

air raid

An attack by enemy aircraft upon home soil, usually involving the dropping of bombs.

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airship

A large aircraft which has a gas-filled balloon and a compartment underneath for passengers. It is powered by engines.

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alliance

A group of countries working together for a similar purpose.

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Archduke Franz Ferdinand

The Archduke was next-in-line to the Austro-Hungarian throne but was assassinated in 1914. Many saw this as the event which triggered the outbreak of the First World War.

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armistice

Two groups who are at war, stop fighting and come together to talk about the possibility of peace.

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assassinate

To murder an important, political person.

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Commonwealth

A group of countries that have the same political aims.

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conscription

The act of forcing people by law to enlist into the armed services.

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David Lloyd George

The British prime minister from 1916–22; credited with winning the First World War.

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Eastern Front

The area of fighting in central and eastern Europe; the eastern limit of the German advance, mainly in Russia.

first-hand evidence

Sources of information collected from personal observation or experience of a time period or event.

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Gavrilo Princip

A member of a Serbian nationalist movement who assassinated Archduke Franz Ferdinand.

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Hindenburg Line

A defensive barrier on the Western Front. It wasn't penetrated until 1918.

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home front

The term used during the First World War to describe the civilian population back in Britain supporting the war effort.

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Kaiser Wilhelm II

The last German emperor and King of Prussia who reigned during the First World War. He abdicated and went into exile in 1918, at the end of the First World War.

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Last Post

The piece of music played on either a bugle or trumpet in remembrance of fallen soldiers.

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League of Nations

An organisation formed as part of the Treaty of Versailles, 1919, which was joined by 58 nations. Its aims were to stop wars occurring, disarm countries of their weapons, tackle disease and improve working conditions for all citizens.

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propaganda

Misleading information used to make people follow a particular point of view.

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Remembrance Sunday

The second Sunday in November where there are memorial services to commemorate fallen soldiers.

Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

A special monument that is dedicated to an unknown soldier who has died and to remember all soldiers who have given their lives for their country.

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trench

Trenches were dug along the front lines as a defensive point and to mark the edge of the territory and army controls.

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truce

An agreement between two opposing armies to stop fighting for a certain period of time.

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Tyne Cot Cemetery

The largest war graves cemetery for soldiers in the Commonwealth who died in the Ypres area of the Western Front.

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Western Front

The area of fighting in western Europe; the western limit of the German advance, mainly in Belgium and France.

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wreath

A circular, flower arrangement used for laying on graves.

