Term 1A) Year 9: Britain in the Golden Age

Learning objective: To understand chronology, sources and factors through the history of Britain at the turn of the 20th century (1900).

Assessment Skill focus:
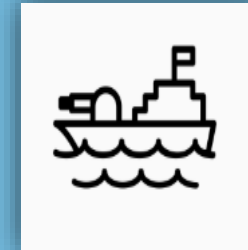**Factors** = different reasons for the outcome of an event.

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What do I need to know about life in Britain in the 'Golden Age'?
- At the turn of the 20th century, life was mixed for British people.
- Britain was at the forefront of technological development.
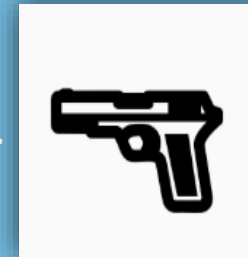- It was also a time of immense poverty and hardship.

What do I need to know about the long term causes of World War I?
- A world war was inevitable for a variety of reasons.
- These can be categorised as M.A.I.N. = long term causes.
- Militarism, alliances, imperialism and nationalism were causes.

What do I need to know about the short term causes of World War I?
- In the summer of 1914, Archduke Franz Ferdinand was assassinated.
- This set off a chain reaction, where different countries joined in.
- Serbia called for Russia's aid. Austria-Hungary called for Germany.

KEYWORDS:
Chronology = events put in the order that they happened.
Sources = evidence from the past.
Interpretations = a persons opinion on a historical event.

Key events/people:
Militarism
Alliances
Imperialism
Nationalism
Franz Ferdinand
Austria-Hungary
Serbia
The Black Hand Gang

1911
Germany begins investing in large battleships (militarism)

1912
Serbia renews its partnership with Russia (alliance)

1914
The leader of Austria-Hungary – Franz Ferdinand – is murdered by a Serbian nationalist. Serbia is invaded. War begins.

What first-order concepts do I need to learn below?

Hint: remember! A first-order concept is a word historians use to describe facts related to events.

➢ **Facts on life in Britain during the 'Golden Age':**
- Life in England during the 'Golden Age' was varied. Some areas had benefitted greatly from the Industrial Revolution – with many gaining vast amounts of wealth. Other areas had experienced extreme poverty – particularly parts of London.
- On the turn of the 20th century (1900), whilst incredible inventions like the Titanic were being created, they also showcased huge differences in social classes. Whilst many of the upper classes lived in luxury, those at the bottom who were poorer suffered.
- People were treated unequally. Women had very little rights. It was a period of contrasts.

➢ **Facts on the long-term causes of World War I:**
- The turn of the 20th century was a tense time for many ordinary people and world leaders.
- War was on the horizon because of four main long-term factors: militarism, alliances, imperialism and nationalism.
- Militarism is when countries built up their armies, alliances are formal friendships between countries, imperialism is when countries try to expand their empires, and nationalism is a form of patriotism.

➢ **Facts on the short-term causes of World War I:**
- Because of the M.A.I.N. long term causes, the stage was set for a spark that would ignite a global war.
- The spark came in the form of an assassination in the corner of Europe, in Serbia. The Archduke (leader) of Austria-Hungary was travelling through the streets of Sarajevo when he was killed by a nationalist gang called the Black Hand. Their leader of the gang was called Gavrilo Princip.
- Austria-Hungary blamed Serbia for the assassination, and quickly invaded.
- Serbia was allies with Russia, pulling them into the war. Austria-Hungary was connected to Germany, bring them into the conflict too. France, Italy and Britain soon joined too. The War was about to begin.

What second-order concepts do I need to learn below?

Hint: remember! A 'second-order concept' is a phrase historians use to describe the history skills that are used in history – like putting events in chronological order, or analysing sources!
- Chronology is putting events and years in order. E.g. the assassination of Franz Ferdinand came before the First World War.

Look to the past:
Below is a primary source: A newspaper cartoon from 1914 which details the alliance system that triggered a global war. How useful is this source to a historian trying to find out about the causes of World War I?