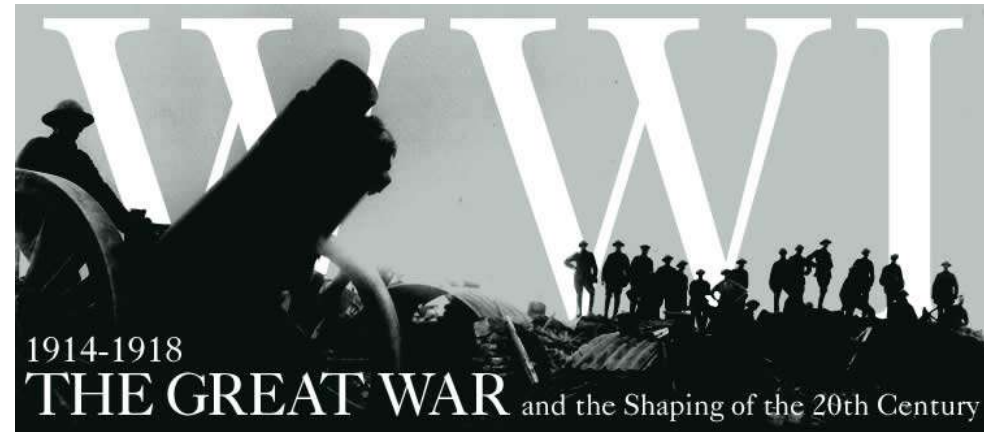


Describe U.S. involvement in World War I and post-World War I America.

The United States' entry into World War I came in April 1917, after two and a half years of efforts by President Woodrow Wilson to keep the United States neutral during World War I. The United States did their very best to ignore the fighting that was taking place in Europe. World War I began in 1914 when the Archduke Ferdinand of Austria Hungary was assassinated. Countries continued to join the war in support of their allies. The United States did not want to join the war.



Then on May 1, 1915 the Germans sunk the *Lusitania*, a passenger ship, killing 128 American citizens. The U.S. was outraged, but still did not join the war when Germany promised to not attack any more American ships. However, in 1917 the Germans began attacking more ships and the United States joined the Great War.

The war ended on November 11, 1918, when the Treaty of Versailles was signed. The war was over, but nobody really won and it was only a matter of time before the conflict continued.

Explain how German attacks on U.S. shipping during the war in Europe (1914-1917) ultimately led the U.S. to join the fight against Germany.

Several U.S. ships traveling to Britain were damaged or sunk by German mines, and, in February 1915, Germany announced unrestricted warfare against all ships, neutral or otherwise, that entered the war zone around Britain. One month later, Germany announced that a German cruiser had sunk the *William P. Frye*, a private American vessel. President Wilson was outraged, but the German government apologized, calling the attack an unfortunate mistake.

“The War to End all Wars”

Sinking of the Lusitania and concerns over safety of U.S. ships

The Lusitania Sinks: May 7, 1915

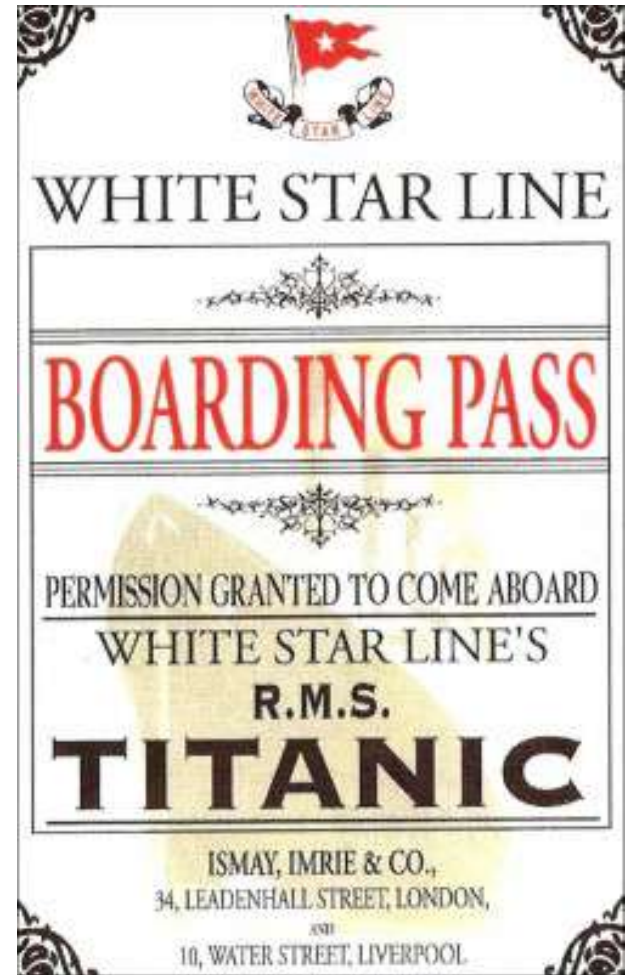
Lusitania received the first of a number of warnings from the Admiralty about U-boat activity off the south coast of Ireland . The captain of the Lusitania ignored the British Admiralty's recommendations, and at 2:12 p.m. on May 7 the 32,000-ton ship was hit by an exploding torpedo on its starboard side. The torpedo blast was followed by a larger explosion, probably of the ship's boilers, and the ship sank off the south coast of Ireland in less than 20 minutes.

It was revealed that the Lusitania was carrying about 173 tons of war munitions for Britain, which the Germans cited as further justification for the attack. The United States eventually protested the action, and Germany apologized and pledged to end unrestricted submarine warfare.

However, in November of that same year a U-boat sunk an Italian liner without warning, killing more than 270 people, including more than 25 Americans. Public opinion in the United States began to turn irrevocably against Germany.



The Titanic



RMS *Titanic* was a British passenger liner that sank in the North Atlantic Ocean in the early morning of 15 April 1912 after colliding with an iceberg during her maiden voyage from Southampton, UK to New York City, US. The sinking of *Titanic* caused the deaths of more than 1,500 people in one of the deadliest **peacetime** maritime disasters in modern history.

U.S. contributions to the war and the impact of the Treaty of Versailles in 1919

The contributions of the United States military to the Allied effort were decisive. Since the Russians decided to quit the war, the Germans were able to move many of their troops from the eastern front to the stalemate in the West. The seemingly infinite supply of fresh American soldiers countered this potential advantage and was demoralizing to the Germans. American soldiers entered the bloody trenches and by November 1918, the war was over.

Contributions to the war effort were not confined to the battlefield. The entire American economy was mobilized to win the war. From planting extra vegetables to keeping the furnace turned off, American civilians provided extra food and fuel to the war effort. The United States government engaged in a massive propaganda campaign to raise troops and money. Where dissent was apparent, it was stifled, prompting many to question whether American civil liberties were in jeopardy.

In the end, the war was won, but the peace was lost. The Treaty of Versailles as presented by President Wilson was rejected by the Senate. Two dangerous decades of political isolationism followed, only to end in an ever more cataclysmic war.

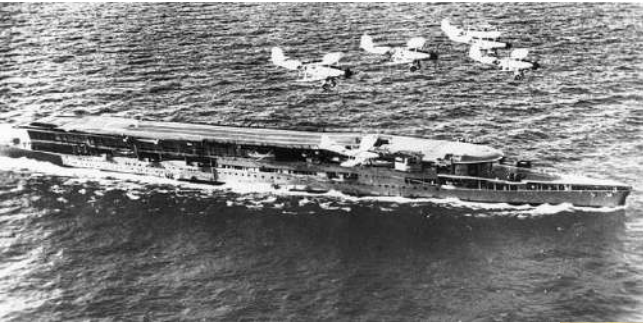
Treaty of Versailles



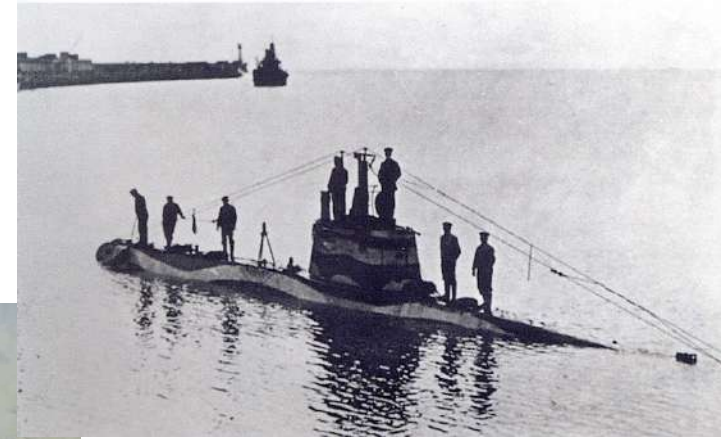
The **Treaty of Versailles** was one of the peace treaties at the end of World War I. It ended the state of war between Germany and the Allied Powers. It was signed on 28 June 1919, exactly five years after the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand. The other Central Powers on the German side of World War I were dealt with in separate treaties. Although the armistice, signed on 11 November 1918, ended the actual fighting, it took six months of negotiations at the Paris Peace Conference to conclude the peace treaty.

1. The treaty required Germany to accept blame for the war and to pay damages to the Allied nations.
2. President Wilson did not agree to this; he felt it was wrong to punish Germany.
3. The Treaty established the “League of Nations” which was an organization meant to settle disputes peacefully between nations
4. The Congress did not agree to the terms of the treaty.

This was the first war to include modern technologies
(including some in use today)



aircraft carrier



submarines (U-boats)



flamethrower



war planes



grenades



tank



poison gas



machine gun

The Armistice (end of fighting) for WWI happened at 11am, November 11, 1918.

Armistice Day

November 11th

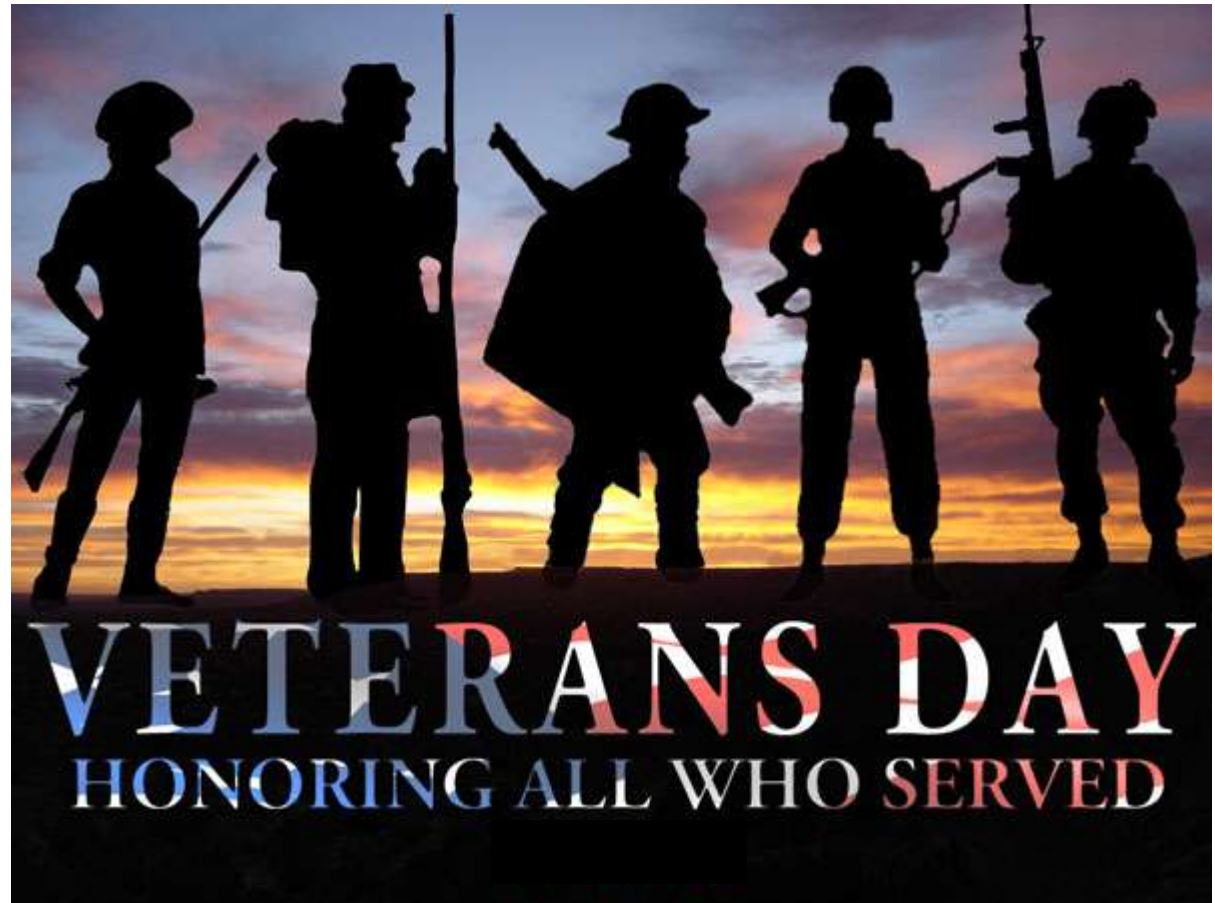


Or also known as the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month

Do you know what modern holiday is observed on this day?

It was later changed to Veterans day to celebrate the sacrifices of soldiers in all wars.

Remember to thank a veteran on Tuesday, November 11th.



Veterans Day is not to be confused with **Memorial Day**; Veterans Day celebrates the service of all U.S. military veterans, while Memorial Day is a day of remembering the men and women who *died* while serving.

Describe the cultural developments and individual contributions in the 1920s



Women enjoyed more freedoms than ever before.

Flappers wore their hair short and knee-length dresses.

Women took jobs, went to college, played sports, drove cars, and some even learned to fly airplanes

1920 – The 19th Amendment was ratified and gave women the right to vote.



the Roaring Twenties



For the first time, more Americans lived in cities than on farms. The nation's total wealth more than doubled between 1920 and 1929, and this economic growth swept many Americans into an affluent but unfamiliar "consumer society." People from coast to coast bought the same goods (thanks to nationwide advertising and the spread of chain stores), listened to the same music, did the same dances and even used the same slang!

The Birth of Mass Culture

During the 1920s, many Americans had extra money to spend, and they spent it on consumer goods such as ready-to-wear clothes and home appliances like electric refrigerators. In particular, they bought radios. The first commercial radio station in the U.S., Pittsburgh's KDKA, hit the airwaves in 1920; three years later there were more than 500 stations in the nation. By the end of the 1920s, there were radios in more than 12 million households. People also went to the movies: Historians estimate that, by the end of the decades, three-quarters of the American population visited a movie theater every week.

But the most important consumer product of the 1920s was the automobile. Low prices (the Ford Model T cost just \$260 in 1924) and generous credit made cars affordable luxuries at the beginning of the decade; by the end, they were practically necessities. In 1929 there was one car on the road for every five Americans. Meanwhile, an economy of automobiles was born: Businesses like service stations and motels sprang up to meet drivers' needs.

Describe the cultural developments and individual contributions of the Jazz Age

The Jazz Age

Cars also gave young people the freedom to go where they pleased and do what they wanted. What many young people wanted to do was dance: the Charleston, the cake walk, the black bottom, the flea hop. Jazz bands played at dance halls like the Savoy in New York City and the Aragon in Chicago; radio stations and phonograph records (100 million of which were sold in 1927 alone) carried their tunes to listeners across the nation. Some older people objected to jazz music's "vulgarity" and "depravity" (and the "moral disasters" it supposedly inspired), but many in the younger generation loved the freedom they felt on the dance floor.



[watch the Charleston](#)

(Louis Armstrong)



Was the most influential jazz musician of the time.

Describe the cultural developments and individual contributions the Harlem Renaissance



(Langston Hughes)

James Mercer Langston Hughes was an American poet, social activist, novelist, playwright, and columnist. He was one of the earliest innovators of the then-new literary art form called jazz poetry



The **Harlem Renaissance** was a cultural movement that spanned the 1920s. The Movement also included the new African-American cultural expressions across the urban areas in the Northeast and Midwest United States affected by the Great Migration (African American), of which Harlem was the largest.



Describe the cultural developments and individual contributions baseball.

Two words describe why the 1920s stake a claim to baseball's golden age – Babe Ruth. The man had stadiums built to either house his home runs or for him to hit them out. Everything about today's game goes back to Ruth. The home run became the predominant force of the game, unless you count good pitching. But still, the game revolved around the home run. However, there are other factors which helped to make the game a national passion.

Radio - during the 1920s, radios could now be massed produced, and massed produced cheaply. It was the way to get the information about the game.

Newspapers – during the 1920s, many national newspapers began to have their own sports sections solely devoted the game.

Stability – by the end of the decade, the teams of the next 30 years were established.

Cork – the ball was now being made with a cork center instead of being wound. This changed the emphasis of the game from pitching and defense to hitting.

The Negro Leagues – starting in 1920, the National Negro Leagues provided an opportunity for some of the greatest talent the game has never seen.

Stadiums – Cities built stadiums for games to be played in.

Babe Ruth



After becoming a New York Yankee, Babe's transition to a full-time outfielder became complete. Babe dominated the game, amassing numbers that had never been seen before. He changed baseball from a grind it out style to one of power and high scoring games. He re-wrote the record books from a hitting standpoint, combining a high batting average with unbelievable power. The result was an assault on baseball's most hallowed records. In 1920, he bested the homerun record he set in 1919 by belting a staggering 54 homeruns, a season in which no other player hit more than 19 and only one team hit more than Babe did individually. But Babe wasn't done, as his 1921 season may have been the greatest in MLB history. That season, he blasted a new record of 59 homeruns, drove in 171 RBI, scored 177 runs, batted .376 and had an unheard of .846 slugging percentage. Babe was officially a superstar and enjoyed a popularity never seen before in professional baseball. With Babe leading the way, the Yankees became the most recognizable and dominant team in baseball, setting attendance records along the way. When the Yankees moved to a new stadium in 1923, it was appropriately dubbed "The House that Ruth Built".

Describe the cultural developments and individual contributions the automobile.

Henry Ford



Henry Ford was an American industrialist, the founder of the Ford Motor Company, and sponsor of the development of the assembly line technique of mass production.

Ford developed and manufactured the first automobile that many middle class Americans could afford. In doing so, he converted the automobile from an expensive curiosity into a practical conveyance that would profoundly impact the landscape of the twentieth century. His introduction of the Model T automobile revolutionized transportation and American industry.



From the Collections of The Henry Ford
www.thehenryford.org

1924 Ford Model T Cars on Assembly Line at Highland Park Plant, October, 1923

Describe the cultural developments and individual contributions and the airplane.

Charles Lindbergh



On May 20, 1927 at 7:52 a.m., Lindbergh took off from Roosevelt Field on Long Island, NY and landed on May 21 at Le Bourget Field near Paris. He had flown 33 1/2 hours and over 3,600 miles becoming the first to fly solo non-stop across the Atlantic.

Lindbergh's flight spurred others to invest in aviation and so economically it can be said that American aviation owes a great debt to 'Lindy.' After his flight it became fashionable for big companies to pony up funds for fliers and in ways big and small money flowed in to fuel the leaps in aviation that were the hallmark of the 1930s.

