**The Great War**

* The German’s developed the Schlieffen plan.
  + Invade thru undefended Belgium
    - UK declared war for this
  + Surround the French Army
  + Turn and defeat Russia
* The plan worked until France stopped Germany outside Paris
  + Germans retreat and set up defensive
  + Allies attack was butchered, they also dug in
  + Those lines would stay for 4 years

**Technology**

* Barbed wire, machine guns, and artillery made attacking suicidal.
  + Called going “over the top”
  + At Verdun and Somme, casualties were in the millions
* Both sides looked for advantages.
  + Poison gas is first used
  + Tanks created to protect soldiers
* Zeppelins and planes take the war to the sky

**Total war**

* Countries realized all resources needed to be funneled to war
  + Citizens were drafted to fight
  + Taxes raised and money barrowed
  + Rations were used to save resources
* Total war meant controlling public opinion:
  + Propaganda: Spreading of ideas to help or damage a cause
  + Censorship: limiting information available
* England stopped food from going to Germany. Germany began sinking all ships headed for the UK
  + Unrestricted submarine warfare

**Other Fronts**

* **Russia:** Poorly equipped, poorly trained soldiers repeatedly defeated by Germany
* **Austria-Hungary:** Repeatedly loses to Russia, needs help with Serbia
* **Italy:** Secretly joined the allies, needed to be saved against Austria-Hungary
* **Ottoman:** 
  + Cut supplies to Russia thru the Dardanelles
  + UK invades hoping to open another front but fail
  + Turks invade Russia and start Armenian Genocide\*
  + Lawrence of Arabian starts the Arab revolt and guerilla war

**Tides turn**

* **Russian Revolution:** war losses and corruption resulted in communist takeover, pulled out of the war
* Germany now has a one front war
* **US Enters the War:** Use sinking of Lusitania as excuse**,** really about…
  + Allies owe them money, things look bleak
  + Zimmerman telegraph: Offered Mexico back its land

**Victory at last**

* Allies, with American help were too much. Sign an armistice 1918
* Results
  + 38 Million casualties
  + Total Cost ~ $338 billion
  + Europe is destroyed