Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_

**7-4.1 U.S. Entry and the End of World War I**

**Guided Reading**

**Directions**: Use the passage below to complete the questions.

The entry of the United States into the war during the same year as Russia’s withdrawal had a major impact on the eventual Allied victory. The United States declared neutrality at the outbreak of the Great War. However, various factors challenged American neutrality and eventually led to the involvement of the United States in the war. The traditional trading partnership with Great Britain and the blockade of German ports by the British navy severely limited American trade with Germany. American businesses made loans to the Allies in order to continue trade. Public opinion was impacted by America’s traditional connection to the British. The German’s unrestricted use of the submarine affected public opinion against Germany and alienated President Wilson, who was incensed by the loss of innocent lives. The 1915 German U-boat’s sinking of the British passenger ship, the *Lusitania*, brought about sharp protests from President Wilson but did not bring the United States into the European war. Instead, Germany pledged to restrict their use of the submarine. Wilson campaigned for reelection in 1916 on the slogan that “he kept us out of the war.” The interception and publication by the British of Germany’s Zimmerman Telegram to Mexico, which offered Mexico a deal to gain land in America in return for their attack on the United States, negatively impacted American public opinion towards Germany. The decision of Germany to resume unrestricted submarine warfare in the spring of 1917 led to the sinking of United States merchant ships. These events, along with Wilson’s desire to “make the world safe for democracy” prompted Wilson to ask Congress to declared war on Germany in April of 1917. The American Expeditionary Force affected the course of the war by deflecting the last push of the Germans on the western front in France, and the armistice of November 11, 1918 ended the fighting between the Allies and the Central Powers.

1. The United States declared \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at the outbreak of the Great War.

2. What severely limited American trade with Germany?

3. What did American businesses do in order to continue trade with the Allied powers?

4. The \_\_\_\_\_\_ German U-boat’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the British passenger ship, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 brought about sharp protests from President Wilson but did not bring the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ into the

 European War.

5. What did the Zimmerman Telegram state?

6. When did the U.S. declare war on Germany?

7. What ended the fighting between the Allies and the Central powers?

**The End of the First World War**

**Directions:** Read the passage in the box below to answer the questions that follow.

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| World War One ended in November 1918. However, nobody called it ‘World War One’ at the time. How could they know that the effects of this war would cause another? It has been the most terrible war in history. Twenty million people had been killed, half of them in combat. Many millions more were injured. The war cost nearly 36 billion dollars. Towns and cities lay in ruins, good agricultural land was blasted and full of unexploded shells, railways, roads, factories, and bridges were destroyed. Few people believed that there would be another war after such death and destruction. In fact, it was called for a time, **‘The War to End All Wars’.**Europe was very different at the end of the war. In 1914, Russia Germany, and the Austro-Hungarian Empire were all ruled by Emperors. In 1917, Russia underwent a Revolution in which the Communists seized power and shot the Czar and his family. The Emperors of Germany and Austria-Hungary were also forced to flee, give up their thrones, and leave. At the start of the war, both Britain and France had been wealthy countries, but due to the cost of war, they were almost bankrupt by 1918. Although the war was over, a peace settlement had to be made. In 1919, the leaders of the victorious countries met in Paris to discuss this. They were dominated by the “Big Three” who were Georges Clemenceau of France, the American President, Woodrow Wilson, and David Lloyd George, Prime Minister of Britain. Germany was not invited to the peace conference.   |

**Questions**:

1. Complete the paragraph below by filling in the blanks.

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| In November 19\_\_, the first world war had finally come to an end. \_\_\_\_\_\_ Million men had been killed in the fighting and over \_\_\_\_\_ billion dollars had been spent. In G\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_- H \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Empire, the Emperors had fled and in Russia, the C\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ came to power. World War One was called the ‘War to \_\_\_\_\_ all \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_’.  |

2. Why was the first World War called the ‘War to End all Wars’?

3. What was the name of the British Prime Minister in 1919?

4. Which country was not invited to the peace conference in Paris?

5. How do you think the country mentioned in your last answer would feel about not being invited?

**German Reaction to the Cease Fire**

**Directions**: Use the reading and the source below to answer the questions that follow.

Many Germans were shocked when they hear the fighting was over. During the war, the German Government has practiced strict censorship and hadn’t told their people of defeats. In 1917, Germany had even defeated the Russian army. Many ordinary Germans believed that Germany was winning the war even in 1918.

On November 7, 1918, the French general Marshall Foch, received a small group of German generals at his headquarters in the Forest of Campiegne. They wanted an end to the war. Foch told them the Allied terms: Germas were to leave all occupied territory, to surrender their arms and warships, and withdraw all forces from west of the River Rhine. Marshall Foch gave the Germans 72 hours to decide their answer. He had it by the following day. On November 10th, the German Emperor fled. The next day, the new government signed the Armistice (or cease fire). Fighting stopped on all battlefronts at **11 O’Clock on the 11th of November 1918.**

Many German soldiers felt bitterly betrayed. They said ‘they had been stabbed in the back’ by the new government who they called **‘The November Criminals’**. Here is one typical reaction:

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| **Source B: Adolf Hitler, 1923** So it had all been in vain. In vain all the sacrifices and privations…in vain the hours in which with moral fear clutching at our hearts we nevertheless did our duty; in vain the deaths of two millions….had they died for this? So that a gang of wretched criminals could lay their hand on the Fatherland?  |

The author was Adolf Hitler, then a German soldier recovering his sight after having been gassed in the war. By the phrase ‘gang of wretched criminals’ he meant the new German Government and by ‘ Fatherland’ he meant Germany itself.

**Questions**:

1. Why were so many Germans surprised when Germany lost the war?

2. What were the terms of the cease-fire?

3. How long were the Germans given to make up their minds?

4. When and at what time did the fighting stop?

5. Look at Source B. Why did so many Germans feel bitter about the cease-fire?

6. Why did Adolf Hitler call the members of the German Government the **‘November Criminals’**?