


# Lesson Resources - Glossary Terms from "From Neutrality to War"

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Glossary Terms from:  

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## **A. Mitchell Palmer**

United States Attorney General from 1919–1921

## **alliances**

formal agreements between nations for mutual support in case of war

## **Alvin C. York**

American army sergeant who received numerous military honors for his service in France during World War I

## **American Expeditionary Forces (AEF)**

American forces in Europe during World War I

## **Archduke Franz Ferdinand**

heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne whose assassination triggered World War I

## **armistice**

cease-fire, or truce, to pause battle

## **Battle of Argonne Forest**

final World War I battle in which French and American troops defeated the Germans in France

## **Battle of Cantigny**

first American offensive in World War I

## **Chicago Race Riot of 1919**

violent racial conflict that occurred in Chicago, Illinois, in 1919

## **Committee on Public Information**

government agency that created propaganda to convince people to support World War I with money and volunteer efforts

## **conscientious objector**

a person who refuses to serve in the armed forces on moral or religious grounds

**conscription**

the practice of ordering people by law to serve in the armed forces

**doughboys**

soldiers in part of the American Expeditionary Forces that all wore the distinct uniform composed of jacket, hat, pack, belt, and puttees

**draft**

method of selecting people for service, especially military service

**Eighteenth Amendment**

1919 amendment to the U.S. Constitution that declared the sale, transportation, and production of alcohol to be illegal

**Espionage Act of 1917**

law that prohibited any efforts to aid to the enemy by spying, or espionage, and forbade any attempts to interfere with the U.S. military's wartime actions

**flu pandemic of 1918**

outbreak of influenza that caused panic and death within the United States and worldwide between 1918–1919

**Food Administration**

government agency created by President Woodrow Wilson to control the production and use of food in the United States

**Fourteen Points**

international peace plan introduced by President Woodrow Wilson in 1918

**Fuel Administration**

government agency created by President Woodrow Wilson to control the production and use of fuel

**General John J. Pershing**

the commander of the American Expeditionary Forces (AEF) in Europe during World War I

**Harlem Hellfighters**

an African American infantry regiment that served during World War I

**Henry Cabot Lodge**

United States senator from Massachusetts; known for his opposition to Article X of the Treaty of Versailles

**Herbert Hoover**

coordinator of the Food Administration during World War I

**Hundred Days' Offensive**

during World War I, several months of coordinated attacks that brought the war to an end

**imperialism**

a national policy of expanding power by taking control of other lands and peoples

**inflation**

a rapid rise in prices

**intended audience**

whom a source was meant for when it was created

**interventionism**

foreign policy that supports government intervention in foreign affairs

**interventionist**

a person who generally supports government intervention in foreign affairs

**Irreconcilables**

name for to U.S. senators who opposed the Treaty of Versailles on all grounds

**isolationism**

foreign policy that is against government intervention in foreign affairs

**isolationist**

a person who is generally against government intervention in foreign affairs

**League of Nations**

an association of nations outlined during treaty negotiations at the end of World War I

**Liberty Loan Act**

a law allowing the federal government to sell liberty bonds to the American public in order to raise money for the war effort

**mass media**

means of communication intended to reach large audiences in the general public

**Meuse-Argonne Offensive**

during World War I, a series of decisive battles that took place from September to November of 1918

**militarism**

glorifying the military, resulting in an aggressive preparedness for war

**militarization**

buildup of military forces and armaments in preparation for war

**moral diplomacy**

President Woodrow Wilson's policy of condemning imperialism, spreading democracy, and promoting peace

**nationalism**

a sense of national consciousness exalting one nation above all others and placing primary emphasis on promotion of its culture and interests as opposed to those of other nations or groups

**neutrality**

the quality or state of being neutral; especially: refusal to take part in a war between other powers

**Nineteenth Amendment**

an amendment to the United States Constitution that prohibits states and the federal government from denying citizens the right to vote on the basis of sex

**Palmer Raids**

events in 1919 and 1920 in which the U.S. Department of Justice arrested and deported suspected communists, anarchists, and radicals

**Paris Peace Conference**

1918 gathering in which international leaders negotiated treaty terms to officially end World War I

**preparedness campaign**

steps a country takes to ready itself for war, including collecting weapons and strengthening armed forces

**Prohibition**

movement to end the production and sale of alcoholic beverages in the United States

**propaganda**

the use of ideas, including factual information or allegations, to further one's cause

**ration**

to allow each person to have only a fixed amount of a certain commodity, such as food

**Red Scare**

a pervasive American fear of Communist infiltrators prompted by the success of the Bolshevik Revolution

**Red Summer**

a period of race riots and violence in the United States throughout 1919

**Reservationists**

name for U.S. senators who would support the Treaty of Versailles if sufficient amendments were introduced to eliminate Article X

**RMS Lusitania**

British passenger ship that was attacked by a German submarine in 1915

**Schenck v. United States**

a 1919 U.S. Supreme Court decision upholding the conviction of a Socialist who urged resistance to the draft during World War I

**Second Battle of the Marne**

during World War I, a massive counterattack in which Allied troops stopped the advancing German army during the summer of 1918

**Sedition Act of 1918**

law that prohibited any criticism or disloyal language against the federal government and its policies, the U.S. Constitution, the military uniform, or the American flag

**Selective Service Act of 1917**

law that initially required all men aged 21–30 to register for the draft; later expanded to include all men between 18–45

**self-determination**

the idea that nations should be afforded the right to determine how they wished to be governed

**suffrage**

the right to vote

**Treaty of Versailles**

Treaty signed in 1919 that officially ended World War I.

**trench warfare**

military strategy in which the opposing forces attack and counterattack from a system of trenches protected by barbed-wire entanglements

**Triple Alliance**

pre-World War I secret agreement among Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy

**Triple Entente**

pre-World War I alliance among Britain, France, and Russia

**Tulsa Race Massacre of 1921**

violent racial conflict that occurred in Tulsa, Oklahoma, in 1921

**U-boat**

submarine used by Germany in World War I

**unrestricted submarine warfare**

a naval strategy in which submarines attack ships without warning; first seen during World War I

**War Industries Board**

government agency created by President Woodrow Wilson to ensure the United States had adequate military supplies

**Western Front**

a 400-plus-mile stretch of land through France and Belgium from the Swiss border to the North Sea, which was the decisive front during World War I

**Zimmerman telegram**

a secret communication between Germany and Mexico in 1917; pushed the United States from neutrality to engagement during World War I