



The Course of WWI

Western and Eastern Fronts

+ Western Front

- Trench warfare
 - Rat infested, no fresh food, impossible to sleep, diseases (trench foot)
 - Soldiers charged across “No Man’s Land” to enemy’s trench
- Trench warfare → Stalemate
 - Neither side is winning...just losing soldiers
- Fighting → Shell shock
 - Reaction to intensity of bombings and fighting
 - Unable to sleep, walk, talk, control themselves
 - Seen as a form of weakness → many soldiers executed by their own governments



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SS1dO0JC2EE>



+ Eastern Front

- Long stretch of border b/w Rus., Ger., A.H.
- Stalemate, slaughter common
- Rus. had to fight Ger., A.H., and O.E. ALONE!
- Rus. vs. Ger.
 - Ger. crushed Rus.
 - Rus. in full retreat
- Rus. vs. A.H.
 - Rus. defeated A.H. army at first
 - A.H. had to split forces b/w Rus. and Serbia
 - A.H. eventually pushes Rus. back





+ Russia's Impact on WWI

■ Pros (+)

- HUGE population
- Forced Ger. to dedicate millions of troops to Eastern Front

■ Cons (-)

- Not industrialized! Couldn't transport equipment to the front
- Allied help was limited
 - Ger., O.E. controlled water access to Rus.

■ Result

- By 1916, Rus. gov. about to collapse
- 1917: Russia gets out of WWI (Russian Revolution)
- Signs Treaty of Brest-Litovsk → gives lots of land to Ger.

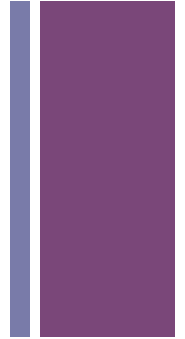


+ Ottoman Empire's Impact on WWI

- Joined Central Powers in 1914
- Seen as the “sick man of Europe”
- Won major victories against Allies at the beginning
 - Prevented Rus from getting help from Allies
 - Won Battle of Gallipoli against GB, FR
- Nationalist groups within OE rebelled
 - Armenians (Christians in OE) fought for Rus.
 - Arabs revolted, fought for independence
 - O.E. divided up at end of WWI



+ Key Ideas



- At the bottom of your notes, answer the following questions:
 1. What are the similarities and differences between the Western and Eastern Fronts?
 2. What was Russia's largest impact on WW1? Why?
 3. What was the Ottoman Empire's largest impact on WW1? Why?