

Reasons for United States Involvement in World War I

Name _____

Directions:

Open each link then answer the questions that follow.

STATION 1: GERMAN SUBMARINE WARFARE

<http://home.earthlink.net/~gfeldmeth/chart.ww1.html>

1. What were the Arabic Pledge and the Sussex Pledge?

<http://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/wilsonwarmessage.htm>

2. President Wilson stated in his speech on April 2, 1917 that the use of unrestricted submarine warfare was unacceptable and a cause for United States involvement in the European war. What reasons did Wilson give for his change of mind?

<http://www.firstworldwar.com/features/lusitania.htm>

3. American public opinion was extremely critical of Germany and its use of U-Boats. How were travelers, including those of the ill-fated Lusitania, warned by Germany to stay out of the war zone?

Answer the following Regents Question:

4. During his reelection campaign in 1916, President Woodrow Wilson used the slogan; “He kept us out of war.” In April of 1917, Wilson asked Congress to declare war on Germany. What helped bring about this change?

- A. Bolshevik forces increased their strength in Germany and Italy.
- B. Britain was invaded by nations of the Central Powers.
- C. Russia signed a treaty of alliance with the Central Powers.
- D. Germany resumed unrestricted submarine warfare.

STATION 2: ECONOMIC TIES

http://www.regentsprep.org/Regents/ushisgov/graphics/5a_1.gif

5. Data from this graph support the conclusion that World War I

- A. caused the United States trade deficit to increase
- B. cost the United States many billions of dollars
- C. was a significant benefit to the American economy
- D. created an unfavorable balance of trade

America had STRONG ECONOMIC ties to BRITAIN and FRANCE (Allies) - trade with GERMANY was less than HALF than that of the Allied Powers.

STATION 3: ZIMMERMAN NOTE

<http://library.thinkquest.org/28005/flushed/timemachine/courseofhistory/zimmerman.shtml>

The American government kept the nation out of the European war for over two years. By 1917, President Wilson was able to maintain American neutrality. The discovery of the Zimmerman Note was one of the events that changed the mind of the President and the American citizens.

6. What was Germany’s first plan concerning the United States?

7. If that plan failed, what did Germany propose to do in alliance with Mexico?

8. What reaction would this note have in the United States?