Directions: For each of the following causes, briefly summarize in your own words what that cause was and how it led to the outbreak of war.

1. **Militarism** - As the world entered the 20th century, an arms race had begun. By 1914, Germany had the greatest increase in military. Great Britain and Germany both greatly increased their navies in this time period. Further, in Germany and Russia particularly, the military began to have a greater influence on public policy. This increase in militarism helped push the countries involved to war.

What is militarism?	How did militarism lead to WWI?

2. **Alliances** - Over time, countries throughout Europe made mutual defense agreements that would pull them into battle. Thus, if one country was attacked, allied countries were bound to defend them. Before World War 1, the following alliances existed:

Russia and Serbia   *Germany and Austria-Hungary*
France and Russia   *Ottoman Empire and Germany*
Britain, France, and Russia

When Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia, Russia got involved to defend Serbia. Germany seeing Russia mobilizing, declared war on Russia. France was then drawn in against Germany and Austria-Hungary. Germany attacked France through Belgium pulling Britain into war. Then Japan entered the war. Later, Italy and the United States would enter on the side of the allies.

What were alliances?	How did alliances lead to WWI?

3. **Imperialism** - Imperialism is when a country increases their power and wealth by bringing additional territories under their control. Before World War 1, Africa and parts of Asia were points of contention amongst the European countries. This was especially true because of the raw materials these areas could provide. The increasing competition and desire for greater empires led to an increase in confrontation that helped push the world into World War I.

What was imperialism?	How did imperialism lead to WWI?

3. **Nationalism** - Nationalism is loyalty to one's nation. A nation is a group of people that share a common history, homeland, and want their own country.

   Much of the origin of the war was based on the desire of the Slavic peoples in Bosnia and Herzegovina to no longer be part of Austria Hungary but instead be part of Serbia. In this way, nationalism led directly to the War. But in a more general way, the nationalism of the various countries throughout Europe contributed not only to the beginning but the extension of the war in Europe. Each country tried to prove their dominance and power

What is nationalism?	How did nationalism lead to WWI?

5. **Immediate Cause**: Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand The immediate cause of World War I that made all the aforementioned items come into play (alliances, imperialism, militarism, nationalism) was the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary. In June 1914, a Serbian nationalist assassinated him and his wife while they were in Sarajevo, Bosnia which was part of Austria-Hungary. This was in protest to Austria-Hungary having control of this region. Serbia wanted to take over Bosnia and Herzegovina. This assassination led to Austria-Hungary declaring war on Serbia. When Russia began to mobilize due to its alliance with Serbia, Germany declared war on Russia. Thus began the expansion of the war to include all those involved in the mutual defense alliances.

Why was Ferdinand assassinated?	How did the assassination lead to WWI?