10.5 Nationalism and Causes of World War 1

Instructions:
1. Practice whole class using the 6Cs, so that the students understand how to analyze the source. Pay close attention to point of view (most difficult for students).
2. Assign each group a source 1-5.
3. Give 15 minutes for the group to analyze and record their findings on the 6Cs chart (1 per group)
4. Collect all charts.
5. Distribute the Presentation chart to use while listening to the presentation and collect at the end.
6. Randomly select a group to present. (only 5 groups will present, but all must be prepared and the 6cs charts will be graded)
7. Have students respond to the prompt.
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**Historical Context:** During the era of Imperialism (1800s- WWI 1914), industrial nations expanded their power and influence to include overseas territories. This drive for greater power and influence created competition between many European nations. This competition was a driving force for European countries to build up arms, develop new technology and to create alliances. It is in this time period that leaders of Industrial nations utilized nationalism. *(Nationalism is the belief that people should be loyal to their nation.*) Leaders used nationalism to support their entry in war. This generation was taught that it was not only fitting but glorious for young men to die for their country. Hence, many young men willingly and happily marched off to war in 1914.

**Directions:** Read each source and complete the 6Cs.

**Prompt:** Based on your understanding of the documents, *How did Nations use nationalism to gain support for the war effort? and the starting of WWI?*

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1. **Chart: Building of Dreadnoughts, 1906-1914**

The dreadnought was the predominant type of 20th-century battleship. The first of the kind, the British Royal Navy’s Dreadnoughts was launched in 1906. Her design had two revolutionary features: an ‘all-big-gun’ armament scheme and steam turbine propulsion. The arrival of the dreadnoughts renewed the naval arms race, principally between the United Kingdom and Germany but reflected worldwide, as the new class of warships became a crucial symbol of national power.

Source: *Building of Dreadnoughts, 1906-1914*

![Building Dreadnoughts, 1906-1914](chart.png)

2. **Poem: How do you fight? by R. Aitchison Wotherspoon**

The poem was published in the Boys Own Paper, a journal read by many British boys. The poem was published in 1914, just prior to the Great War.

Source: R. Aitchison Wotherspoon *How do you fight?*

- Did you tackle that trouble that came your way bounce,
  Be proud of your blackened eye!
- With Resolute heart and cheerful? It isn’t the fact that you’re hit that counts,
  It’s how did you fight—and why?
- Or Hide your face from the light of day And though you be done to death, what then?
  It isn’t the fact that you’re hurt that counts,
- With craven soul and fearful? If you battled the best you could;
  It’s how did you fight—and why?
- A trouble’s a ton, or a trouble’s an ounce, If you played your part in the world of men,
  And it isn’t the fact that you’re hurt that counts,
- Or a trouble what you make it; Why, the critics will call it good.
  But only how did you take it?
- A trouble’s a ton, or a trouble’s an ounce, Death comes with a crawl, or comes with a
- Or a trouble what you make it; pounce,
  And whether he’s slow or spry,
- And it isn’t the fact that you’re hurt that counts, It isn’t the fact that your dead that counts,
- But only how did you take it? But only, how did you die?
- You are beaten to earth? Well, well, what’s that? Death comes with a crawl, or comes with a
- Come up with a smiling face; pounce,
  And whether he’s slow or spry,
- It’s nothing against you to fall down flat, It isn’t the fact that your dead that counts,
- But to lie there—that’s disgrace. But only, how did you die?
- The harder you’re thrown, why, the higher you

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Wilfred Owen was British writer and soldier in World War I. As a young boy, he was socialized to grow up to be a soldier. Thus, he willingly and happily marched off to war when his country called on him. In his writing he explains that war was very different than he expected it to be and that he no longer believed that war is glorious.

Propaganda was not just directed at men and boys. It was directed at women and girls as well. Propagandists often played on duty and expected all members of society to participate in the war effort whether they were fighting on the fronts or supporting the war at home.

Works Cited: