



## Student worksheet

### Sequencing causes on a human timeline

<p><b>You represent...</b>  <b>1870-71 Prussia invaded France and the creation of the German Empire</b>            Having defeated France, the German Empire was declared in the Hall of Mirrors of the Palace of Versailles outside Paris. France was forced to give the provinces of Alsace and Lorraine to the new Empire.</p>	<p><b>You represent...</b>  <b>1906 the launch of HMS Dreadnought</b>            In response to the German naval expansion, the British launched a superior class to warship, the Dreadnought. Germany also built Dreadnoughts, so Britain built more. The two most powerful nations in Europe were thus engaged in a naval arms race in the years before 1914.</p>
<p><b>You represent...</b>  <b>1866 Austro-Prussian War</b>            Prussia won this war and made further steps towards creating a German Empire. It was now clear to everyone that the proud and older Empire of Austria was weaker than Prussia. Countries within the Empire became increasingly determined to gain more autonomy, or even independence. Austria-Hungary was determined to keep its Empire intact.</p>	<p><b>You represent...</b>  <b>1898 Fashoda Incident</b>            As late as 1898, Britain and France were fighting each other in the Sudan. A satirical map from the UK in 1900 shows Russia as an octopus and as the biggest threat to peace in Europe. Within a few years the leaders of these countries were to change their minds and decide that Germany was a threat to all of them. Countries were increasing their military forces before 1914.</p>
<p><b>You represent...</b>  <b>1908 annexation of Bosnia Herzegovina by Austria-Hungary</b>            These territories had been part of the Ottoman Empire, which was crumbling and known as 'the sick man of Europe'. On 1878, Austria-Hungary had promised them autonomy after 30 years. Instead, Austria-Hungary made both states part of it Empire in 1908. Serbia and many of the people in the area were very angry.</p>	<p><b>You represent...</b>  <b>1899-1902 The Boer War</b>            Britain defeated the Boer farmers in South Africa. The Boers were supplied with German weapons. The German Kaiser made clear his support for the Boers. The British government and public were angered by the Kaiser's involvement and anti-German feeling grew. The war caused much discussion back in Britain about the strength of the British military.</p>



<p><b>You represent...</b>  <b>1882 Declaration of the Serbian kingdom</b>                  Serbia had been expanding as an independent country since some Serbs had fought free of the crumbling Ottoman Empire in 1804. In 1848 and 1878 the country had expanded further. Many Serbs still lived outside Serbia, and Serbia was keen to include them, for example in Bosnia-Herzegovina.</p>	<p><b>You represent...</b>  <b>1903 the Kaiser's plan for a Berlin to Baghdad railway</b>                  France and Britain objected to Germany's plans for a railway across the crumbling Ottoman Empire to Baghdad. They feared that Germany was trying to take over territory in south-east Europe and that it would threaten their Empires.</p>
<p><b>You represent...</b>  <b>Since 1878 Russia's ambitions in south-east Europe</b>                  Russia was keen to benefit from the crumbling of the Ottoman Empire. From 1878, Russia worked hard to gain allies in south-east Europe by helping nationalist groups. Other major powers were suspicious of Russia's intentions, believing that Russia was seeking to extend its Empire.</p>	<p><b>You represent...</b>  <b>1905 the development of the Schlieffen Plan</b>                  Fearing the problem of fighting on two fronts if a war started, the German military developed a plan to cope with fighting Russia and France. This involved the swift invasion of France through neutral Belgium. The expectation was that France would mobilise quickly but could be easily defeated. Germany could then concentrate on Russia, which it thought would be slow to mobilise, but harder to defeat.</p>
<p><b>You represent...</b>  <b>1894 Dual Alliance between France and Russia</b>                  In fear of the alliance of Germany and Austria-Hungary, Russia and France formed a military alliance and promised to fight with each other. France also invested money in Russia's developing industries. Germany felt encircled and threatened as a result of this alliance.</p>	<p><b>You represent...</b>  <b>1839 Treaty of London</b>                  At a conference in London the great powers of Europe agreed to protect Belgium's neutrality and independence. Britain was to use this treaty as its public reason for entering the war in 1914. Britain was also keen to ensure that no hostile, powerful country controlled the ports on the continental side of the English Channel.</p>



<p><b>You represent...</b>  <b>1904 Entente Cordiale between the UK and France</b>          This was not a formal military alliance, but was formed because of a shared fear of growing German power. Britain did not promise to fight in any future European war, but in practice the two countries began to co-operate in military operations at sea. Although Britain's involvement remained uncertain, the Entente added to German fears of encirclement.</p>	<p><b>You represent...</b>  <b>June 1914 Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand in Sarajevo</b>          The Archduke, heir to the Austro-Hungarian Empire, was assassinated in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina on the 28<sup>th</sup> June 1914. His assassin, Gavrilo Princip was a Serb nationalist backed by Serbia. The Austrian government resolved to use the assassination as a reason to crush Serbia. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> July they sent Serbia an ultimatum that it knew Serbia could not agree to. Austria then declared war on Serbia on 28<sup>th</sup> July. This triggered the alliance system.</p>
<p><b>You represent...</b>  <b>1900 German naval plans</b>          Germany planned to increase the size of the German navy to 38 battleships. The Kaiser was keen to rival the naval power of Britain, which had 'ruled the waves' since the Battle of Trafalgar in 1807. Naval supremacy was regarded by Britain as crucial to the security of its vast Empire and therefore this was regarded by Britain as an aggressive act.</p>	<p><b>You represent...</b>  <b>1912-13 Balkan Wars</b>          The Ottoman Empire was almost driven out of south-east Europe. The major powers of Europe did not get directly involved in the fighting. Serbia was emboldened to fight Austria. Russia had not supported Serbia, and now felt it must support its only ally in the region in any future conflict.</p>
<p><b>You represent...</b>  <b>1911 Agadir Crisis</b>          The French government sent troops to Morocco and the German government responded by sending a gunboat to the port of Agadir. This was an act of war and international tension grew. The German government backed down when Britain made its support for France clear. France and Britain became more convinced that Germany was a common threat and worked more closely together on naval operations.</p>	