, e.g. Germany, Italy and Austria-Hungry would help Germany and vase verse.

iv) The Secrete Re-insurance Treaty 1887

- The members of the Secrete Re-insurance Treaty were Germany and Russia.
- Bismarck was concerned about the situation after the expiry of the Driekaiserbund Treaty. It was for this reason that Bismarck worked hard to hammer out a separate agreement with Russia in 1887.
- Under the agreement, certain Russian interests in the Balkans were recognised.

The Terms of the Re-insurance Treaty

The agreement between Germany and Russia had two (2) terms and these were;

- If either Germany or Russia went to war with a third power, the other would remain neutral.
- The treaty would apply if Russia waged war on Austria-Hungry.

However, the Re-insurance Treaty was Bismarck's Principle Diplomatic engagement. When **Kaiser William (Wilhelm) 1 died in March, 1888**, differences soon occurred between Bismarck and the new Kaiser William (Wilhelm) II. Therefore, **in 1890,** Bismarck was forced to resign.

Reasons Why Bismarck Resigned

The following were the reasons for Bismarck's resignation;

i. Bismarck wished to continue friendship with both Russia and Austria-Hungry but the new emperor (Kaiser William or Wilhelm II) **preferred Austria for Russia.**
ii. Bismarck wanted to continue persecuting the Socialist at home (Germany) while the new emperor wished to reconcile.
iii. The new emperor wanted an immediate Germany expansion and the construction of the Navy (Army) to support Germany's colonial ambitions which Bismarck avoided. Britain had the strongest navy in the world. As the result, Bismarck resigned.

N/B: By 1907, there were two (2) major defensive alliances in Europe. The Triple Alliance which consisted of Germany, Austria-Hungry and Italy became known as the **Central Powers** while the **Triple Entente** consisting of France, Britain and Russia which was formed after Bismarck's resignation became known as the **Allied Powers.**

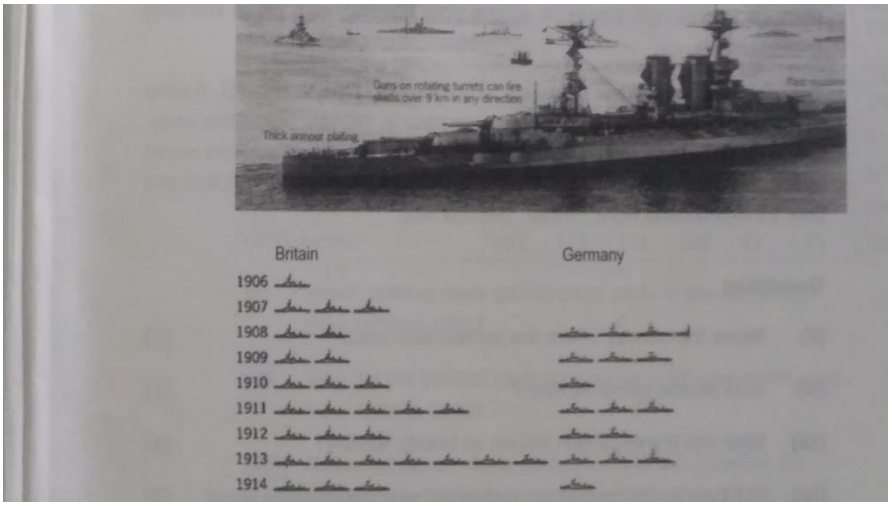
Exam Sample Questions 1

Study the Picture below and answer the questions that follow.

i. Which country did Kaiser William or Wilhelm II rule……**...Germany**
ii. Why did he differ with Bismarck……**Kaiser William had different opinions with Otto Von Bismarck e.g. Bismarck wished to continue friendship with both Russia and Austria-Hungry but Kaiser William did not want.**
iii. Why did the Kaiser William or Wilhelm II send a telegram to the President of Transvaal……**Kaiser Wilhelm sent a telegram to Kruger the President of Transvaal in 1896 after the failure of Jameson raid; the intention was to demonstrate to Britain the dangers of Political isolation, but the effect was to arouse considerable anti-Germany feeling. Therefore, Kaiser Wilhelm congratulated the Boers on inflicting great costs on the British.**
iv. Which European country was offended by the telegram……**Britain**
v. **State the** term used to refer to the race of building Dreadnoughts by British and Germany spearheaded by Kaiser Wilhelm II……**The Arms Race**

Exam Sample Questions 2

The Picture below shows the British Dreadnought (Battleship) and a statistical comparison of warships owned by Britain and Germany between 1906 and 1914.

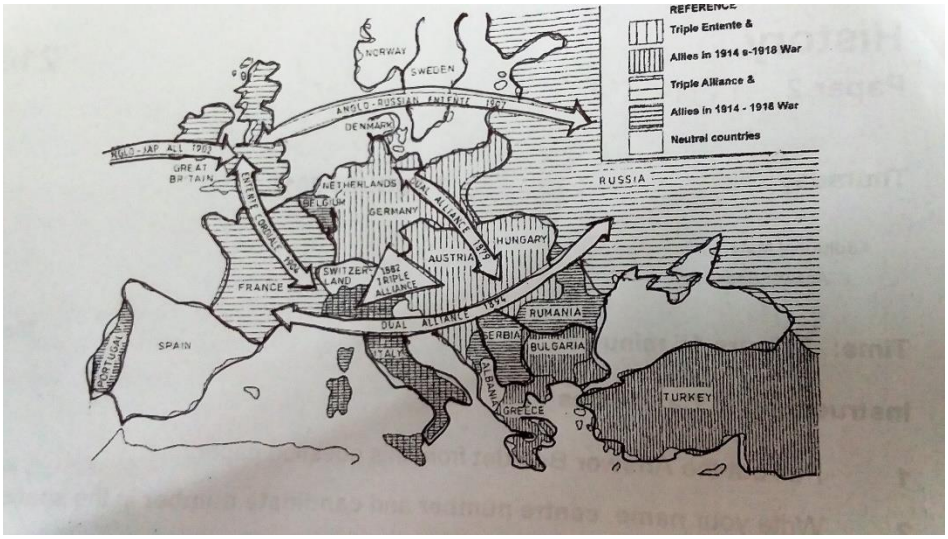


Questions:

- **i.** Which country built the ships shown in the Picture……**Britain (the Royal Navy)**
- **ii.** What name was given to the competition of building between Britain and Germany……**the Arms Race**
- **iii.** Name the Germany Emperor who led this competition with Britain…….**Kaiser William (Wilhelm)**
- **iv.** Name the imitation of the "Dreadnought" built by Germany to challenge Britain……**HMS Dreadnought in 1906 (Nassan)**
- **v.** Write three (3) advantages that the above ships had over Conventional ships……**it was powered by steam turbines that made the machine fast, it was designed around the firepower of heavy guns and it greatly increased shooting throw weight and accuracy**
- **vi.** What was the end result of this competition for mass manufacturing of armaments……**it caused the First World war (WWI)**
- **vii.** According to the statistics provided above, how many more warships did Britain build than Germany in the year 1913……**4 ships**

Exam Sample Questions 3

Study the Map below and answer the Questions that follow



Questions

- **i.** Name the Germany states who started the idea of signing Alliances shown in the Map across Europe……**Otto Von Bismarck**
- **ii.** Who were the members of the Triple Alliance……**Germany, Austria-Hungry and Italy**
- **iii.** Explain two (2) terms of the Triple Alliance……**Germany was to help Italy if attacked by France, Italy agreed to help Germany in case of an attack by France and if France and Russia attacked, Italy and Austria should help Germany**
- **iv.** Give one (1) reason why most of the Alliances in the Alliances in the Map above where Germany was involved collapsed after 1890……**Because Bismarck who was instrumental in the formation of Alliances resigned.**

Exam Sample Questions 4

- **i.** What were the aims in Bismarck's Foreign Policy……**To maintain peace and status quo, To avoid a two-front War, To isolate France and hope that Britain maintain the Policy of Splendid isolation**

ii. List the Alliances made by Bismarck from 1871-1890……**the Driekaiserbund Treaty, The Dual Alliance, the Triple Alliance and the Secrete Re-insurance**

iii. Who was Bismarck……**he was the Vice Chancellor**

iv. Explain the two (2) terms of the Driekaiserbund Treaty……**To work together to solve the Eastern Question, To work together to maintain the status quo (Balance of power)**

EUROPE AFTER BISMARCK'S RESIGNATION (THE ALLIED POWERS)

After **1890, France, Russia and Britain** found themselves isolated while Central Powers (Germany, Austria-Hungry and Italy) were united overcoming their differences as shown below.

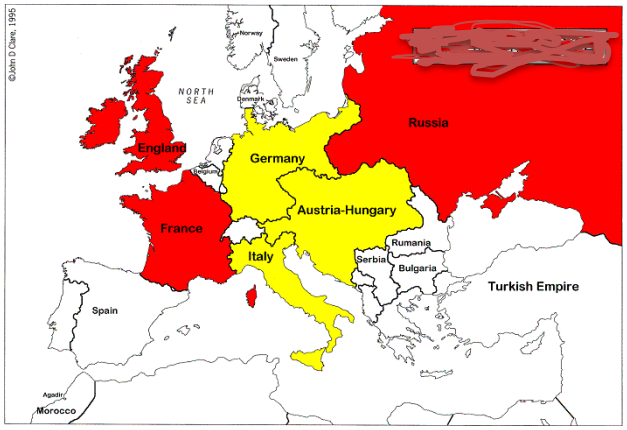


Figure 5: **Allied Powers** (France, Britain & Russia) in **Red Colour** while **Central Powers** (Germany, Austria-Hungry and Italy) in Yellow Colour

As a result, the Allied Powers decided to form the Alliances. These were;

i. The Dual Alliance of 1894
ii. The Entente Cordial of 1904 and
iii. The Triple Entente of 1907

i) The Dual Alliance 1894:

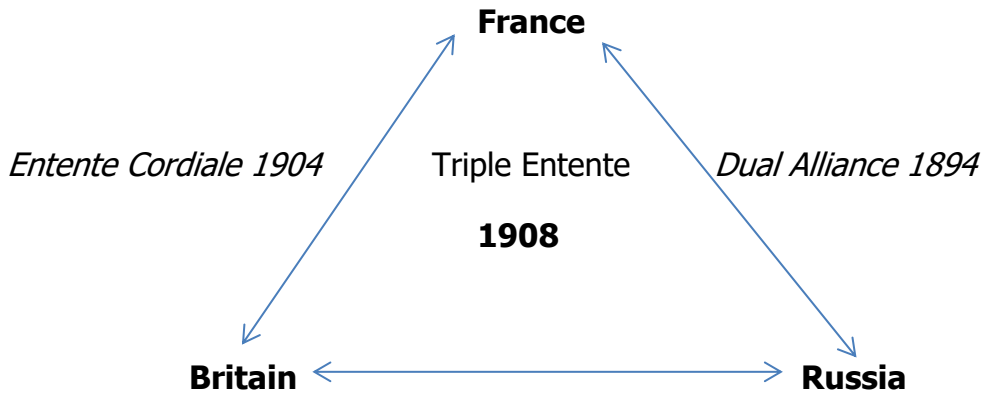
- The Dual Alliance of 1894 was formed between **France** and **Russia**
- This was due to the fact that after 1890 France and Russia found themselves isolated while Central Powers were united overcoming their differences, they combined against their common enemies and signed the Dual Alliances.

ii) The Entente Cordiale 1904:

- In 1904, **France** and **Britain** agreed to form an Alliance known as the Entente Cordiale.
- For thirty (30) years, Britain had pursued the Policy of Splendid Isolation by avoiding in the participation of the continental affairs. This colonial issues had her unfriendly to France.
- British Politicians had always viewed Russia suspiciously and so Germany was Britain's obvious potential Ally (friend)
- However, the Kaiser's "**Great Navy**" Policy made Britain bitter against Germany. As a result, Britain settled her differences with France and the two (2) signed the **Entente Cordiale in 1904.**
- This agreement was cordial and friendly understanding.

iii) The Triple Entente of 1907

- The Triple Entente, as a defence pact, emerged out of the mutual fear of the Central Powers shared by **France, Britain** and **Russia**.
- This seal of what became to be known as the Triple Entente came in 1907 after the signing of the **Anglo-Russian Agreement (Britain and Russia)**
- This agreement was prompted by their mutual friend, France. It was soon realised by Britain and Russia who were both increasingly suspicions of German's designs. Therefore, an agreement was signed in **1907** among **France, Britain** and **Russia.**
- The relationship of the three (3) Powers became known as the Triple Entente. The Entente lasted up to **1917**. The diagram below shows the Triple Entente.



SUMMARY OF CENTRAL POWERS & ALLIED POWERS

S/N	CENTRAL POWERS	ALLIED POWERS
01	**The Driekaiserbund Treaty 1872-78** **Members** **i.** Germany **ii.** Austria-Hungry and **iii.** Russia	**The Dual Alliance 1894** **Members** **i.** France **ii.** Russia
02	**The Dual Alliance 1879-1914** **Members** **i.** Germany **ii.** Austria-Hungry	**Entente Cordiale 1904** **Members** **i.** France **ii.** Britain
03	**The Triple Alliance 1882** **Members** **i.** Germany **ii.** Austria-Hungry and **iii.** Italy	**Anglo-Russian Agreement 1904** **Members** **i.** Britain **ii.** Russia
04	**The Secrete Re-insurance Treaty 1887** **Members** **i.** Germany **ii.** Russia	**Triple Entente 1907** **Members** **i.** France **ii.** Britain and **iii.** Russia

Exam sample Questions

i. Differentiate between Central Powers and the Allied Powers……**the Central Powers were Germany, Austria-Hungry and Italy while the Allied Powers were France, Britain and Russia.**

ii. Differentiate between the Triple Alliance of 1882 and the Triple Entente of 1907……**the Triple Alliance was formed by Bismarck comprising of Germany, Austria-Hungry and Italy while the Triple Entente was comprised of France, Britain and Russia.**

THE FIRST WORLD WAR (WWI) 1914-1918

The First World War (WWI or WW1) or the Great War was a global war that lasted from 28th July, 1914 to 11th November, 1918.

Causes of the First World War

The First World War had a lot of causes. The causes can be classified into;

a) Immediate Causes
b) Long term causes

a) Immediate causes of the First World War

i. Assassination of the Archduke or Murder at Sarajevo or Sarajevo Incident

- In 1913 and 1914 nationalist ideas grew stronger in **Serbia** and **Bosnia-Herzegovina.** At the same time, the Austrian Leaders were thinking of how to crush Serbia.
- On Sunday June 1914, was a very hot day in Sarajevo the Capital of the Austrian Province of Bosnia.

- On June 28th,1914 crown **Prince Archduke Franz Ferdinand,** the nephew of **Carl Ludwig Joseph** the Emperor of Austria, the heir to the throne I Austria, was assassinated with his wife **Sophie**, on a formal visit in Sarajevo by the young **Serbian Princip Garvillo** student resident in Bosnia and a member of the **Black Hand Terrorists Group.**

- There is evidence that the Serbian government was not involved in the murder. Garvillo and his friends did it on their own.

- However, Austria-Hungry accused the Serbian government about the Assassination. Austria used the murder at Sarajevo as an excuse for crushing Serbia. Germany promised to help Austria in action against Serbia. **Russia** threatened to support **Serbia.**

Austria-Hungry Three (3) Point Ultimatum to Serbia

- On **23rd July, 1914, Austria-Hungry** sent a three (3) points ultimatum to be responded in 48 hours (2 days) demanding that;

  a) Serbia should dismiss all Anti-Austrians working as civil servants
  b) Suppress all Anti-Austrian Propaganda and
  c) Austria's Police and Security Force should enter Serbia to investigate the assassination and to supervise the suppressions in Serbia.
- However, Serbia accepted the first two (2) demands and refused the third (3rd) which would mean end of Serbia's independence.
- On 28th July, 1914, Austria-Hungry declared war on Serbia.
- The assassination at Sarajevo was merely the last step on the long road to war, a road down which Europe had been drifting for decade.
- Therefore, on **August 1st 1914 Germany** declared war on **Russia** and followed that up with the declaration of war on **France** two (2) days later.
- Britain did not have a specific military commitment to **France** but Germany's invasion on **Belgium** compelled Britain to declare war on Germany.

In conclusion, the **immediate causes** of the First World War were; Assassination of the Archduke, Germany support of Austrian Aggression, Austria-Hungary's ultimatum to Serbia and Germany invasion of Belgium.

Exam Sample Question 1

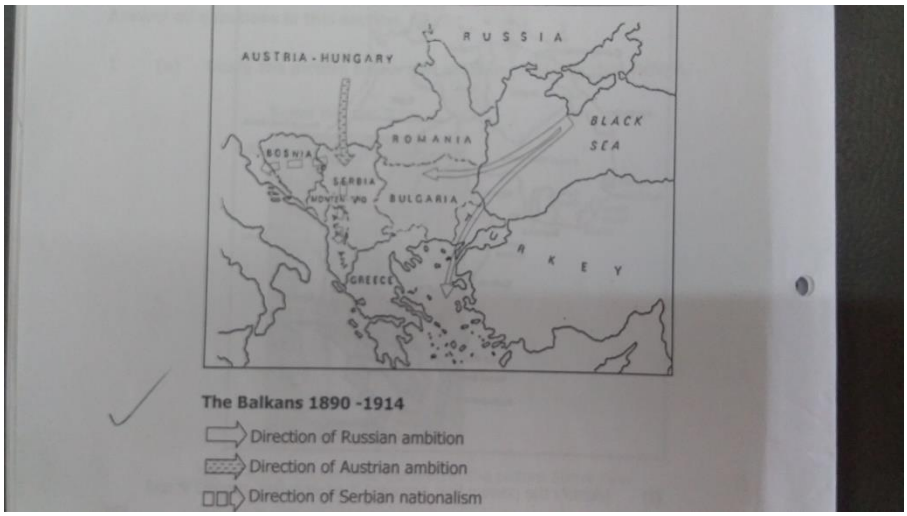
Study the picture of the Couple visiting Sarajevo in 1914 town and answer questions that follow.

Questions:

i) Name the wife of the Archduke in the picture above……**Sophie**
ii) What happened to the couple in the picture……**..they were assassinated or murdered by a young Serbian Princip Garvillo student resident in Bosnia**
iii) Which year was the visitation to the town……**28th June, 1914**
iv) Who was responsible for what happened to the couple in the picture……**Princip Garvillo**
v) To which organisation did the person responsible for what happened belong……**.Princip Garvillo was a member of the Black hand Terrorists group**
vi) Name the country where the Archduke in the picture was to heir to the throne……**Austria-Hungry**

Exam sample Questions 2

Study the map below and answer the following questions.



Questions:

i) Name the country on the map where the Archduke and his wife were murdered……**Sarajevo in Bosnia**
ii) Who murdered the Archduke and his wife……**..Princip Garvillo**

iii) To which group did the murderer of the Archduke and his wife belong……**....the Black Hand Terrorist Group**

iv) The map shows the direction of Russian ambition. Give one (1) reason for the Russian interest in the Mediterranean Sea area……**..to preserve the status quo and maintain order**

v) Why did Serbia want to occupy Bosnia as shown on the map……**they feared the Muslin Croat domination**

vi) Name any two (2) states on the map that belonged to the Balkans……**Serbia, Romania and Montenegro**

Exam Sample Questions 3

Study the table below and fill in the blanks

28th June, 1914	Archduke Franz Ferdinand was murdered by……**Princip Garvillo** of the Black Hand Terrorists Group. The assassination took place at ……**Sarajevo** in Bosnia.
23rd June, 1914	……**Austria** blamed Serbia of the assassination and issued an ultimatum to be answered within……**48** hours.
28th June, 1914	Serbian accepted two (2) demands and offered to offer the third one for arbitration of the International Court of Justice at Hague. Austria-Hungry declared war on.....**Serbia**
29th June, 1914	……**Russia** began mobilising troops ready to help Serbia.
30th June, 1914	Germany demands that Russia stops mobilising Russia refuses.
1st August, 1914	……**Germany** declared war on Russia.
3rd August, 1914	Germany declared war on France and sent troops through Belgium to attack France.
4th August, 1914	……**Belgium** was neutral and Britain had agreed to protect her. Britain ordered Germany to withdraw. Germany refused.

6th August, 1914 ……..**Britain** declared war on Germany. Austria-Hungry declared war on ……..**Serbia**

Exam Sample Questions 4

The picture below shows the Archduke Ferdinand and his wife on their Visit to Sarajevo.

Questions

i. Name the wife of the Archduke in the picture above……**Sophie Chotek**
ii. Which country was the Archduke visiting……**Serbia**
iii. In which year did he visit the country……**28th June, 1914**
iv. Name the emperor who sent him……**Carl Ludwig Joseph**
v. State one (1) reason why the people of the country he was visiting did not welcome him……**because he was the hair to the throne**
vi. Name the student who shot and killed the Archduke……**Princip Garvillo**
vii. To which group did this student belong……**the Black Hand Terrorists group**
viii. Which country supported the group mentioned in **(vii)** above……**Serbia**

b) Long term Causes of the First World War

The following are the Long Term Causes of the First World War;

i) Forming of Opposing Alliance:

- By **1907,** two (2) rival camps existed in Europe. On one side was the **Triple Alliance** comprised of **Germany, Austria-Hungry** and **Italy**
- On the other side was the **Triple Entente** comprised of Great **Britain, France** and **Russia.** This meant that the dispute between any two (2) powers could draw the entire continent into war.

ii) Military Build Up and Military

- In order to unify Germany, Bismarck built up a strong army. Therefore, militarism developed in Europe, creating conditions for the major armed confrontations in Europe and beyond.
- Great military armies appeared in Europe for the first time after the middle of the 19^{th} century.
- The development of **industry** and **communication** made possible the equipment and transportation of vast armies and mobilisation of the entire nations.
- After the **1870-1871** Franco-Prussian war, **Germany** and **France** introduced universal conscription and the maintenance of great Navy "Policy" and fierce competitions prang up between **Britain** and **Germany.** Attempts to bring the race to an end failed.
- In Germany and Austria-Hungry the military authorities became all too influential and in the crisis of 1914 they overruled the Politicians.

iii) Imperial Rivalry Between Great Power:

- Then there was imperial rivalry involving **Britain** and **Germany**
- After 1890, William II absolutely controlled Germany affairs. He aroused alarm and suspicions by his utterances.
- In order to protect Germany colonies, a great navy was constructed; such a policy aroused the fears of Britain, Germany's chief rival.
- Also rivalry between **Russia** and **Central Powers** (Germany and Austria-Hungry) was an important cause of the war. Russian's ambition to dominate the Balkans brought her into conflict with **Germany** and **Austria-Hungry.** These powers had the ambition of expanding at the expense of Turkey. Germany had developed interest in Turkey.

- Furthermore, Franco-Germany suspicion contributed to the drift towards war. The bitterness of France at the loss of **Alsace-Lorraine** (Treaty of Frankfort) in 1871 remained a constant source of anxiety to Germany Politicians.
- Germany rules felt that France was waiting for an opportunity to take revenge. The race in arms strengthened fear.

iv) Nationalist Tensions in Balkans

- The most disturbing force in Europe was nationalism. It's rapid growth in Austria-Hungry and Turkey was leading to the disruption of two (2) ancient empires.
- Instead of giving into the demands of the peoples within the empire, Austria-Hungry sought to extend her rule over non-Germany. Particularly Austria wanted to dominate Serbs.

In conclusion, **the long term causes** of the First World War (**WW1**) were; Forming of Opposing Alliances, Military Build-up and Militarism, Imperial Rivalry between great powers and Nationalist Tensions in the Balkans.

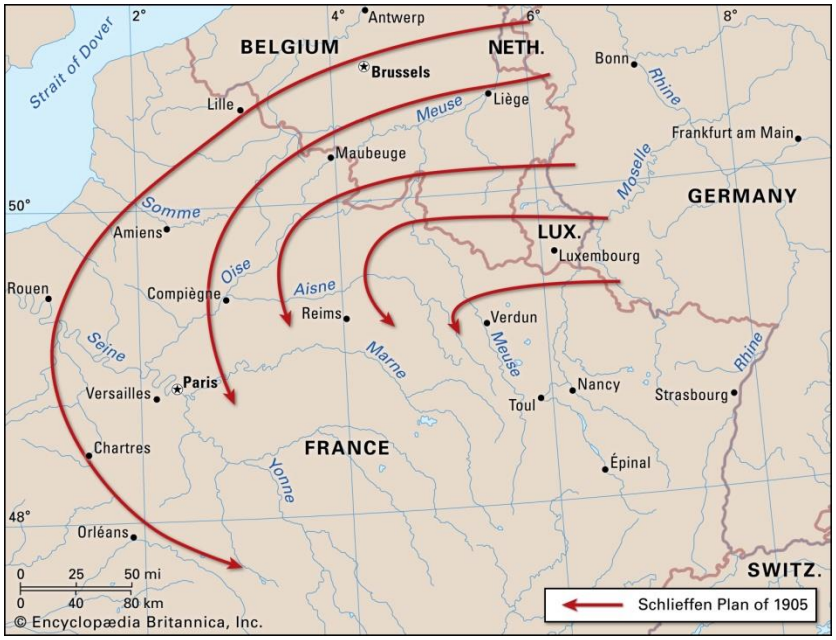
c) Course of the First World War

The First World War was mainly fought **on land** and **at Sea**. Germany had anticipated a two-front war, facing **Russia** and **France,** since 1872. Thus, her war-planners centred their strategy on dealing with this situation. Therefore, the German chief of staff called Alfred Schlieffen drew up the Schlieffen plan in 1905. The plan detailed how to fight the war on both the Eastern (**Russian**) and Western (**France**) fronts.

i. The Schlieffen Plan

- The Schlieffen Plan was one of the greatest gambles in military history. By the Schlieffen Plan, the war would be fought on enemy territory. To achieve surprise as regards France, the Plan was that German forces should attack through **Belgium.** The idea was also to avoid the **well-fortified Franco-German** border.
- Germany's plan was to attack France quickly and crush it with six (6) weeks before **Russia** could mobilise her soldiers.
- Germany with five (5) armies first **invaded Belgium** and **attacked France** at the back. Two (2) of the armies had to set off to capture Paris and the other three (3) armies had to emerge with the French forces at the border.

- After crushing France, Germany armies would have to be transported by rail to defeat Russia. Germany used this plan to **avoid a two-front war.**



Why the Plan Failed

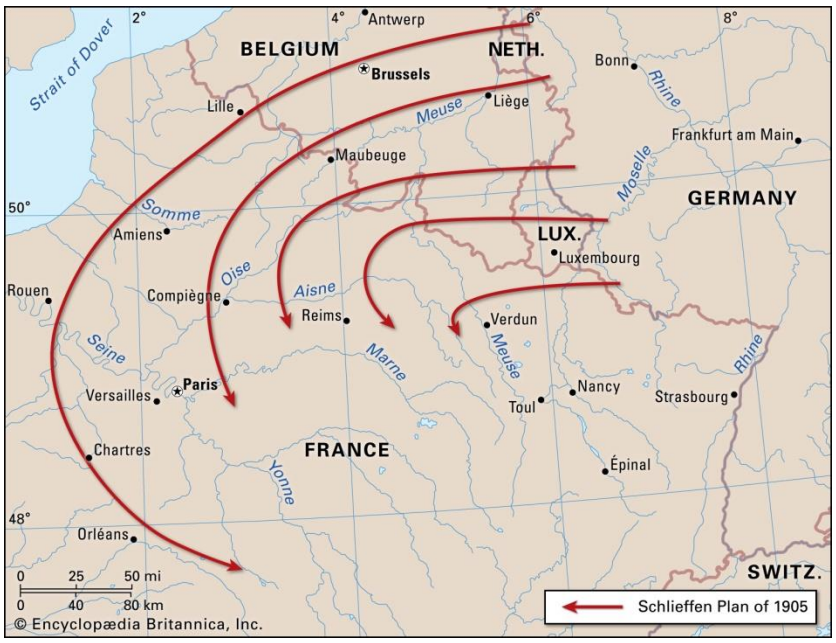
- However, the plan was unsuccessful for the reasons being that Russian soldiers had mobilised faster than Germany expected and where heading towards Germany in August, 1914.
- Britain was also annoyed with the invading of Germany to Belgium and was in alliance with Russia. Germany armies moved faster back to Germany than their **food supplies.**
- It was also difficult for the chief commander of war in Germany to communicate with his five (5) armies since communication became difficult.
- To add salt to the injury, Germany had seriously underrated the determination and ability of Belgians to defend themselves in case of aggression.
- In 1914, Belgium troops fought so gallantly such that Germans were held for some time affecting the Schlieffen Plan.

Reason why Italy fought against Germany

- Italy fought against Germany and Austria-Hungry because the Allied Powers had promised to grant to Italy some parts of Austria-Hungry where Italian-speaking people lived.

Exam Sample Questions 1

Study the map below and answer the questions that follow.



Questions:

i. When was the Schlieffen Plan made……**it was planned in 1905 but was implemented in 1914**

ii. Which nation did Germany intend to defeat using the plan mentioned in question **(i)**……**France**

iii. Name the man who developed the Schlieffen Plan……**Alfred Schlieffen**

iv. Give two reasons why the Schlieffen Plan did not succeed……**Russian Soldiers mobilised faster than Germany expected and Britain was annoyed with Germany invading Belgium**

v. Name two provinces on the map which Germany got from France during the wars of unification……**Alsace and Lorraine**

ii) War on the Land

- On the land, the war was fought on both fronts from 28th July, 1914 through 11th November, 1918.

War on the Western Front

- On the western front, Germany struck towards **France** through **Belgium.** Germany troops advanced as far as the river Maine, some 24 to 32 km away from Paris.
- However, the French and British soldiers acquitted themselves very well. Fighting concentrated around the **Maine** but, later the Germans retreated to the river **Aisne** to reorganise with the intention of launching another attack. In the due course the war was fought on both fronts.

War on the Eastern Front

- Russia entered the war from the eastern front much earlier than Germany expected. However, Germany reinforced the eastern front with some troops from the western front.
- Germany recalled retired **Field Marshal Hindenburg** to direct combat on the western front. He was assisted by **Ludendorff.**
- However, there was **Bolshevik Revolution** in Russia which eased Germany's task. **Lenin,** Russia's new leader withdraws Russia from the war at the cost of the painful **Treaty of Brest-Litovsk** in April, 1918.
- Romania, which also fought on the Eastern Front, was defeated too.

iii) War at the Sea

- The main objective of the war at sea was to deprive each other of supplies. Germany aimed at preventing supplies reading the allies (France, Britain and Russia) from the U.S.A and colonies.
- In **December, 1914**, the Germans ships were destroyed in the **Falklands islands.** Then in May, 1915, the British liner, **Lusitania,** which was carrying ammunition, was and about 1,000 people drowned. The passengers included Americans.
- On December 31st, 1916 the **Battle of Jutland** took place between **Germany** and **Britain**, Jutland lies between Denmark and Norway.
- In 1917, Germany used the **U-Boat** to destroy any ship that sailed on the sea. The Americans had tried to keep out of the war but **Zimmerman note** provoked the Americans.
- The Zimmerman note was the German Diplomatic note to seek alliance with Mexico against America. The disclosure of the note forced American President **Wilson** to declare war on Germany.
- Therefore, on April 6th 1917, America joined the **Allied Powers** against the Central Powers bringing in fresh troops and equipment.

d) The Result or Effects of the First World War:

The First World War officially ended on November 11th, 1918. Germany was defeated. The war had several effects such as **Social, Economic** and **Political.**

i) Social Effects or Results

- The war killed millions of soldiers and civilians; it displaced millions from their homes. For example, in Russia, millions left their homes fearing to be killed by the advancing German soldiers. This was a case in most European countries.
- As result, there was overcrowding in the towns where people sought refuge hence creating a strain on sanitation and other facilities.
- Food ran out and thousands of people died of starvation and disease. There was also disorder and violence in many European countries.

ii) Economic Effects or Results

- Economically, the First World War caused misery. The infrastructure and other property were destroyed, the Germany soldiers targeted factories and industries to weaken them.
- Most of the industries were closed and food production declined. European Powers found themselves in **financial crisis** since much of their financial resources were exhausted during the war.
- As a result, **Britain, France** and **Germany** increased **debts.** Therefore, they resorted to printing money. This trend **created inflation** hence thousands people became paupers (very poor person).
- Europe was the financier of the world until the First World War (WW1). After the First World War she became the borrower.
- This new situation **enabled America** to be the **financial giant**. She paid back her debts to Europe and became the principal lender. Particularly, Britain benefited from American loan.

iii) Political Effects or Results

- Politically, the war brought about the collapse of governments. For instance, **in Russia**, there were **two Revolutions in 1917.** The first swept the **Tsarist regime** and the emergence of the **provisional government.**
- The provisional government was itself overthrown in the **Bolshevik Revolution in November, 1917.**
- **Kaiser William II** abdicated (giving up by a King or Queen) in November, 1918, in the face of defeat and fled to Germany. This led to the establishment of the Weimar Republic.

- Then, Austria-Hungry broke up into two sovereign states; Austria and Hungry. The breakup of the empire marked the end of the Hapsburgs. In a word, the First World War changed the political face of Europe.

WOODRAW WILSON'S FORTEEN (14) POINTS OR THE PEACE TREATY OF PARIS 1919

- To end the First World War in 1914-1918, a Peace Treaty had to be signed. It was called the **Peace Treaty of Paris** but it was negotiated as a series of separate treaties named after places near Paris.
- In January, 1918, World War was still raging. **Woodraw Wilson**, the then President of America had drawn up a series of proposals known as the Fourteen (14) Points. These points outlined the Woodraw's goal for just lasting peace with the help of **Lloyd George** (Britain) and **George Clemenceau** (France).
- Woodraw was an idealist who wanted lenient and lasting peace through democracy worldwide. His main objectives included;
    - **a)** The establishment of the League of Nations
    - **b)** The democratic of self-determination of the oppressed peoples

Therefore, the Fourteen (14) points drawn by Wilson were;

i. Ending the secret treaties.
ii. Agreeing to freedom of the seas or free trade between states.
iii. Removing economic barriers to trade.
iv. Reducing the size of the national armies and navies.
v. Adjusting the colonial claims with fairness.
vi. Germany evacuation of Russian Land.
vii. Liberation of France and restoration of Alsace-Lorraine.
viii. Restoration of the Belgium state.
ix. Adjustments of Italian frontiers on the basis of nationality.
x. Self-government for the people of Austria-Hungry.
xi. Evacuation of Romania, Serbia, Montenegro and granting Serbia access to the sea.
xii. Self-government for the non-Turkish empire and the permanent opening of the strait Dardanelles.
xiii. An independent Poland with access to the sea.
xiv. A general association of nations to preserve international peace.

- However, the sixth (6^{th}) through the thirteenth (13^{th}) points were specific suggestions on changing national borders and creating new nations. Wilson's guiding idea in these points was **self-determination** (allowing people to decide for themselves under what government they wished to live).
- Finally, the fourteenth (14^{th}) point proposed the **"general association of nations"** that would protect "**the great and small states".** To Wilson, this was the most important point. He hoped for an organisation that would keep a peace by encouraging its members through negotiation.
- As such, **Czechoslovakia** received **Hultschin, Belgium** received **Eupen** and **Malmedy, Denmark** received **Schleswig, Rhineland** was **demilitarised** on the west between France and Germany and Poland received West Prussia and Silesia.

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

- Covenant means an **agreement.** The League of Nations Covenant was included in the **Peace Treaty of Paris.**
- It was formed in April, 1919 with President **Woodrow Wilson** as a leading member and designer. He chaired the first meeting in Paris in 1920. The Headquarters was in the **Palais Wilson** in **Geneva, Switzerland.**

a) Aims of the League of Nations

The following were the aims of the League of Nations;

- To promote international **cooperation** and achieve international **peace** and **security**
- To guarantee security and independence to fellow members
- To disarm nations so as to ensure peace and national security
- To improve the living and working conditions of people in all parts of the world to provide machinery through which its aims can be achieved.

b) Organs of the League of Nations

The League of Nations had the following organs;

i. The General Assembly (International Parliament)
ii. The League Council (Police Force) or Executive
iii. The Secretariat
iv. The Permanent Court of International Justice
v. The Mandate Council

i. The General Assembly (International Parliament)

- It was made up of the Permanent members (**Britain, France, Italy** and **Japan**) and temporary members.
- It was used for debating, voting with each member given one vote, admitting new members of the council, electing temporary members of the council.
- It had powers to make decisions unanimously

ii. The League Council or Police Force or Executive

- It was made up of four (4) permanent members and was elected by the Assembly.
- It met four (4) times a year and its purpose was to recommend a ceasefire or sanctions and to intervene on the offended side with arms as the last resort.
- The Council heard and considered disputes from member states and advised the Assembly on the action to take.

iii. The Secretariat

- It was under the control of the General Assembly but headed by the Secretary General.
- It consisted of the civil service of the League of Nations. It did all the civil service work of the League of Nations e.g. preparing reports, keeping records, seeing to it that lawyers, teachers, nurses, secretaries etc. were doing their work, sending notices, remainders and recommendations.
- It looked after specialised agencies like Health, Disarmament, Economic and Education.
- It was the most important Data Bank for the League of Nations.

iv. The Permanent Count of International Justice

- It was intended to settle disputes between members peacefully. It was based in **Hague** in Holland or Netherlands.

Duties of the Permanent Court of International Justice

- To make a decision when there was a dispute between nations
- To give advice to the council or Assembly on request
- To interpret international treaties and conventions. It had 15 judges from different parts of the world.

v. The Mandate Council or League Council

- It looked at the future of the former German colonies. Britain and France ruled the mandate states according to the interest of the people of that nation not their own interest.

- It looked at various committees such as WHO, ILO Child welfare, slavery, refugees and disarmament.

c. The Successes of the League of Nations

These were;

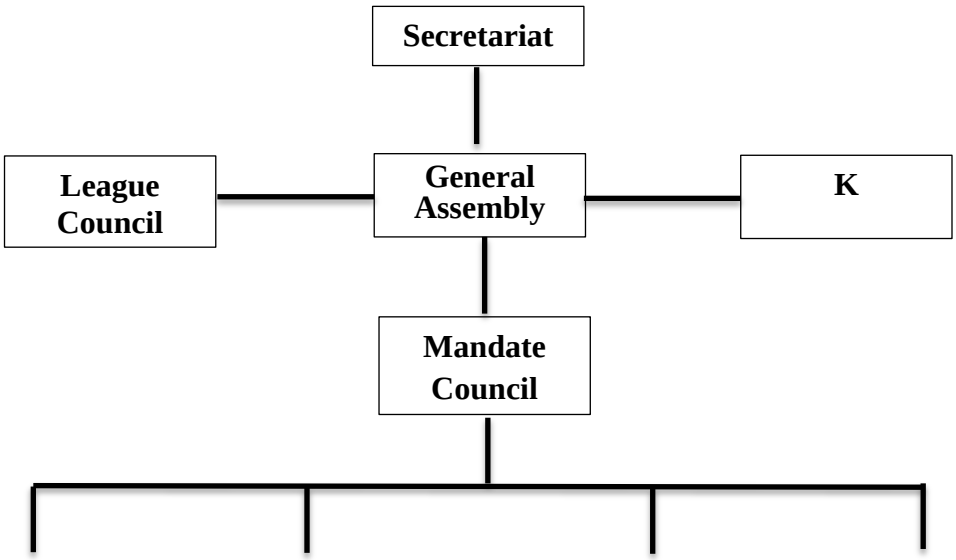
- The repatriation of war prisoners on exchange basis after the First World War
- It looked after the welfare of the refugees
- It organised injuries and sickness benefits for the workers
- It organised trade unions of workers and old age pensions
- It controlled the spread of diseases, education and wipe out ignorance and poverty
- Wooing big powers into the League of Nations to give it its importance
- Trying to maintain **peace** by settling disputes and setting up boundaries

d. The Weakness of the League of Nations

- U.S.A had nothing to do with the League of Nations although it was created by their President (**Wilson Woodrow**).
- The League had no army on its own with which to enforce the sanctions.
- The big powers left the League when their services were needed e.g. Japan in 1933, Russia was expelled in 1939, Italy in 1936 and Germany in 1933.
- The League of Nations was born out of wars hence there was confusions.
- The failure of disarmament conference of the world (1932-33) under the League led to the withdrawal of Germany from the League of Nations.
- **Britain** and **France** abandoned the League in face aggressive states. Absence of U.S.A and USSR from the League made it look Eurocentric in nature instead of being international organ.

Sample Questions

Study the chart below and answer the following questions below;



i. State **four (4)** functions of the League of Nations.....

ii. Which named organ of the League of Nations has the permanent members……

iii. Which organ of the League of Nations is also referred to as "Police Force"……..

iv. When was the League of Nations formed……

v. Name the organ of the League of Nations responsible for keeping records……

vi. Which organ of the League of Nations looks at various committees such as WHO, ILO, Refugees, disarmament……..

vii. Name the organ marked **k** responsible for making decisions when there was a dispute between nations……

viii. Which organ of the League of Nations is also referred to as "the Parliament"……

ix. Name the **two (2)** countries that ruled the mandate states (former Germany colonies) according to the interest of the people……

x. State **one** success and **one** weakness of the League of Nations……
……
……

THE PARIS CONFERENCE AND VERSAILLES PEACE TREATY

The Paris Peace Conference

- This was the peace conferences held in Paris in January 1919 to restore peace in the world and to mark the final end of the World War I. The conference was summoned by the then President of America **Woodrow Wilson** and it was represented by **Lloyd George (Britain)** and **George Clemenceau (France).** The conference was held in Paris, the French Capital and it was chaired by George Clemenceau. The Peace Treaty of Paris gave birth to the League of Nations.
- After several months of negotiations, the Paris Peace makers came up with five (5) treaties that were signed with defeated powers. These were;
    - **i.** The Versailles Treaty with Germany on 28th June, 1919
    - **ii.** The Treaty of St. German with Austria in September, 1919
    - **iii.** The Treaty of Nevilly with Bulgaria in November, 1919
    - **iv.** The Treaty of Trianon with Hungary in January, 1920 and
    - **v.** The Treaty of Sevres with Turkey in August 1920 and later revised into the Lausanne Treaty in 1923.
- However, of the five (5) treaties signed, it was the Treaty of Versailles that was the most significant.

The Versailles Treaty June 1919

- The Treaty of Versailles was the most significant treaty of all the five (5) treaties that were signed during the post war settlement. It was signed between the **Allied powers** (Britain, France and USA) and **Germany** in the **Hall of Mirrors at Versailles in France** on 28th June 1919, the same place where the **Germany** Empire was proclaimed in 1871.

The aims of the treaty were;

- To stop Germany aggression
- To reduce Germany arms production
- To redraw the map of Europe and
- To maintain international peace

Results of the Versailles Treaty

By the Versailles Treaty, Germany was declared guilty of provoking the war. Therefore, she was required to;

- To pay war reparations and the total cost of damage done to other powers to be paid in instalments in form of cash and other kinds such as cattle, ships, timber, coal etc.
- Germany professional army was limited to 100,000 men and she surrendered nearly all her fleet and air force
- Germany war planes and sub-marines were destroyed and she was to suffer an army of occupation for fifteen (15) years
- Germany lost her overseas colonies to Allied Powers
- The union of Germany and Austria was forbidden
- Germany surrendered her **rich mineral** province of **Alsace and Lorraine** to France
- The **Saar mineralised zone** was placed under the administration of the League of Nations for 15 years
- The largely German city of **Danzig** became a free city under the protection of the League of Nations
- In the east, Poland received parts of **West Prussia** and **Silesia** from Germany
- **Czechoslovakia** received the **Hultschin district** from Germany
- **Denmark** received northern **Schleswig**
- **Belgium** received **Eupen** and **Malmedy**
- The **Rhineland** was demilitarised i.e. no Germany forces were permitted there
- Kaiser William II was handed over for trial by special council at **Hague**

In a nutshell, the terms of the Versailles Treaty dictated by the Allied powers to Germany were so severe and unfair. It left the Germans bitter and left them organising for revenge.

Sample Questions

i. Name the association of nations which was formed as a result of Versailles Conference……

ii. Name the American President behind the idea of this association of nations……

iii. When was this association of nations formally established……

iv. Where was its Headquarters……

v. Mention the **three (3)** aims of the Association of Nations……
……
……

vi. Name the **two (2)** countries which were excluded from the League of Nations as members……

vii. Give **one (1)** reason why U.S.A was not a member of this association……
……

viii. Mention **three (3)** treaties that were signed with the defeated nations as the result of the Peace Treaty of Paris……

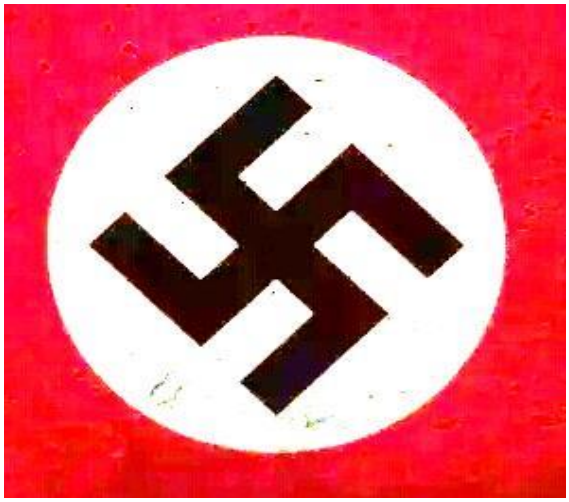
THE RISE OF ADOLF HITLER AND THE NAZI PARTY

a) Background to Hitler

- Adolf Hitler was born in **Branau** a small town in Austria-Hungary in **1889.** His father was a junior customs officer.
- Hitler's performance at school was very poor so in **1906** he moved to **Vienna,** the capital. He wanted to enter the Art Academy but he was unsuccessful. Therefore, he lived in poverty for four (4) unhappy and lonely years. As a result, he resorted to selling **paintings** and **postcards.** It was during this time that he developed hatred on the **Jews** and **slaves.**
- When the First World War broke in 1914, he joined the German army. He fought bravely, and rose to the rank of corporal. He was seriously wounded in combat towards the end of the war.
- The harsh terms imposed by the Treaty of Versailles that ended the World War I soon wrecked the Germany economy and created a reservoir of resentment that helped bring Adolf Hitler to power in the early 1930s. The treaty also imposed the massive war reparations that plunged the German economy into chaos (problems).
- Therefore, after the World War I, Hitler joined the many discontented, jobless ex-soldiers, who formed the **German Workers Party** in September, **1919.** The name was later changed to **National Socialist Workers Party** commonly known as the **NAZI Party** in 1920.
- Hitler became party leader. As a party leader, he talked of the Jews whom he accused of depriving the German people of wealth.
- Hitler underscored the need to crush communism and to revise the Treaty of Versailles which he condemned. He further condemned the German leaders who accepted the Treaty of Versailles as **"the November Criminals".**

b) The NAZI Party

- Between **1924** and **1929** the NAZI party grew rapidly. It adopted anti-democracy for its policy, **Swastika** as its symbol, the **Sturmbteilung** or **storm troopers** for street fighting and the **Schuts Staffel** who was Hitler's bodyguard. The word Swastika comes from the **Sanskrit Svastika,** which means **"good fortune"** or **"well –being".**
- The members of this group wore **Brown Shirts** and **Black Boots.** The secret Police, the youth wing and the propaganda wing which was under Paul Joseph Goebbels were created.
- Below is the Swastika the symbol of the NAZI party



Swastika

c) The Beer Hall Putsch

- In November, 1923, Hitler attempted to seize power in Munich during the French occupation of the **Ruhr** but the coup failed. That act, though unsuccessful, brought Hitler into Political Limelight.
- Hitler was tried and imprisoned for five (5) years of which he served only nine (9) months. But the period in prison accorded him the chance to write a Book entitled **Mein Kampf (my struggle).**

- In March 1929, **Erich Ludendorff** represented the NAZI Party in the Presidential elections. He was the only candidate to poll fewer than a million votes. The battles on the streets grew increasingly violent.
- After the **Rotfront** interrupted a speech by Hitler, the **storm troopers** marched into streets of Nuremberg and killed two (2) bystanders. In a tit-for-tat action, the storm troopers stormed a Rotfront meeting on 25th August 1929 and days later the Berlin headquarters of the **Communist Party of Germany (KPD)** itself**.**
- The German referendum of 1929 was important as it gained the NAZI Party recognition and credibility it never had before.
- In the elections of 31st July, 1932 the NAZI vote almost doubled. The party won 230 out of the 583 seats. In the Presidential poll, although Hitler lost to Hindenburg, he lost impressively. The NAZI became the largest Party in the **Reichstag (**the lower house of Parliament of Germany during the second Reich-Reich-Germany state or Empire**),** with more than 230 seats out of 608 seats.

- Below is the picture of the Reichstag

Reichstag

- The NAZI and the communists met the Reichstag to pass a vote of no confidence in the government. This enabled fresh elections to be held in November, 1932. **Hitler** was appointed **Chancellor** and **Papen** became **Vice Chancellor** on 30th January, 1933.
- However, the coalition government organised fresh elections within five (5) weeks. During the campaign, there were clashes between the NAZIs and the Communists.
- A week before the elections, the Reichstag was burned down. The Reichstag caught fire on 27th February, 1933. The causes are still disputed, but Hitler seized the opportunity to consolidate the Nazi's power through the Reichstag Fire Decree. However, the government claimed that the fire was a signal for the beginning of the communist uprising. Therefore, the communist party was banned and their leaders were arrested.
- Hitler wanted absolute power. On 25th March, 1933 the **Catholic Centre Party** and the **National People's Party (NPP)** joined the NAZI Party.

c) Hitler's Domestic/Home Policy

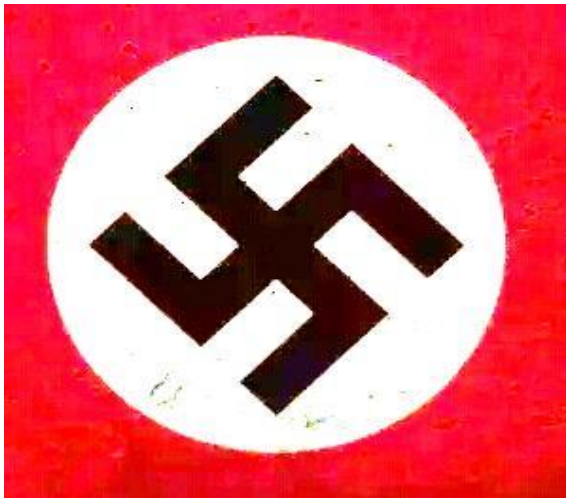
- When Hindenburg died in August 1934, Hitler took chance to campaign for the post of President. He won the election and combined the posts of **President** and **Chancellor** into one (1) called the **Fuhrer** which means **"Leader".**
- Therefore, Hitler and the Nazi Party imposed control on all aspects of German life; Politically, Strikes, Educationally, Economically and persecuted the Jews.

- **Politically,** all the parties were banned except for the Nazi Party. German became a **One Party State.**
- **Trade Unions** were banned or abolished, the union leaders were arrested, the union property confiscated and all the workers were compelled (forced) to join the **Nazi-Controlled Labour Front.** The Nazi used the Labour Front to control the industry.
- **Strikes** were made illegal and wages were fixed. The freedom of speech, press, worship and association were also made illegal.
- **Educational** was revised with text books re-written to suit the Nazi **ideology** (set of Political beliefs). The purpose of education was to create the Nazis. For example, in History pupils were taught that Germany army had been stabbed in the back by the Weimar Politicians. In Biology, they were taught that Germans were members of the **Aryan Race** and superior to all other races. Education for girls was preparation for being perfect mothers and housewives.
- **Economically,** Hitler put job-creation as one of the priorities. He scored high so far as economy was concerned. When he was appointed chancellor, there were 6 million unemployed Germans but 1936, he created 5 million jobs.
- Industries and Factories expanded thereby ending the unemployment problems. Economic life was controlled such that by 1939, Germany was short of Labour (people to work in industries).
- Hitler put into consideration the **VW Car or Volkswagen** (people's car) which made transport problems easy to any German common people. As such, Germans supported him as he was the answer to their problems.
- Germany became self-sufficient.
- **The Jews** were persecuted. All the Jewish teachers or those perceived to be anti-Nazi lost their jobs. The jobs were redistributed to Nazi Party Cadres. Party membership was a key to appointments and not qualifications.
- Hitler also passed the **November Glass** and the **Nuremberg Laws** which prevented the Jews from entering the Professions, Universities and marrying non-Jews. The Jews were to be Businessmen only. They were beaten up, driven out of offices, stoned, robbed, murdered, tortured and their business taken by Germans. The treatment became known as Hitler's crimes.

In a nutshell, Hitler's Domestic Policy touched areas such as Political, Education, Economic and the Jews persecution. Despite being a dictator, he scored a number of successes more especially where the economy was concern.

Samples Questions

Study the picture below and answer the questions that follow



Questions

i. What name was given to the above symbol in Germany as from 1923……

ii. Name the Political Party that was associated with this symbol in Germany……

iii. Name the Leader of the Political Party that used this symbol……

iv. Give **two (2)** reasons why the Political Party that used this symbol became popular in 1929……

v. State **one (1)** reason why Hitler hated the Jews……
……
……

Sample Questions 2

i. Explain **two** problems in Germany between 1929 and 1933 that made Hitler' rise to power easy…….

ii. Which government faced the problems mentioned between 1923 and 1933 which Hitler took advantage of…….

iii. State **two** of Hitler's aims in foreign Policy……

iv. What title was given to Hitler when he combined the positions of President and Chancellor……

v. What Book did Hitler write while in Prison……

HITLER'S FOREIGN POLICY 1933-1939

- Germany tested the bitterness and unfairness of the Versailles Treaty dictated on her by the victorious power, Adolf Hitler therefore came up with aims to re-unify all Germans across Europe.

a) Aims in Hitler's Foreign Policy

- The guiding philosophy of Hitler's foreign policy was clearly enunciated in his Book, **Mein Kampf.** His main objective was to create a new powerful Reich. To achieve this, Hitler had four (4) aims. The following were the aims;
  - Hitler wanted to abolish the Treaty of Versailles which all the Germans resented so much
  - Hitler intended to acquire **Lebensraum (living space)** for German people
  - Hitler wanted to restore the Germany's armed strength and
  - Hitler wanted to annex all areas in which the people spoke German (in other words, he wanted to pursue pan-Germanism to its logical end)

b) How Hitler Achieved his Aims

- Hitler achieved his aims through diplomacy, or, if necessary, by war. He made a number of moves in the implementation of his foreign policy. Below are the ways in which Hitler achieved his aims;

i. Hitler with Germany withdrew from the disarmament conference which started in Geneva in 1932 and from the League of Nations in 1932. He renounced the disarmament clause of the Treaty of Versailles so as to bring all areas in which the people were Germany. Hitler wanted to achieve this by force.

ii. **Territorial Losses:** In 1935, Hitler reverted to Germany the **Saar Coalfields** which was given to France. As a result, Hitler announced the

beginning of the Germany re-armament. In the same year, Hitler occupied the Rhineland

iii. Germany under Hitler, Italy under Mussolini and Japan under Hiro Hirto formed an alliance in 1936 to oppose **communism** from spreading and to ignore sanctions imposed on them by the Treaty of Versailles and the League of Nations. This alliance was called the **Berlin-Rome-Tokyo Axis.**

- **Germany, Italy** and **Japan** agreed to help each other if any of them was attacked by any power outside their alliance. They also agreed to help each other in matters of foreign policy.
- In 1936, Hitler invaded Austria and incorporated it into the third Germany Reich. The League of Nations could not protect Austria. After **successful annexation** of Austria, Hitler's next move was **Czechoslovakia.** Hitler's excuse was that there were three (3) million Germans living in the **Sudeten region** who found themselves in Czechoslovakia contrary to one of Wilson's 14 Points, **Self Determination.**
- Hitler took advantage of the complaints by the Germans in Sudeten region of Czechoslovakia to accuse the Czech republic of mistreating the Germans. Therefore, a series of negotiations involving **Britain, France, Italy** and **Germany** began in 1938. This resulted into the formation of the **Munich Pact** in 1938. By the Munich Pact, Germany was allowed to take over **Sudeten only** but in 1939, the Germany troops marched into Czechoslovakia and annexed the whole Czechoslovakia thus nullifying the Munich Pact. This was an insult to other European powers and hence contributed to the World War II.
- In May, 1939 Germany and Italy signed the **Pact of Steel.** By this treaty, Germany and Italy powers agreed to cooperate in the event of war.
- Furthermore, Hitler wanted to return the **Danzig city** to Germany from Poland and to unify the Germans in Polish Corridor. He therefore, cancelled the **Non-Aggression Pact** with Poland and now decided to re-invade her. However, Hitler was much aware that an attack on Poland would mean a war with Britain, France and Russia. As a result, Hitler signed the non-aggression pact with Russia to gain Russia's support.
- On 1st September, 1939, Germany under Hitler invaded Poland on land and in the air. Hitler was warned by Britain and France to stop the move but due to Russia's support, Germany rejected. Therefore, on the 3rd of September, 1939, Britain and France declared war on Germany with Russia in support of Germany thus the beginning of the **World War II.**

- **In a nutshell**, Hitler was violent, used force and he was aggressive. He died in 1945 at the age of 56 and his body was burnt as a result of his instructions before death. Thereafter, the German troops surrendered thus on 8th May, 1945 Germany involvement in the war came to an end.

Sample Questions

i. Which **three (3)** countries signed the Berlin-Rome-Tokyo Axis……

ii. Which **two (2)** countries signed the Rome-Berlin Axis……

iii. Name the countries that signed the Munich Pact……

iv. Which city did Hitler want to return to Germany from Poland……

THE RISE OF BENITO MUSSOLINI AND FASCISM IN ITALY

a) Background of Mussolini

- Benito Mussolini was born in 1883. He was a son of **Blacksmith.** Out of his hatred of the Socialist Party, in March 1919, Mussolini founded the **National Fascist Party** in Milan City of Italy.
- The party was mostly composed of people from middle class, frustrated jobless youths, land owners and industrialists who shared a common hatred for Socialism.

b) Background of FASCISM and Mussolini

- The word FASCISM comes from a Latin word Fasces which means a bundle of rods surrounding an axe.
- During the post-war period, Fascism was used in Italy to refer to the squad organised to fight Socialism and Communism by violence.
- The Fascist group in Italy presented themselves to be a symbol of Authority and Strength for the purpose of making Italy gains her place of pride in Europe. It was a style of Politics that was characterised by personal dictatorship of Benito Mussolini, Political intolerance, party rule, violence and terror.

c) Mussolini's Domestic Policy

- In office, Mussolini seized the chance to implement his policies to actualise the vision for Fascist Italy. These were;
  - **i.** Political measures and
  - **ii.** Economic measure

i. Political Measures

- Politically Mussolini introduced Dictatorship. Mussolini banned other Political parties. He introduced new electoral law which banned general elections but appointed people to be his deputies where people would only approve the appointments of his deputies.
- Mussolini Vanished the Parliament and created two (2) Fascists bodies the **Fascist Grand Council** and **Militia** paid by the party state.

- He murdered **Matteoti the Socialist leader in 1924** because he was **against the new electoral law**. His death was used to impose censorship and other measures.
- In 1929 Mussolini he signed a **Lateran Treaty** with the Pope.

Terms of the Lateran Treaty

- By the Lateran Treaty, the Pope recognised Mussolini as a ruler of Italy
- In return, Mussolini gave away the whole **Vatican City** of Rome to the Pope as the Headquarters of Roman Catholic Church throughout the Catholism became the state religion.
- Mussolini formed a Coalition government with the Liberal Party in 1922 but kept the important posts of Prime Minister, Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Foreign Affairs for himself.

ii. Economic Measures

- Mussolini economic policy had three (3) main objectives. These were;
  - He wanted to consolidate the Political system
  - To make Italy economically sufficient and
  - To build a strong economic based for Italy's military might.

To achieve the above the above objectives, Mussolini fought three (3) Battles. These are;

i. Battle of the Lira
ii. Battle of the Grain
iii. Battle of the Birth

i. Battle of the Lira

- Mussolini declared the Battle of the Lira in 1925 which addressed the **Italian currency.**

Aims of the Battle of the Lira

- To fix the Lira at 90 to a pound

- To reduce inflation
- To confirm the image of Fascism bringing stability to Italy
- To the world that the Lira and Italy was great

ii. The Battle of the Grain

- In 1926, Mussolini declared the Battle of the Grain.

Aims of the Battle of the Grain

- To increase grain production
- To make Italy self-sufficient in wheat

- In view of this, peasant farmers were given land, were also trained in new methods of farming, Loans were given, government provided markets, the government also provided good prices for produces and outstanding farmers were honoured at the annual ceremony.

iii. The Battle of Births

- Mussolini also declared the Battle of Births

Aims of the Battle of Birth

- He encouraged people to have many children so as to increase the Population
- The Battle of Birth also for the provision of soldiers

- In view of this, prolific mothers were rewarded, wedding loans were given and Bachelors were heavily taxed.
- As the number of children increased, tax was reduced. As a result, the population increased though it did not meet its target.

- Besides the three (3) Battles, Mussolini did the following;

Employment

- Mussolini created employment by expanding old factories and industries, and establishing new ones.

Transport

- Mussolini made transport easy by improving roads, shipping ports and harbours.

Electricity

- Mussolini introduced hydro-electricity and telecommunication

Education

- Educationally, Books were re-written and teaching materials revised the Fascist propaganda.

MUSSOLINI'S FOREIGN POLICY

- After his successful domestic policy and consolidation of himself in power, Benito Mussolini embarked on implementing foreign ambitions.
- Mussolini's Foreign Policy led to the international tension which contributed to the outbreak of the World War II.

Aims of Mussolini's Foreign Policy

These were;

- To rebuild the Roman Empire by conquering land around the Mediterranean sea
- To revenge Italy's defeat by Ethiopia in the famous Battle of Adowa 1896
- To make Italy the world power through the creation of a strong arm
- To revisit the Versailles Treaty and get what was due to Italy

Sample Questions

i. Name the Political Party that was formed by Mussolini……**Fascist Party**

ii. Name the socialist Leader was murdered by Mussolini……**Matteoti**

iii. What treaty did Mussolini sign with the Pope……**the Lateran Treaty**

iv. Mention any **two (2) terms** of the Treaty which was signed with Mussolini and the pope……**Mussolini gave out the Vatican city of Rome to the Pope and the Pope recognised Mussolini as the ruler**

v. Mention **three (3)** Battles that Mussolini fought economically in Italy……**Battle of the Birth, Battle of the Lira (currency) and the Battle of the Grain.**

vi. Mention any **three (3)** aims of Mussolini's Foreign Policy……
To rebuild the Roman Empire by conquering land around the Mediterranean sea, To revenge Italy's defeat by Ethiopia in the famous Battle of Adowa 1896, To make Italy the world power through the creation of a strong arm and **To revisit the Versailles Treaty and get what was due to Italy**

THE UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION (U.N.O)

- The idea of forming the United Nations stemmed from the top secret meeting which was held between **Winston Churchill,** the Prime Minister of Britain, and **Franklin Roosevelt,** the President of the United States of America (U.S.A) on the ship on the Atlantic Ocean hence the term **Atlantic Charter** of **1941.**
- The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the **future of the world** at the end of World War II since the League of Nations was dissolved on September 1st 1939
- The idea was prompted by the discovery of the **atomic bomb** by U.S.A which was used on Japan and it caused untold misery. A detailed plan was finally made in 1943 during the Moscow Meeting based on the Atlantic Charter and aims of the League of Nations.
- Before signing the charter, a lot of preparatory work had to be done in form of conferences to iron out a few things so that the new world organisation could be more permanent than the League of Nations.
- After all these meetings, the charter was signed by five (5) original nations on June 26th 1945. Thereafter, it came into effect on 24th October, 1945 with its new Headquarters in **New York,** U.S.A.

a. Original Members of the UNO (The Big Five)

These were;

i. Great Britain

ii. United States of America U.S.A

iii. Union of Soviet Socialists Republic (USSR)

iv. China and

v. France

b. Aims of the United Nations

These were;

- To maintain International **peace** and **security**
- To maintain friendly relations among nations

- To guarantee **security** and **independence** of the fellow members
- To encourage International **co-operation**
- To **disarm** its members for national and International safety

c. Organs of the United Nations Organisation

The six (6) organs of the United Nations Organisations are;

i. The UN General Assembly

ii. The UN Security Council

iii. The UN Secretariat

iv. The UN Economic and Social Council

v. The Trusteeship Council

vi. The International Court of Justice

i. The UN General Assembly

- It is composed of representatives of all member states, each of which has one (1) vote. The expression of opinion and its resolutions are reached by two-thirds (2/3) majority
- The Committee meets once in a year but emergency meetings can be held as circumstances dictate upon giving three (3) months' notice.

Functions of the UN-General Assembly or Duties of the General Assembly

The following are the functions of UN General Assembly;

- to discuss issues concerned with International peace and security
- to admit new members to the UN, after the approval by both the Security Council and the Assembly
- to consider and approve the United Nations budget
- to elect members of the U.N.O on the various subsidiary organisation such as Economical and Social Council

- to elect the non-permanent of the Security Council

However, the official Languages are French, English, Chinese, Russian, Arabic and Spanish

ii. The UN-Security Council

- It is ranked as one the most important organ of the U.N.O. It is composed of 15 members, 10 of who are elected for two (2) terms, and five (5) are permanent members.
- The five (5) permanent members are **Britain, USSR (Russia), U.S.A, France** and **China.** These members have the right to vote.

Duties of the Security Council

The following are the duties of the Security Council;

- To maintain International peace and Security
- To impose economic sanctions
- To call for ceasefire
- To investigate any dispute or any situation that might lead to international friction
- To take military action against an aggressor
- To recommend to the General Assembly the appointments of the Secretary General, and elect the judges of the International Court together with the Assembly.

iii.The UN Secretariat

- It is headed by the Secretary General appointed by the General Assembly after the recommendations from the Security Council. An example of the UN Secretariat is Dag **Hammarskjold** from **Sweden 1951-1961** who died in Zambia.
- It is a very important organ of the UN

Duties of the UN Secretariat

The following are the duties of the UN Secretariat;

- It prepares UN reports
- It keeps financial accounts
- It sends out notices, remainders and recommendations to the member states
- It alerts the Security Council, through its Secretary General of all threats to International peace.
- It implements the decisions of the Security Council
- It translates the six (6) official languages of the U.N.O i.e. French, English, Chinese, Russian, Arabic and Spanish
- For example, the second Secretary General was **Dag Hammarskjold (**Sweden 1952-1961**)** who died in Ndola in the Copperbelt Province.

iv. The UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

- This is the only additional organ to the organisation of the League of Nations. Members are elected for a period of three (3) years.

Aims of Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

The following are the aims of ECOSOC;

- To make recommendations to the General Assembly as to how best to fight diseases, ignorance and poverty
- To coordinate and supervise the work of the specialised agencies and commissions e.g. FAO, WHO
- To promote human rights and fundamental freedoms for all

Specialised Agencies of ECOSOC

These are; IMF, WHO, UNESCO, FAO, ILO

v. The Trusteeship Council

- The Trusteeship Council is made up of five (5) permanent members of the Security Council i.e. China, France, Britain, U.S.A and Russia.
- It was the successor of the **Mandate Council** of the League of Nations.

Duties of Trusteeship

The following are the duties of the Trusteeship;

- It supervises the administration of the trustee territories
- Investigate any maladministration
- Present annual reports to the General Assembly over the administration of the territory
- To make recommendation e.g. for independence of the territory when it is ready like in case of Namibia
- To appoint commissions both temporary and permanent for easy administration and supervision of the territory

vi. The International Court of Justice

- The International Court of Justice is situated at **Hague** in the Netherlands (Holland). All members of the UN are parties to the International Court of Justice
- The court has 15 judges who are jointly chosen by General Assembly and the Security Council. They serve for nine (9) year term

Duties of the International Court of Justice

The following are the duties of the International Court of Justice;

- To make decisions where two (2) parties disputing request it
- To give advice to the council or General Assembly on request
- To interpret International treaties and conventions

d. Successes of the United Nations

The UNO scored some successes mainly in the fields of ECOSOC, Secretariat and Trusteeship Council. Below are some of them;

- Between 1946 to 1949, it helped Indonesia to gain independence
- In 1956 the UN managed to free South Korea from North Korea
- In 1956 it maintained peace between **Israel** and **Egypt** up to 1967. Israel had attacked Egypt because she was training and giving arms to Palestinian Guerrillas to carry out raids on Israel
- In 1964, it maintained order between the Greeks and Turks in Cyprus as well as managing to calm the situation down
- The world Health Organisation (WHO) managed to eradicate small pox from all over the world.

e. Failures of the United Nations

The following were the failures of the UNO;

- From 1950 to 1953, the UN failed to unite South and North Korea. By 1989, South was still under USA and North Korea under Russia
- In 1946, Iran complained that Russia's troops were involving themselves in Iran internal affairs. The UN failed to stop Russia
- In 1960, Moise Tshombe was controlling Katanga Province of Congo DR under Patrice Lumumba. U.N.O Secretary General **Dag Hammarskjold** was killed while on a peace mission in a plane crash in **Ndola,** Copperbelt Province of Zambia. By 1964, the peace keeping force ran out of money and was withdrawn.
- In 1956, the Soviet troops invaded Hungry to crash a revolt against soviet control of the country. The UN failed to intervene#
- In 1963, a civil war erupted between the Greek and Turkish communities in Cyprus. The UN sent peace keepers for 10 years but failed to stop violence in 1974
- South Africa rejected UN authority in Namibia until in 1988 when it agreed to UNO supervised elections.

Sample Questions

a) Study the table below and answer the questions that follow.

United Nations (UN) Secretary Generals

Secretary General	**Nationality**	**Dates of Office**
Trygve Halvdan Lie	Norwegian	1964-1953
Dag Hammerskjold	Swedish	1953-1961
U Thant	Burnese	1962-1971
Kurt Waldheim	Austrillia	1972-1981
Javier Perez de Cueller	Peruvian	1982-1991
Boutros Boutros Ghali	**……**	1992-1996
Koffi Annan	**……**	1997-2006
……..	South Korean	2007-2017

Questions

i. Which organ of the United Nations does the Secretary General Head……..

ii. State **two (2)** functions of the organ mentioned above in question (i)……
……

iii. For how long did Kurt Waldheim stay in office as the UN Secretary General……..

iv. Name **two (2)** African countries whose citizens worked as UN Secretary Generals……
……..

v. Which one of the UN Secretary Generals in the Table died in the plane crash in Zambia……

vi. Who was the Secretary General between 2007 and 2017……..

vii. From which country was Koffi Annan……

viii. From which country was Boutros Boutros Ghali.....

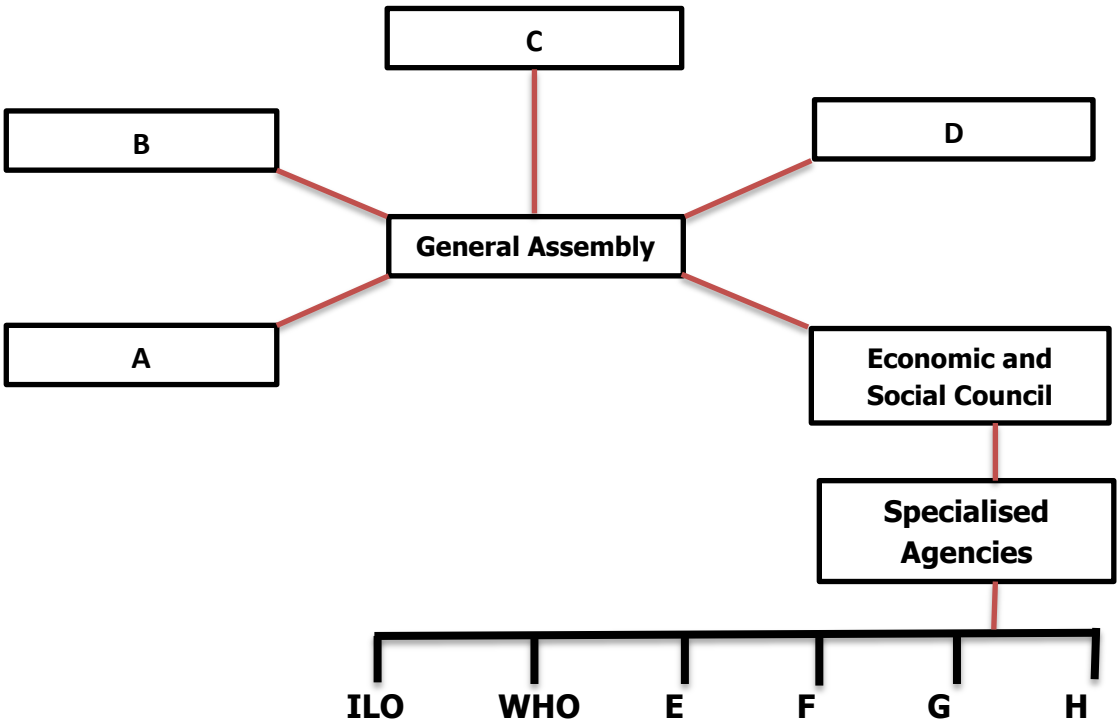
ix. Name the **two (2)** statesmen who were instrumental in the formation of the United Nations Organisation.....

x. Why was the meeting held by the two statesmen to discuss the future of the world after the second World War called the Atlantic Charter.....
.....

xi. Mention the **five (5)** original members of the United Nations Organisation.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

Sample Questions

b) Study the diagram below and answer the questions that follow



Questions

i. Name the organs of the United Nations Organisation (UNO) labelled **A, B, C** and **D**.....

ii. Mention **two (2)** functions of the General Assembly.....

iii. Name any **three (3)** specialised agencies labelled **E, F, G** and **H**……
……

iv. State the **two (2)** functions of "WHO".....

v. Name the Secretary General who died in a plane crash in Zambia……

Conclusion

I wish to state that I have prepared this material in the simplest form that may enable learners to understand and grasp the concepts of the Topics covered. I have also given the Sample Questions the learners may come across in an exam. It is hoped that the learners shall use the knowledge acquired in their daily lives as History is the study of the Past, the Present and the future.