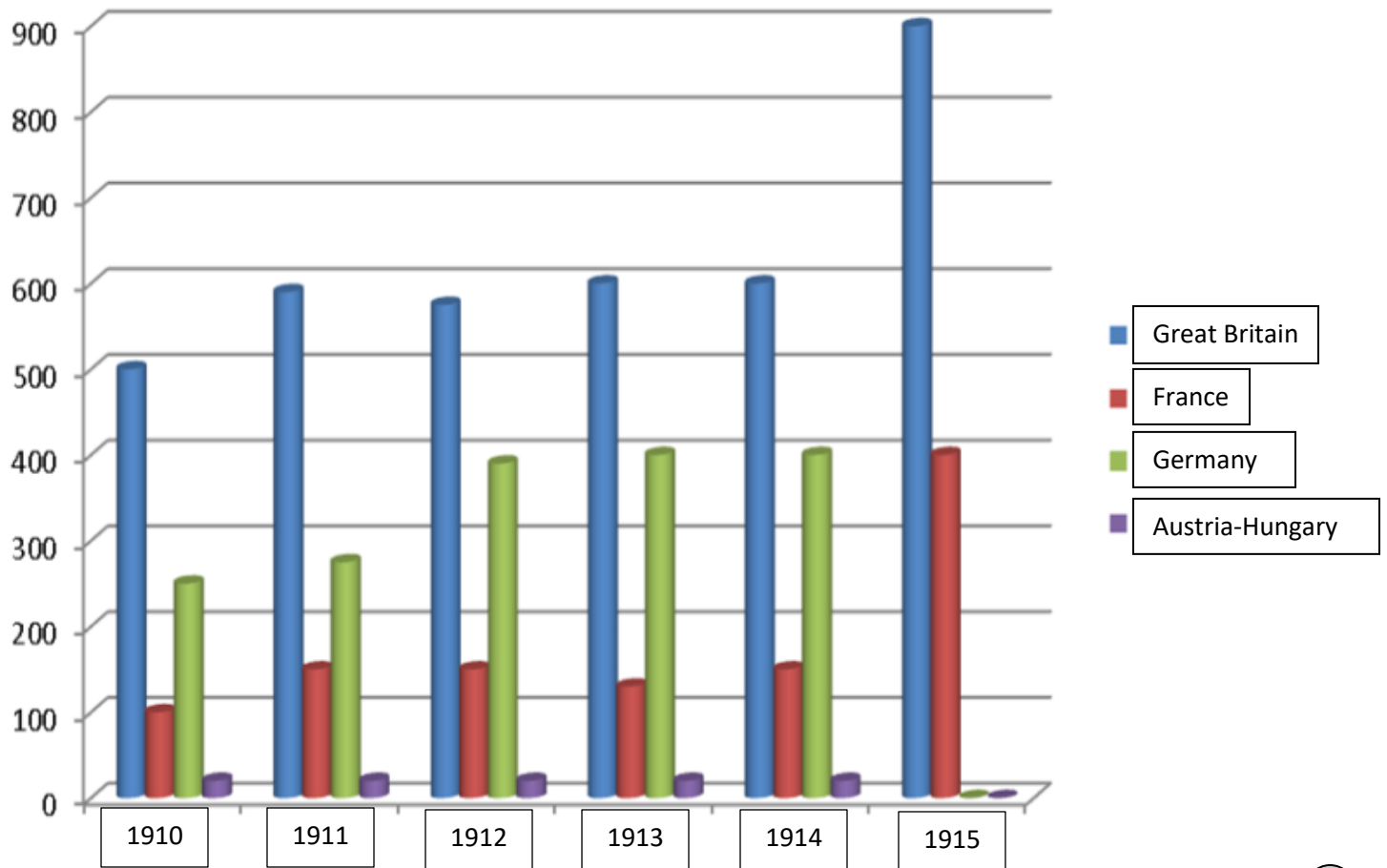


American Foreign Trade 1910-1915



As a neutral nation, America sought to trade with both the Allies and the Central Powers at the beginning of the conflict. As the war grew worse, American foreign trade boomed as never before. However, Great Britain's Royal Navy soon established a blockade of all German ports making it difficult for American ships to reach Germany. British ships would stop and search all American ships bound for Germany and seize their cargo. Because we could do nothing about the blockade, trade with the Allies soared. In addition, Great Britain and France were borrowing huge sums of money from American banks to pay for the war. Germany was forced to watch as America—supposedly a neutral nation—grew rich while helping the Allied war effort.

1. Which foreign nation did we trade with the most?
2. Which one did we trade with the least?
3. With what foreign nation did our trade increase the most from 1910-1914?
4. Using the chart, what happened in 1915?
5. Why did trade with the Central Powers virtually disappear?
6. Other than factory production, why was the American economy booming during the war?