

# Scripted Drama

## Europe Lost and Found in War and Peace 1914 to 2014

In this scripted drama, students engage with the events of the July Crisis and how they led to the outbreak of the First World War. They consider the differences between 1914 and 2014 and the mechanisms that encourage peace in 2014.

As an extension, the worksheet accompanying the scripted drama contains additional ideas of topics for research and discussion, which continue the ideas into the 21st century.

The activity could involve pupils of different ages and extend across different subjects as a cross-curricular activity, if desired.

The scripted drama is part of the handbook „1914-2014: Europe lost & found in war and peace“ and has been commissioned by Interkulturelles Zentrum. [www.iz.or.at](http://www.iz.or.at)

### Table of content

Lesson Plan – lesson 1.....	2
Lesson Plan – lesson 2.....	5
Scripted Drama .....	7
Worksheet – lesson 2.....	37



## Lesson Plan – lesson 1

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Europe Lost and Found in War and Peace</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1914 - 2014</b></p>			
Class	Room	Date	Lesson context
<p><b>Student info/Differentiation</b></p> <p>Character Cards are differentiated and allocated using prior data.</p>			<p><b>Lesson 1:</b></p> <p>Students act out the script <b>Europe Lost and Found in War and Peace, 1914 to 2014.</b></p>
<p><b>Learning Outcomes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding the roles of militarism, nationalism, ‘brinkmanship’<sup>1</sup> and mutual fear in the build up to World War One</li> <li>• Exploration of the pre war alliance systems and the significance of the Schlieffen Plan</li> <li>• A recognition of the mechanisms that encourage peace in 2014 and their absence in 1914</li> <li>• Group work and collaborative skills</li> </ul>			
<p><b>Key Concepts:</b></p> <p>International relations in the pre-war period The failure of ‘brinkmanship’ Peace and the avoidance of war</p>		<p><b>Properties:</b></p> <p>Large false moustache 5 suitcases School chairs/benches Postcard Scroll Computer, iPod or CD player to play Sound Effects</p>	
<p><b>Pre-lesson planning:</b></p> <p>Photocopy a class set of: ‘<b>Europe Lost and Found in War and Peace, 1914 – 2014</b>’ scripts.</p> <p>Print out and laminate <b>Character Cards</b> (retain the master copy for reference).</p> <p>Use prior data to allocate character parts according to literacy levels and confidence.</p> <p>Make a sound file of sound effects (<i>SFX</i>).</p> <p>Collect props (see <b>Properties</b> above).</p>			

<sup>1</sup>The term ‘brinkmanship’ was not coined until the Cold War, but it does describe the tactics employed by certain European powers in the period up to 1914.

Lesson structure	Points arising	Timing
<p><b>Starter:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Distribute copies of the script: <b>Europe Lost and Found in War and Peace, 1914 – 2014.</b></li> <li>2. Discuss what students already know about the build up to and outbreak of the First World War.</li> <li>3. Explain that everyone in the class will act out a short scripted drama that explores this topic.</li> <li>4. Use prior data to allocate parts according to literacy levels.</li> <li>5. Hand out laminated Character Cards for students to read as you register the class.</li> </ol>	<p><i>Each member of the class needs a copy of the script to refer to later, when they break into discussion groups or start work on the worksheet.</i></p> <p><i>Asterisks indicate the complexity and size of each part - the more asterisks, the more challenging the part.</i></p>	<p>10 – 15 mins approx</p>
<p><b>Scripted drama role play:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Let the Sound Effects Operator act as Stage Manager and create the stage set at the front of the classroom, using school chairs or benches.</li> <li>2. Position all the characters for <b>Scene 1:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ottoman Empire snoozes Downstage Left</li> <li>• Austria, Hungary and Count Andrassy prepare to enter from the railway platform</li> <li>• Franz Ferdinand, Bosnia and Slovenia prepare to enter on <b>Page 9</b></li> <li>• Russia, Serbia and Sukhomlinov prepare to enter on <b>Page 11</b></li> <li>• Poincaré and France enter on <b>Page 13</b></li> <li>• Great Britain, Sir Edward Grey and Belgium enter on <b>Page 14</b></li> <li>• Germany and Von Moltke enter on <b>Page 14</b></li> <li>• Sound Effect Operator turns off the lights and plays the train sound effect on <b>Page 15</b> and brings up the lights on <b>Page 16</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Act out pages <b>8 to 18</b></li> </ol>	<p><i>N.B. The nations of Europe arrive with their 'baggage'. There is a double meaning here: a person is described as 'having a lot of baggage' if they have unresolved issues from a former relationship.</i></p> <p><i>Timings are approximate.</i></p>	<p>15 mins approx</p>

<p>4. The creation of barricades on <b>Page 18</b> can provide a useful moment to discuss where the barricades should be positioned and which countries help which: Should Belgium get involved? What should Bosnia, Serbia, Slovenia do?</p> <p>5. Make sure that students see how Germany has to split its defences between Russia in the east and France in the west, leaving them facing a potential war on two fronts.</p> <p>6. Russia must defend itself against both Austria Hungary and Germany.</p> <p>7. Great Britain will not throw its suitcase in with France and Belgium until it is almost too late. In 1914, Britain and France are forced to dig trenches in a desperate attempt to hold back the German advance after the Battles of Mons and Marne. For now, Britain remains on the railway platform, an anxious outsider.</p>	<p><i>If students wish to discuss tactics or reflect on what their character/country would do, allow time for this.</i></p>	<p>5-20 mins depending on your group</p>
<p>8. Sound Effect Operator and teacher check the safety of the barricades.</p> <p>9. Place all countries beside their barricades with Germany standing in open space between Russia and France.</p> <p>10. Have Chuck Morris, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Jean Claude van Dam standing by for a dramatic entrance on <b>Page 22</b></p> <p>11. Prepare Sound effects Operator for SFX on <b>Pages 22, 24 and 25</b></p> <p>12. Resume the action from the bottom of <b>Page 18</b></p>		<p>8 – 10 mins approx</p>
<p><b>Plenary/ future learning</b></p> <p>Discuss matters arising from the script. Use worksheet or teacher-led discussion on the issues raised in the scripted drama.</p>	<p><i>Timings will vary depending on the class.</i></p>	<p>10 mins approx</p>

## Lesson Plan – lesson 2

<b>Europe Lost and Found in War and Peace</b> <b>1914 - 2014</b>			
Class	Room	Date	Lesson context
<b>Student information/Differentiation</b>			<b>Lesson 2:</b>  Students have acted out the script <b>Europe Lost and Found in War and Peace, 1914 to 2014.</b>
<b>Learning Outcomes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reflection on the roles of militarism, nationalism, ‘brinkmanship’ and mutual fear in the build up to World War One.</li> <li>• Exploration of the pre war alliance systems and the significance of the Schlieffen Plan.</li> <li>• Exploration of the factors and mechanisms that encourage peace in 2014.</li> <li>• Group work and collaborative skills.</li> </ul>			
<b>Key Concepts:</b>  International relations in the pre-war period The failure of ‘brinkmanship’ Peace and the avoidance of war		<b>Properties:</b>	
<b>Pre-lesson planning:</b>  Source a political map of Europe in 1914 to display on the whiteboard.  Print copies of: <a href="#">Worksheet</a> <b>Europe Lost and Found in War and Peace, 1914 – 2014</b>  Large pieces of plain paper for mind maps and diagrams (Questions 1 to 4).  Class sets of scissors, pens, coloured pens/pencils.  Class set of the script: <b>Europe Lost and Found in War and Peace, 1914 – 2014.</b>  A dice.		<i>Every member of the class needs a copy of the script to refer to during discussion/follow up work.</i>	

Lesson structure	Points arising	Timing
<p><b>Starter:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Distribute copies of the worksheet and the script: <b>Europe Lost and Found in War and Peace, 1914 – 2014.</b></li> <li>2. Recap on the previous scripted drama lesson.</li> <li>3. Explain that everyone in the class will develop ideas and responses on the contrast and similarities between Europe in 2014 and in 1914.</li> <li>4. Allow students to begin <b>Questions 1 to 6</b> in the worksheet</li> </ol>		5 mins approx
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Patrol and check the diagrams as the students work.</li> <li>6. Stop the class when the majority has completed <b>Question 6.</b></li> <li>7. In a question and answer session, go back through students' responses to the questions.</li> </ol>		15 mins approx
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8. Read aloud the instructions that follow <b>Question 6.</b></li> <li>9. Break the class up in to the six groups.</li> <li>10. Distribute scissors and pens if required.</li> <li>11. Display the political map of Europe on the whiteboard to help students see the strategic threats to the countries they represent.</li> <li>12. In their groups, the students follow the instructions for <b>Question 7, the Collaborative Card Game</b></li> <li>13. Allow 10 -15 minutes for the students to complete Tasks 1 to 3.</li> <li>14. Check that everyone has completed their cards and is ready to play.</li> <li>15. Follow the bullet point instructions for playing the game.</li> </ol>	<p><i>The intention is for students to defuse the pre-war European tensions by eliminating mistrust and fear.</i></p> <p><i>Encourage groups to be generous and trusting. (You can discuss how realistic such attitudes are in your plenary session)</i></p>	<p>5 mins</p> <p>10 - 15 mins</p> <p>15 – 25 mins depending on level of negotiations</p>
<p><b>Plenary/ future learning</b></p> <p>On the final pages of the worksheet, there are 5 topics for further research and discussion. Allocate, or allow students to choose, the topic that most interests them. Students prepare presentations to be given to the rest of the class the following lesson.</p>		5 mins approx

## Scripted Drama

# Europe Lost and Found in War and Peace

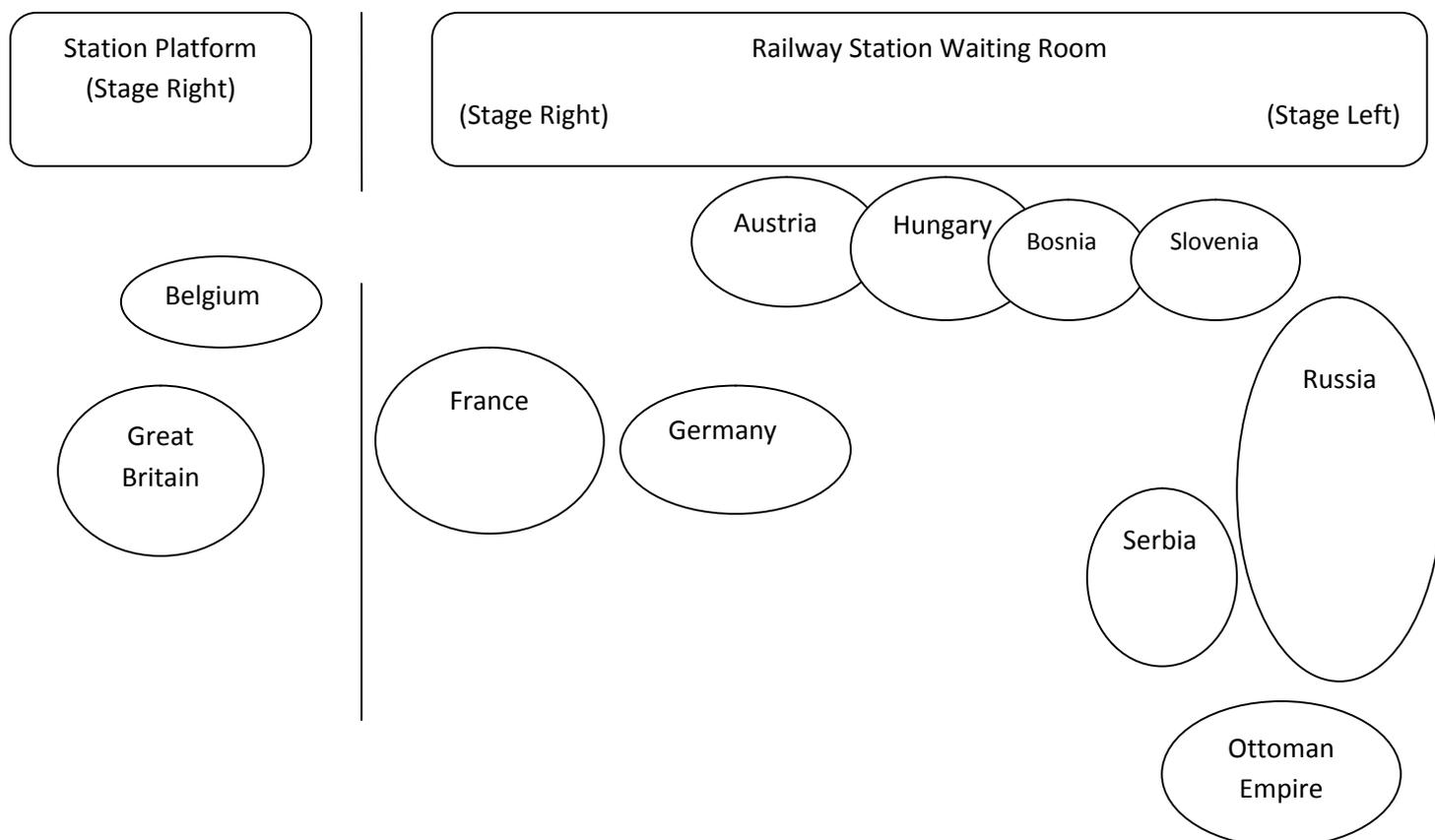
## 1914 to 2014

### Note to teachers/directors:

All action takes place in a railway station waiting room in 1914. The station platform is Stage Right<sup>2</sup> and the waiting room takes up the rest of the stage area. There is seating around the edge for all the countries except Germany. The actors can, of course, get up and move about; they do not have to remain seated.

The Ottoman Empire spends most of the play asleep on a bench in the corner, Downstage Left. This is to remind students of the existence of the Ottoman Empire, ('The Sick Man of Europe'), which once controlled Bosnia and Serbia and whose collapse encouraged Austria- Hungary and Russia to muscle in on the Balkans.

Allow the actors to move freely as they act: the Character positions shown below mirror the geographical layout of Europe and become significant on Page 13, when the crisis of July 1914 starts to unfold. This physical map of Europe is intended to help students understand why Germany feels encircled, why France feels vulnerable and how Britain remains slightly detached until the invasion of Belgium.



<sup>2</sup> Stage directions are designed for those involved in the action onstage, so 'Stage Right' refers to the right hand side of the stage from the actors' point of view.

**N1:** Interkulturelles Zentrum presents:

**N2: Europe Lost and Found in War and Peace**

**1914 to 2014**

**N3: A railway station waiting room, 1914**

**N4:** *(The Ottoman Empire, dressed in the dusty old uniform of a 17<sup>th</sup> century military commander, sleeps fitfully in the corner of the room.)*

**N1:** *(Enter Austria, a whiskered old man, and Hungary, his resentful wife. Count Andrassy<sup>3</sup> follows, dragging Austria Hungary's huge suitcase. He leans it against the wall.)*

**Andrassy:** There are so many nationalities packed into this suitcase, it is about to burst at the seams.

**Hungary:** Why can't Hungary have a suitcase of its own?

**Austria:** Because we are the Dual Monarchy. We are a partnership.

**N2:** *(Andrassy snorts in derision.)*

**Andrassy:** It is not an equal partnership.

**Hungary:** No: Austria keeps control over all important matters of state.

**N3:** *(Austria snaps at Hungary.)*

**Austria:** Like what?

**Hungary:** Like the army. And the navy. And foreign policy.

**N4:** *(Austria feels angry and defensive.)*

**Austria:** Austria consults Hungary! Austria has been consulting Hungary since 1867.<sup>4</sup>

**Andrassy:** And then goes ahead and does what is best for Austria.

**N1:** *(Hungary tosses her magnificent hair and twirls her brightly embroidered costume.)*

**Hungary:** I have my own identity you know! I have my own language and my own culture. I'm fed up of this relationship. I want more autonomy.

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<sup>3</sup> The first minister-president of Hungary and Imperial foreign minister, Andrassy was a Hungarian nationalist who resented Austrian dominance and feared Pan Slavism.

<sup>4</sup> After the Austro-Hungarian Compromise of 1867, which followed their defeat in the Austro-Prussian War, the Imperial foreign minister was obliged to take account of the views on the minister-president of Hungary.

**N2:** *(Archduke Franz Ferdinand arrives. He shoves Bosnia and Slovenia into the room. They act like sulky teenagers.)*

**Bosnia:** I want autonomy too! Autonomy for Bosnia!

**Franz Ferdinand:** Be quiet! You are lucky to be ruled by Austria Hungary.

**N3:** *(Bosnia shoves his face in Franz Ferdinand's.)*

**Bosnia:** Bosnia is not lucky.

**N4:** *(Bosnia goes over to the Ottoman Empire and prods him.)*

**Bosnia:** First we were ruled by the Ottoman Empire...

**N1:** *(The Ottoman Empire groans and rolls over. He is punch-drunk.)*

**Ottoman Empire:** I was powerful once.

**Slovenia:** Well, you're not powerful any more. You are the Sick Man of Europe. Go back to sleep.

**N2:** *(Ottoman Empire takes a feeble swipe at Slovenia, who steps neatly out of the way.)*

**N3:** *(Bosnia turns and points a finger at Austria and Hungary.)*

**Bosnia:** Then Austria Hungary took over and promised that Bosnia would be free one day.<sup>5</sup>

**Franz Ferdinand:** Instead of which, Austria Hungary annexed Bosnia in 1908.

**N4:** *(Austria flexes his shrivelled biceps.)*

**Austria:** I've still got what it takes.

**Bosnia:** That was so unfair. You promised I could be autonomous!

**Slovenia:** You are a big bully!

**N1:** *(Austria casts his hands to the heavens.)*

**Austria:** Everyone turns against me: first the German states humiliated me in the Austro Prussian War...<sup>6</sup>

**Hungary:** Then Serbia became an independent South Slav state, putting ideas about 'freedom' into the heads of Slavs still under Austro-Hungarian control.

**N2:** *(Bosnia turns to Slovenia.)*

<sup>5</sup> At the Congress of Berlin in 1878, Austria Hungary had promised to give Bosnia and Herzegovina autonomy after 30 years. Instead, Austria Hungary annexed both states in 1908.

<sup>6</sup> In the Austro Prussian War, 1866, the German Confederation led by Prussia, defeated their former ruler, Austria Hungary in six weeks. It was a humiliating defeat for Austria Hungary.

**Bosnia:** We should be more like Serbia. Serbia is the rising star in the Balkans.

**Slovenia:** Even Russia pays court<sup>7</sup> to Serbia.

**N3:** (*Andrássy explodes.*)

**Andrássy:** That upstart Serbia is getting too big for his boots! It's about time that Austria taught Serbia a lesson!

**Hungary:** Be quiet, someone's coming.

**N4:** (*Hungary peers through the waiting room window and then rushes back to sit beside Austria. She hisses :)*

**Hungary:** It's Imperial Russia!

**Austria:** What does he want?

**Andrássy:** I expect Russia wants to stir up trouble among the Balkan states.

**N1:** (*Franz Ferdinand points at Bosnia and Slovenia and then at the chairs at the back of the room.*)

**Franz Ferdinand:** You two! Sit down there and behave yourselves.

**N2:** (*Bosnia and Slovenia slump onto the benches and sulk.*)

**Andrássy:** And don't talk to Russia, or there will be trouble.

**N3:** (*Austria scrabbles in his pocket and pulls out a large handlebar moustache, which he fixes in place over his own wilting moustache.*)

**Austria:** How do I look?

**N4:** (*Hungary, now united with Austria against the common foe, adjusts his moustache. She speaks reassuringly.*)

**Hungary:** You look magnificent.

**Austria:** Not too old-fashioned?

**Hungary:** No.

**Austria:** Not like someone who is losing his grip on the Balkans and the loyalty of his South Slav subjects?

**Hungary:** Not at all.

**N1:** (*Austria composes himself.*)

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<sup>7</sup> To court is an old fashioned word for a man wooing a woman. It also has overtones of diplomatic relations between foreign courts.

**Austria:** Good. Don't show the Russians any weakness. Smile.

**N2:** *(Hungary grimaces. Franz Ferdinand and Andr assy stand stiffly further back.)*

**N3:** *(Russia enters, followed by Serbia and Vladimir Sukhomlinov<sup>8</sup>, dragging an enormous suitcase. Bosnia can hardly believe what s/he's seeing. Bosnia nudges Slovenia.)*

**Bosnia:** Look! It's Serbia! The hero of the Balkan Wars!

**N4:** *(Slovenia is star-struck.)*

**Slovenia:** Serbia! The only truly independent Slav state!

**N1:** *(They get up and rush over to Serbia, who acts like a movie star.)*

**Bosnia:** We are your biggest fans.

**Serbia:** Thanks, guys.

**Slovenia:** We've been following you since the Russo Turkish War of 1877.

**Bosnia:** You were brilliant in the Balkan Wars. Serbia is a role model for south Slav nationalists everywhere.

**Serbia:** That's kind of you.

**N2:** *(Serbia is struck by an idea.)*

**Serbia:** Hey! Why don't you guys join us in a greater Serbia?

**N3:** *(Bosnia scowls and points at Austria Hungary.)*

**Bosnia:** Because of them. They won't allow it.

**Slovenia:** We are under the control of Austria Hungary. We hate some of the things they do.

**Serbia:** Break away, guys! Look at me! I'm living the dream.

**N4:** *(Hungary gets up to intervene. She confronts Serbia.)*

**Hungary:** Oi! You! Don't stir up trouble among the southern Slavs!

**N1:** *(Sukhomlinov crosses to defend Serbia.)*

**Sukhomlinov:** What is going on?

**Hungary:** This country is a trouble maker.

**Sukhomlinov:** That is not the way it looks to me. You are a bully.

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<sup>8</sup> Chief of the Russian General Staff and Minister of War until 1915

**N2:** *(Russia pulls himself up to his full height and thunders:)*

**Russia:** Lay off Serbia, or you will answer to Imperial Russia.

**N3:** *(Hungary is shaken rigid. She returns, seething, to Austria.)*

**N4:** *(Bosnia and Slovenia whistle with respect.)*

**Slovenia:** Wow! Did you see that?

**Bosnia:** You are so lucky to have the support of Russia.

**Serbia:** Yeah, yeah. But Russia needs me too.

**N1:** *(Serbia grins.)*

**Serbia:** His northern ports freeze up in winter, so Russia needs an ally in the Balkans to keep the straits of Constantinople open to Russian ships.

**N2:** *(Serbia shrugs.)*

**Serbia:** Serbia is the only ally Russia has left.

**N3:** *(Bosnia and Slovenia are open-mouthed with admiration.)*

**Slovenia:** Serbia is so cool.

**Bosnia:** He's so confident and proud of his Slav identity. Bosnia is going to be more like that in future.

**Austria:** Oh no, you're not.

**N4:** *(Austria and Hungary have been listening to the conversation and have decided that enough is enough.)*

**Hungary:** You two! Over here. Now!

**N1:** *(Bosnia and Slovenia return to their seats close to Austria Hungary. They wave and smile at Serbia secretly, whenever they get the chance.)*

**N2:** *(Franz Ferdinand is displeased.)*

**Franz Ferdinand:** Serbia is giving Bosnia ideas about independence.

**Hungary:** That country needs to know who is boss.

**Austria:** At the first opportunity, Austria Hungary will teach Serbia a lesson he will never forget.

**N3:** *(Enter Poincaré<sup>9</sup>, lugging a heavy suitcase, followed by France.)*

**N4:** *(France has recently been in the wars<sup>10</sup> and still suffers from a war wound which makes him limp. France is bitter and looking for revenge.)*

**N1:** *(France looks around the assembled countries and finally sits next to Russia.)*

**Sukhomlinov:** At last. We wondered where you were.

**Russia:** The Austro-Hungarians are being aggressive.

**Poincaré:** Have you brought your moustache?

**N2:** *(Sukhomlinov pats the massive Russian suitcase.)*

**Sukhomlinov:** Of course.

**France:** Then don't worry. When they see the combined might of our moustaches, neither the Austrians nor the Germans will dare to attack us.<sup>11</sup>

**N3:** *(Russia has a thought.)*

**Russia:** Where is Great Britain?

**N4:** *(France sighs.)*

**France:** Outside, on the platform.

**Sukhomlinov** What? Is Britain still in 'Splendid Isolation'?<sup>12</sup>

**Poincaré:** Not exactly. Britain just thinks he's something special and not fully part of Europe.

**France:** Britain relies on the British Empire. He is not used to needing European allies.

**N1:** *(France and Russia share a wry smile.)*

**Poincaré:** Hence France and Russia do not have a military alliance with Great Britain.

**France:** Instead we have an 'Entente'<sup>13</sup> - an 'understanding.'

**Sukhomlinov:** So there is no guarantee that Great Britain will put on his impressive moustache and come and join us.

**France:** Quite.

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<sup>9</sup> Poincaré, President of France and three times Prime Minister, was strongly anti-German. He built strong strategic ties with Russia.

<sup>10</sup> In the Franco Prussian War 1870 - 71, Germany inflicted a humiliating defeat on France: Paris was besieged and Alsace and Lorraine were annexed by Germany.

<sup>11</sup> The Dual Alliance between Russia and France, 1894 was a military alliance promising support against any act of aggression by the Triple Alliance of Austria Hungary, Germany and Italy, 1882.

<sup>12</sup> Splendid Isolation describes the position of Great Britain in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century.

<sup>13</sup> France and Britain's Entente Cordiale of 1904 became the Triple Entente in 1907 when Russia joined. This was not a military alliance that promised support in war, however it did settle differences between the countries and pave the way for co-operation.

**N2:** *(Russia shakes his head.)*

**Russia:** It would be better if Britain came and stood with us now. In public.

**N3:** *(France goes over to the door and shouts:)*

**France:** Come and join the rest of Europe!

**N4:** *(Great Britain steps smartly onto the station platform accompanied by Sir Edward Grey<sup>14</sup>. He manoeuvres his modern, wheeled suitcase deftly and parks it.)*

**Great Britain:** Thank you, but I prefer to stay out here.

**N1:** *(Belgium arrives on the platform. He calls out cheerily.)*

**Belgium:** Don't worry! Belgium is out here too! Our neutrality means we can stay out of trouble!

**N2:** *(The Great Powers of Europe laugh quietly at this. Belgium is a minor country which did not even exist until 1839.<sup>15</sup>)*

**N3:** *(Russia addresses Great Britain.)*

**Russia:** Seriously, though. Aren't you cold out there?

**Great Britain:** Not at all. It's bracing. Besides, from here I can watch the British Navy patrolling the seas.

**N4:** *(Great Britain cannot resist the opportunity to boast.)*

**Great Britain:** The British navy is based on the Two Power Standard.

**France:** *(Wearily)* Yes, we know.

**Sir Edward Grey:** It is the biggest, most efficient navy in the world.

**Russia:** So you keep saying.

**N1:** *(Suddenly, Germany bursts onto the platform and marches straight into the middle of the waiting room.)*

**Germany:** What was that about the German navy?

**N2:** *(Von Moltke, wheeling smart modern luggage, glides onto the station platform. He whisks a postcard out of his pocket and shoves it in Sir Edward Grey's face.)*

**Von Moltke:** Look at our Dreadnoughts.

**Germany:** Envy the guns on that!

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<sup>14</sup> British Foreign Secretary 1905 to 1916

<sup>15</sup> Under the Treaty of London, 1839, the European powers recognised and guaranteed the independence and neutrality of Belgium. Britain will go to war in 1914 in defence of this treaty.

**N3:** *(Von Moltke slaps Sir Edward Grey on the back rather too hard and strides into the waiting room.)*

**Sir Edward Grey:** What an appalling fellow!

**N4:** *(Germany's arrival causes a big reaction among the other countries: Russia and France instinctively move closer together for protection; Austria and Hungary perk up – their ally has arrived.)*

**Austria:** Thank goodness you're here.

**Franz Ferdinand:** There is trouble in the Balkans.

**Hungary:** And the Russians and French are ganging up on us.

**N1:** *(Germany clenches his fists and stares belligerently at Russia and France.)*

**Germany:** If Russia and France try it on with Austria Hungary, they will answer to Germany.

**Austria:** Have you brought your moustache?

**Von Moltke:** Of course! What do you think is in this luggage?

**Germany:** Germany backs Austria to the hilt.

**Von Moltke:** Austria Hungary is Germany's greatest ally.

**N2:** *(Serbia whispers to Bosnia.)*

**Serbia:** Austria Hungary is Germany's only ally.

**N3:** *(Bosnia is puzzled.)*

**Bosnia:** I thought Germany had an alliance with Italy.

**N4:** *(Serbia smiles knowingly.)*

**Serbia:** But Italy has a secret agreement with France. Italy will not fight for Germany in the next war, believe me.

**N1:** *(Germany whisks round at this and stares disbelievingly at Serbia.)*

**N2:** *(Suddenly, a train thunders past and all the lights go out.)*

*SFX of thundering steam train, preferably with screaming whistle*

**N3:** *(In the pitch black, the Characters stand stock still, turn to face front and voice their deepest fears:)*

**Austria:** I am afraid.

**Russia:** I am afraid.

**France:** I am afraid.

**Austria:** I am afraid that Austria Hungary will disappear, swamped by pan-Slavism.

**Russia:** Russia is afraid that Austria will cut trade routes through the Black Sea and strangle Russia's economic development.

**Hungary:** Austria Hungary is afraid of Russia's economic development.

**Great Britain:** Great Britain is afraid of Russia's rapid industrialisation and the threat to the Suez Canal and trade routes to India.

**Russia:** Russia is afraid that Germany will try to carve out an empire in central Europe.

**France:** France is afraid that Germany's population will outstrip us and the German economy will overwhelm the continent.

**Great Britain:** Great Britain is afraid of a single Great Power like Germany, or even Russia, dominating Europe, like Napoleon did in the last century.

**Serbia:** Serbia is afraid of being destroyed by Austria Hungary.

**Bosnia:** Bosnia is afraid that it will never get the chance to be a free, independent nation.

**Poincaré:** France is afraid that Germany will crush us like it did in 1871. German military might is greater now than ever.

**Sir Edward Grey:** Great Britain is afraid that its naval supremacy and its Empire is threatened by Germany.

**Germany:** Germany is afraid that it will be encircled and crushed between its two great enemies: France and Russia.

**Sir Edward Grey:** Great Britain is afraid that the British Empire is under threat from nationalism encouraged by Germany.

**Von Moltke:** Germany is afraid of France's implacable thirst for revenge.

**France:** I am afraid...

**Germany:** I am afraid...

**Austria:** I am afraid...

**N3:** *(The lights snap back on)*

*SFX brings up the lights.*

**N4:** *(The Great Powers are embarrassed. They cough, flex their muscles, busy themselves with their luggage and avoid each other's eyes.)*

**N1:** *(Von Moltke grabs Andrassy and Franz Ferdinand and pulls them to the front of stage, out of ear shot of all the others.)*

**Von Moltke:** *(Conspiratorially)* Don't trust anyone. Build up your armed forces. Our 'enemies are arming more strongly than we are'.<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> Moltke's words to Admiral von Mukker December 1912 cited in Ben Walsh Modern World History

**N2:** (*Poincaré grabs Sir Edward Grey and Sukhomlinov and pulls them to the front of stage, out of ear shot of all the others.*)

**Poincaré:** Don't trust anyone. Build up your armed forces. Don't let our enemies outmanoeuvre us.

**N3:** (*Serbia grabs Bosnia and Slovenia and pulls them to the front of stage, out of ear shot of all the others.*)

**Serbia:** Don't trust anyone. Bide your time. We have undercover agents working to undermine Austrian control.

**N4:** (*Andrássy and Sukhomlinov make threatening fists.*)

**Andrássy:** Be ready to attack if you have to. Attack is the best form of defence.

**Poincaré:** Be ready to attack if you have to. Attack is the best form of defence.

**Von Moltke:** If we are strong and united, the enemy will back down.

**Sukhomlinov:** If we are strong and united, the enemy will back down.

**Poincaré:** France has an army of 1,800,000.

**Franz Ferdinand:** Austria Hungary has an army of 1,338,000.

**Sukhomlinov:** Russia's army is 3,400,000 strong.

**Von Moltke:** Germany's army is 2,200,000 strong.

**Sir Edward Grey:** Great Britain's army is a mere 248,000.<sup>17</sup> Although we do have a rather large navy.

**Von Moltke:** War is coming, mark my words.

**Poincaré:** Let it come sooner rather than later, while we still have the advantage.

**Sir Edward Grey:** When war comes, it will be quick and decisive. Be ready to get in the first punch.

**Sukhomlinov:** Are all our secret alliances in place?

**N1:** (*Each man pats his pocket as he answers:*)

**Sir Edward Grey:** Check.

**Poincaré:** Check.

**Von Moltke:** Check.

**Andrássy:** Check.

**Von Moltke:** If Austria is attacked...

**Poincaré:** Russia is attacked...

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<sup>17</sup> Figures cross referenced with Updated Module 3 V2 (1) - Ben Walsh 'GCSE Modern World History' (3<sup>rd</sup> edition 2009)

**Sukhomlinov:** France is attacked...

**Andrássy:** Germany is attacked...

**Von Moltke:** ...Germany promises...

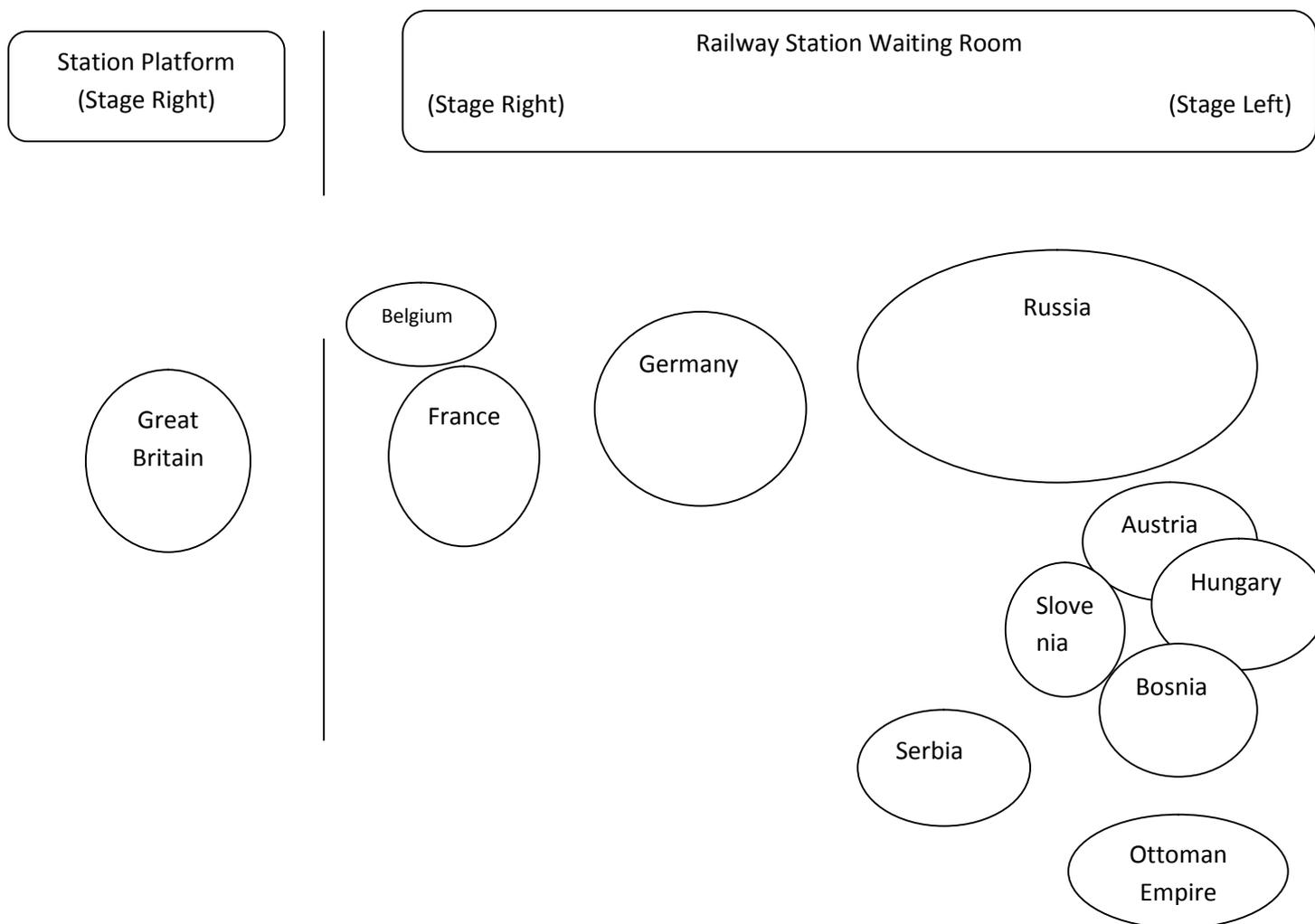
**Poincaré:** ...France promises...

**Sukhomlinov:** ...Russia promises...

**Andrássy:** ...Austria Hungary promises...

**All:** To go to war in your defence.

**N2:** *(The countries rush back to their positions – see below. They drag the waiting room chairs into defensive positions and frantically pile their luggage on top to make barricades.)*



**N3:** *(Once this activity subsides, Germany is positioned between France and Russia.)*

**Germany:** Look at Russia and France! Look how they encircle Germany!

**Franz Ferdinand:** You are facing a war on two fronts.

**Von Moltke:** Attack is the best form of defence. Follow the Schlieffen Plan.

**N4:** *(Von Moltke turns Germany's face towards France and positions him like a runner in the blocks.)*

**Von Moltke:** Germany will make a lightning strike against France.

**N1:** *(In slow motion, Germany steps forward and punches France on the jaw.)*

**N2 :** *(In slow motion, France reels backwards into Poincaré, who lowers him to the ground.)*

**N3:** *(Von Moltke turns Germany round to face Russia.)*

**Von Moltke:** The German forces will turn east and race back to attack Russia.

**Andrássy:** Russia will be slow to mobilise.

**N4:** *(Von Moltke leads Germany across to Russia where he raises his fists like a boxer.)*

**Von Moltke:** Germany will defeat Russia and the war will be over.

**N1:** *(France stands up. Germany returns to his geographical position, confidence renewed.)*

**Germany:** The Schlieffen Plan. Genius.

**N2:** *(Without warning, Gavrilo Princip walks in from the station platform, crosses to Franz Ferdinand and shoots him in the throat.<sup>18</sup>)*

**N3:** *(Franz Ferdinand collapses. There is uproar in Austria Hungary and the Balkan states. Even the Ottoman Empire pays attention.)*

**N4:** *(Bosnia 'arrests' Gavrilo Princip and throws him offstage. Slovenia drags Franz Ferdinand's body offstage.)*

**Hungary:** The heir to the Austrian throne has been assassinated!

**N1:** *(Austria strides Centre Front, plants both feet and points an accusatory finger at Serbia.)*

**Austria:** SERBIA is responsible for this!

**Serbia:** The Serbian government had nothing to do with it.

**Austria:** LIAR!

**N2:** *(Hungary rushes to Austria's right hand side.)*

**Hungary:** Crush Serbia once and for all!

**N3:** *(Austria hesitates.)*

**Austria:** What if Russia joins the war on Serbia's side?

---

<sup>18</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> June 1914 – Franz Ferdinand and his wife Sophie were assassinated in Sarajevo in Bosnia.

**N4:** *(Germany appears at Hungary's right hand side.)*

**Germany:** Hold your nerve. Germany gives you unconditional support.<sup>19</sup>

**N1:** *(Austria swells with confidence. Andrassy shoves a scroll into Serbia's chest.)*

**Andrassy:** Accept this ultimatum or we invade.<sup>20</sup>

**N2:** *(Russia starts to shift uncomfortably.)*

**Serbia:** I accept all but one of the terms of your ultimatum: Serbia cannot allow Austro-Hungarian police to operate within our country. It is a denial of our national sovereignty.

**Hungary:** That is all the excuse we need...

**Russia:** Send troops to the Austrian border.<sup>21</sup>

**Andrassy:** Austria Hungary declares war on Serbia!<sup>22</sup>

**Hungary:** Send troops to the Serbian border!

**Serbia:** Mobilise the Serbian Army!

**N3:** *(Great Britain comes to the door of the waiting room.)*

**Great Britain:** I warn you! Great Britain will not remain neutral if this conflict escalates!

**N4:** *(The Ottoman Empire shambles over to Germany. )*

**Ottoman Empire:** The Ottoman Empire makes a secret alliance with Germany.

**N1:** *(Serbia spins round to appeal directly to Russia.)*

**Serbia:** Where are you? Russia promised to support Serbia if Austria attacked!

**Sukhomlinov:** We hear you. Mobilise the Russian Army!<sup>23</sup>

**Russia:** Be careful.

**Sukhomlinov:** Don't worry. Mobilisation does not mean war.

**Russia:** How so?

**Sukhomlinov:** Mobilisation just shows that we mean what we say. It is a show of strength and the other side will back down.

**Russia:** What if the other side does not back down?

**N2:** *(Sukhomlinov shrugs.)*

**Sukhomlinov:** It has always worked in the past.

---

<sup>19</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> July - Germany promised Austria Hungary unconditional support if Russia joined the war.

<sup>20</sup> 23<sup>rd</sup> July - Austria demands compensation and the right to station troops in Serbia. Serbia accepts all but one of the terms of the ultimatum

<sup>21</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> July - Russia sends troops to the border with Austria in a show of strength

<sup>22</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> July - Austria declares war on Serbia and bombs its capital, Belgrade

<sup>23</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> July - Russia orders general mobilisation. Great Britain warns Germany it cannot remain neutral.

**Poincaré:** Take the Austrians to the brink of war. They will back down and the Entente powers will get all the prestige.

**N3:** *(Germany shouts across to Russia:)*

**Germany:** Germany orders Russia to stop mobilisation immediately!<sup>24</sup>

**Russia:** I refuse to stop! Russia will not fail Serbia again.<sup>25</sup>

**Germany:** Then Germany declares war on Russia!<sup>26</sup>

**N1:** *(Von Moltke rushes up to Germany.)*

**Von Moltke:** No! No! No! That is not meant to happen.

**N2:** *(Germany is shocked.)*

**Germany:** What do you mean? Russia threatened Austria Hungary and the Triple Alliance commits us to defend Austria Hungary.

**Von Moltke:** But what about the Schlieffen Plan? It doesn't work if Germany attacks Russia first.

**Germany:** Change the plan.

**Von Moltke:** It is not possible to change the plan. All the troops are in place, all the munitions are ready, all the trains are scheduled...

**Germany:** But that is madness.

**Von Moltke:** That is war.

**Hungary:** And in war, attack is the best form of defence.

**Austria:** Germany must attack France quickly, or you will lose your advantage.

**Germany:** But we are not at war with France.

**Austria:** Then declare war on France.

**N3:** *(Germany takes a deep breath.)*

**Germany:** Germany declares war on France.<sup>27</sup>

**N4:** *(Von Moltke leaps into action.)*

**Von Moltke:** 750,000 German soldiers cross the border into Belgium.

**N1:** *(Belgium steps in between France and Germany.)*

**Belgium:** Hey! Belgium is a sovereign nation! We deny Germany passage.

**N2:** *(Von Moltke shoves Belgium to one side.)*

---

<sup>24</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> July – Germany orders Russia to stop mobilising its troops

<sup>25</sup> Russia had failed to back Serbia in the Bosnian Crisis 1908 and the Balkan Wars 1912-13. As Serbia was Russia's only ally in the Balkans, Russia dared not fail to support Serbia again.

<sup>26</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> August – Russia refuses to stop mobilising. Germany declares war on Russia

<sup>27</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> August – Germany declares war on France and invades Belgium

**Von Moltke:** Germany marches through by force. There is no time to waste.

**N3:** *(Great Britain steps smartly into the middle of the room, brandishing the Treaty of London.)*

**Great Britain:** Great Britain guarantees the neutrality of Belgium and orders general mobilisation.

**N4:** *(Germany is exasperated. Events are running out of control.)*

**Germany:** That is just a scrap of paper!

**Great Britain:** Nevertheless, Great Britain declares war on Germany.<sup>28</sup>

**N1:** *(Germany gasps with disbelief.)*

**Germany:** This is a ridiculous over reaction!

**N2:** *(There is an almighty explosion, the ceiling caves in and Chuck Morris crashes in through the roof, scattering broken glass and Great Powers in his wake.)*

### *SFX Explosion and breaking glass*

**Chuck Morris:** I couldn't agree with you more, buddy.

**N3:** *(Two ropes snake down from the ceiling and Arnold Schwarzenegger and Jean Claude fan Damn abseil down to join Chuck.)*

**N4:** *(The countries of Europe cower against the walls, as the action heroes take centre stage.)*

**Chuck Morris:** Do you guys have any idea what's happening here?

**Great Britain:** Yes. We're defending ourselves.

**Chuck Morris:** By attacking each other and invading other countries? That's kinda paradoxical, don't you think?

**Arnold Schwarzenegger:** What are you doing? Europeans have more in common with each other than you have differences.

**Chuck Morris:** You gotta build bridges between people, man. Fighting is for losers.

**Jean Claude fan Damn:** And believe me, you are all gonna be losers if you fight this war.

**Arnold Schwarzenegger:** 5 million men will be sacrificed.

**Jean Claude fan Damn:** 22 million will have their lives ruined through injuries, both mental and physical.

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<sup>28</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> August – Britain and Belgium declare war on Germany

**Chuck Morris:** Why do you guys glorify war? You have military drinking clubs in Germany; the British teach their sons about the glories of Empire and you all give your military leaders great power and prestige.

**N1:** *(Chuck points at Von Moltke and Sukhomlinov, who jut out their chins belligerently.)*

**Chuck Morris:** In 2014, we do the opposite: we celebrate peace. We give the Nobel Peace Prize to great men and women who strive for peace and reconciliation: men like Nelson Mandela and Frederick Willem de Klerk.<sup>29</sup>

**Arnold Schwarzenegger:** And women like Baroness Bertha von Suttner.<sup>30</sup> She established the Austrian Peace Society. Why did you not listen to her?

**Jean Claude fan Damn:** Where are your great men and women? Where are your peacemakers?

**Sir Edward Grey:** Perhaps, in 1914, there is no-one of sufficient stature to stand against the tide of militarism and the thirst for revenge.

**Belgium:** Jean Jaurés,<sup>31</sup> leader of the French Socialist Party did his best: he urged European governments to resolve their conflicts through negotiation. He believed in a policy of ‘peace through arbitration’.

**Jean Claude fan Damn:** You did not listen to him.

**Poincaré:** Jaurés was a naïve fool.

**Arnold Schwarzenegger:** Jaurés was a sane man who opposed militarism.

**Belgium:** But he was assassinated by a French nationalist, determined that France should fight and defeat Germany and its allies.

**France:** Aggression must be met with aggression. That is the only thing the Germans understand.

**N2:** *(The action heroes sigh and shake their heads.)*

**Arnold Schwarzenegger:** From the vantage point of 2014, we can tell you that you are wrong.

**Chuck Morris:** You gotta talk to each other, people. In 2014, the countries of Europe belong to European Union. The countries of the world belong to the United Nations. We talk. We resolve things. It ain't perfect, but it's better than this.

**France:** That is never going to happen in the Europe of 1914.

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<sup>29</sup> Mandela and de Klerk brokered a peaceful end to apartheid in South Africa.

<sup>30</sup> Austrian born Baroness Bertha von Suttner was nicknamed ‘the generalissimo of the peace movement’; she was the first woman to receive the Nobel Peace Prize. She wrote the popular anti-war novel ‘Lay Down Your Arms’ in 1889. She died in June 1914.

<sup>31</sup> Jaurés was a Socialist who believed in working class unity. He did all he could to promote understanding between France and Germany, opposed France’s military draft, and tried to co-ordinate strikes in France and Germany to force their respective governments to the negotiating table.

**Arnold Schwarzenegger:** And yet you resolved the Balkan Wars by talking. You held a conference in London. You talked. Why do you not do the same to resolve this Balkan crisis?

**Germany:** Our sense of honour and national pride is too strong.

**Chuck Morris:** Now hold on just a minute: the EU's founding fathers<sup>32</sup> ranged from 'resistance fighters to lawyers.'<sup>33</sup> They had as much national pride as you, but more importantly, they shared an ideal of a 'peaceful, united and prosperous Europe' that transcended national boundaries.

**Arnold Schwarzenegger:** The collapse of communism tore down artificial ideological walls between the nations. Europeans became closer neighbours.

**Jean Claude fan Damn:** They share a single market with free movement of goods, services, people, and money.

**Arnold Schwarzenegger:** They share a currency.

**Chuck Morris:** But more than anything, they share a vision for peace, reconciliation, democracy and human rights.

**Jean Claude fan Damn:** In 2012, the EU received the Nobel Peace Prize for 'transforming most of Europe from a continent of war to a continent of peace.'<sup>34</sup>

**Chuck Morris:** The EU was set up with the aim of ending the bloody wars that scarred Europe in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century: scars you can avert, if you just sit down and start talking.

**N3:** *(Quietly, in the distance, there is the sound of a steam train chugging closer and closer.)*

*SFX of a steam train, gently building in volume*

**N4:** *(The nations of Europe stand slowly and address the action heroes :)*

**Russia:** Those are powerful words, but I am afraid that you have arrived too late.

**Jean Claude fan Damn:** What do you mean?

**Germany:** Mobilisation has already started.

**Chuck Morris:** But you can stop the mobilisation. You can pull back from the brink.

**Von Moltke:** I am afraid not. Once committed, the Schlieffen Plan cannot be changed or diverted.

**Sukhomlinov:** Once troops are loaded onto railway trains, they reach the battlefield too quickly to leave time for negotiation.

**Chuck Morris:** De-escalate the conflict for the love of humanity!

**Germany:** It cannot be done. Germany's victory depends on rapid mobilisation and deployment.

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<sup>32</sup> The six original founding nations were Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands

<sup>33</sup> [http://europa.eu/about-eu/eu-history/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/about-eu/eu-history/index_en.htm)

<sup>34</sup> Wording of the Nobel Peace Prize citation 2012

**Russia:** The trains are set in motion.

**Great Britain:** The train of events is set in motion.

**N1:** *(Suddenly, a train thunders past and all the lights go out.)*

*SFX of a steam train builds to an unbearable crescendo and ends with a whistle that sounds like a scream*

**N2:** *(There is silence. Characters stand stock still in the pitch black. Sir Edward Grey speaks into the dark :)*

**Sir Edward Grey:** ‘The lamps are going out all over Europe. We shall not see them lit again in our lifetime.’<sup>35</sup>

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<sup>35</sup> Sir Edward Grey, British Foreign Secretary said these prophetic words on the outbreak of the war August 1914.

## Character Cards

Asterisks indicate the size and complexity of each part: the more asterisks, the bigger the part.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Narrator 1 (N1) ****</b></p> <p>You and Narrators 2, 3 and 4 take it in turns to read the stage directions and the titles of every scene, so everyone knows where they are and what is going on. Your lines are written in italics, like this:</p> <p><b>N1:</b> <i>(Enter Austria, a whiskered old man, and Hungary, his resentful wife. Count Andr�ssy follows, dragging Austria Hungary’s huge suitcase. He leans it against the wall.)</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>You are not a real historical character</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Narrator 2 (N2) ****</b></p> <p>You and Narrators 1, 3 and 4 take it in turns to read the stage directions and the titles of every scene, so everyone knows where they are and what is going on. Your lines are written in italics, like this:</p> <p><b>N2:</b> <i>(Archduke Franz Ferdinand arrives. He shoves Bosnia and Slovenia into the room. They act like sulky teenagers.)</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>You are not a real historical character</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Narrator 3 (N3) ****</b></p> <p>You and Narrators 1, 2 and 4 take it in turns to read the stage directions and the titles of every scene, so everyone knows where they are and what is going on. Your lines are written in italics, like this:</p> <p><b>N3:</b> <i>(Austria scrabbles in his pocket and pulls out a large handlebar moustache, which he fixes in place over his own wilting moustache.)</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>You are not a real historical character</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Narrator 4 (N4) ****</b></p> <p>You and Narrators 1, 2 and 3 take it in turns to read the stage directions and the titles of every scene, so everyone knows where they are and what is going on. Your lines are written in italics, like this:</p> <p><b>N4:</b> <i>(The Ottoman Empire, dressed like a dusty old 17<sup>th</sup> century lord, sleeps fitfully in the corner of the room.)</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>You are not a real historical character</i></p>

## Character Cards

Asterisks indicate the size and complexity of each part: the more asterisks, the bigger the part.

### Austria\*\*\*\*

You are a whiskered old gentleman who moves slowly. You were once a powerful Empire, but now you are old and your strength is beginning to fail. In 1867, you and Hungary became a Dual Monarchy. Both crowns have equal status, but in reality, Austria remains the dominant partner. Hungary resents this.

Austria Hungary rules an increasingly restless multinational population. Rather like teenagers rebelling against their parents, many Slav states want to break away from Austro-Hungarian control and establish their own national identities.

Bosnia and Herzegovina are particularly bothersome; they look up to the newly independent Serbia.

You feel that you must reassert your authority: after all, you are a Habsburg and joint ruler of the second largest country in Europe after the Russian Empire.

You quarrel with Hungary in private, but in public you present a united front and she genuinely supports your firm stance on the Slav minorities.

**Costume:** Old fashioned military-style great coat

**Props:** A large false handlebar moustache

*You are not a real historical character*

### Hungary\*\*\*\*

You are a glamorous and dissatisfied woman with a strong pride in your Magyar identity.

Like a younger 'trophy wife', you are trapped in marriage to Austria. This was not so bad when Austria was a great and impressive empire, (with a magnificent moustache), but now he is old and his powers are declining.

You have managed to get greater freedom for Hungary: The Austro-Hungarian Compromise of 1867, turned you and Austria into a Dual Monarchy, where both crowns are supposed to have equal status. In reality, Austria remains the dominant partner and controls foreign policy and the armed forces. You resent this.

One thing upon which you and Austria agree, is your firm determination to keep control of your restless multinational population. Bosnia and Herzegovina behave like resentful teenagers, rebelling against their parents. They admire Serbia, which recently became independent after its success in the Balkan Wars of 1912 - 13. They are threatening to break away and establish their own national identities. You are determined to prevent this.

**Costume:** A glamorous, brightly coloured and embroidered Hungarian national costume

*You are not a real historical character*

## Character Cards

Asterisks indicate the size and complexity of each part: the more asterisks, the bigger the part.

### Franz Ferdinand\*\*\*

You are the 39 year old heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne. Although you are heir to a dual crown, you believe that Hungarian nationalism is a threat to the Dual Monarchy so you tend not to trust the Hungarians.

You are an interesting character, who married for love and has some enlightened political views.

You believe that ethnic groups within the Empire have genuine grievances and should be given greater autonomy.

You also advocate a tactful approach to the newly independent Serbia, warning that harsh treatment by Austria Hungary would cause Russia to intervene and destroy both empires. This approach brings you into conflict with your uncle, the Emperor Franz Josef, the present ruler of Austria Hungary.

Costume: High necked military uniform and medals.

*You are a real historical character*

### Count Andr ssy the Younger\*\*\*

You are the minister-president of Hungary. You have a strong sense of your Magyar identity and do all you can to resist the 'Germanisation' of your country by Austria.

You are determined to assert the status of Hungary, as specified in the Austro-Hungarian Compromise of 1867.

In practice, Austria remains the dominant partner in the Dual Monarchy and controls foreign policy and the armed forces. You resent this.

At the Congress of Berlin, 1878, your father (then the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister), managed to take control of Bosnia-Herzegovina from the Ottoman Empire. Austria Hungary then annexed Bosnia Herzegovina in 1881. This provoked a Slav nationalist backlash which you believe is a threat to the stability of Austria Hungary. You think that the ethnic minorities within Austria Hungary must be kept under control. You particularly fear the newly independent and enlarged Serbia, which emerged with much prestige from the Balkan Wars of 1912-13. You are afraid that Russia will use its influence on Serbia to inveigle its way into the Balkans and threaten Austro-Hungarian interests there.

**Costume:** Dark suit and cravat

**Props:** An ancient, over-stuffed suitcase, shared by Hungary and Austria. It contains a multi ethnic population and a military alliance with Germany and Italy called the Triple Alliance. A scroll

*You are a real historical character*

## Character Cards

Asterisks indicate the size and complexity of each part: the more asterisks, the bigger the part.

### Russia\*\*\*\*

You are a huge, powerful giant of a man. You may be slow to get moving, but once you start, you are like a steamroller, crushing all before you.

You are one of the Great Powers of Europe. You have an enormous population, so you can field a huge army, but recently, you have suffered a humiliating defeat at the hands of the Japanese.

This has made you keenly aware of your industrial and military shortcomings. In 1907, you signed the Triple Entente with Great Britain and France. This alliance gives you military and diplomatic support, as well as access to the industrial expertise of your allies.

You see yourself as the protector of the Slavs and this brings you into conflict with Austria Hungary in the Balkans. Austria Hungary is determined to curb the nationalism of provinces like Bosnia and Herzegovina and smash the influence of the newly independent Serbia.

You desperately need a warm water port and friendship with the newly independent Serbia will ensure that you can trade through the Baltic Sea into the Adriatic.

**Costume:** Russian military uniform

*You are not a real historical character*

### Serbia\*

You are a feisty ex-fighter who has fought for Serbian independence since 1804.

You push both the Ottoman Empire and the Habsburg Empire out of your lands and in the Balkan Wars 1912-13 you doubled your territory and became the first independent Slav state.

To many Slavs in the Balkans you are a hero and an inspiration.

You want to create a huge south Slav state by incorporating Bosnia and Herzegovina. This brings you into direct conflict with Austria Hungary, who fears the collapse of its multi-national empire. Austria Hungary fears Serbia and the impact Serbian independence is having on its multinational population. Austria Hungary is determined to crush Serbian influence at the first opportunity.

Russia sees itself as the protector of the Slavs and supports Serbia. You are no fool and you know that it is in Russia's interests to keep on good terms with Serbia to ensure Russia has access to a warm water port in the Adriatic.

**Costume:** A leather jacket.

**Props:** 'Shades' (sunglasses)

*You are not a real historical character*

## Character Cards

Asterisks indicate the size and complexity of each part: the more asterisks, the bigger the part.

### Bosnia\*\*

You are a sulky teenager who resents the fact that you have been controlled, first by the Ottoman Empire and then, after the Congress of Berlin in 1878, by Austria Hungary, which annexed Bosnia Herzegovina in 1881.

Austria keeps you under control by force of arms, but then introduced many social and administrative reforms designed to make you accept Austro-Hungarian rule. This modernisation does not win you over.

You have a strong sense of national identity and resentment against the Austro-Hungarians bubbles under the surface constantly. You are a great admirer of Serbia, which became independent after the Balkan Wars 1912 - 13 and would love to be incorporated in a south Slav state, spearheaded by Serbia. Austria Hungary will do anything to prevent this happening. It will be a Bosnian Serb nationalist, Gavrilo Princip, who will assassinate Franz Ferdinand in June 1914 and set in train the events that lead to World War I.

**Costume:** Scruffy jeans and T shirt with political slogans

*You are not a real historical character*

### Slovenia\*\*

You are a sulky teenager, who is deeply resentful of the way Austria and Hungary (like controlling parents) run every aspect of your life.

Slovenia has been under Austrian control since the 14<sup>th</sup> century, but you have a strong sense of your national identity and you desperately want cultural and political autonomy. You have been struggling to assert this independent national identity since 1848 (a period known as the Slovene National Awakening).

You admire the newly independent Serbia and would like to join in a South Slav state. Like parents, determined to prevent their offspring breaking away, Austria Hungary is determined to put a stop to these nationalistic ideas.

**Costume:** Scruffy jeans and T shirt with political slogans

*You are not a real historical character*

## Character Cards

Asterisks indicate the size and complexity of each part: the more asterisks, the bigger the part.

### Germany\*\*\*\*

You are a brash, young German officer with an over-confidence that irks the older countries of Europe. In fact, you lack self confidence and feel threatened by the established nations.

Despite a strong sense of German nationalism, you did not exist as a united country until 1871.

In order to unite, you had to defeat Austria Hungary, but you took care to rebuild relations on the basis of your shared German cultural identity. You did not adopt the same charm offensive with France, on whom you inflicted a humiliating defeat in the Franco Prussian War of 1870-71. Germany besieged Paris and starved the citizens, then annexed two French provinces called Alsace and Lorraine. France can never forgive Germany for this and remains your bitter enemy, which is why you have made a strong military alliance with Austria Hungary and Italy (the Triple Alliance of 1882) and developed a strong and powerful army and navy to protect you against attack.

German economic and military strength worries the Great Powers of Europe; France, Russia and Great Britain have signed the Triple Entente 1907 to protect themselves from what they see as your threatening position.

**Costume:** German military uniform

**Props:** A brand new, modern suitcase, with the latest clasps and features. A military alliance with Germany (and Italy) called the Triple Alliance, first signed in 1882.

*You are not a real historical character*

### General Sukhomlinov\*\*\*

You are the 66 year old Minister of War and Chief of the Russian General Staff. You are a close advisor to Tsar Nicholas and manage to persuade the Russian government to increase spending on the army.

You have many enemies inside the Russian military; Grand Duke Nicholas is a bitter critic who accuses you of dishonesty and incompetence. The good opinion of the Tsar protects you from dismissal, but this in-fighting helps to explain Russia's military stagnation between 1905 - 1912.

You attempt to modernise the Russian army by updating its archaic communications systems and reducing its reliance of the cavalry, but you also continue to train the infantry in the use of sabres and bayonets, rather than firepower, which is a mistake. You actually boast that you: 'have not read a military manual for the past 25 years.'

You are not particularly successful in modernising the Russian Army and updating its methods of waging war, so when you advise the Tsar in 1914, that the Russian army is 'combat-ready', you are over-stating the case.

**Costume:** Russian military uniform

**Props:** A huge suitcase packed with a massive army, some outdated weaponry, the Triple Entente of 1907 and a large false moustache.

*You are a real historical character*

## Character Cards

Asterisks indicate the size and complexity of each part: the more asterisks, the bigger the part.

### Great Britain\*\*\*

You are a smart, efficient young naval officer. Usually you brim with self confidence; but recently, you have begun to doubt your decision to remain aloof from European politics.

You are worried about the military might of Germany.

Led by its militaristic Kaiser Wilhelm II, Germany is building up a navy large enough to challenge the Royal Navy. You feel threatened by this and so you sign the Entente Cordiale with France in 1904 and the Triple Entente with Russia in 1907.

Despite German naval expansion, Britain's navy is still the greatest navy in the world and the British Empire covers almost a quarter of the world's land area.

**Costume:** British naval uniform

**Props:** a modern, sleek suitcase with all the latest gadgets and features. The Triple Entente (1907) and a large false moustache.

*You are not a real historical character*

### Sir Edward Grey\*\*

You become Britain's Foreign Secretary in 1905 and sign the Triple Entente with Russia in 1907. This alliance was intended to maintain a 'balance of power' in Europe, by counterbalancing the Triple Alliance of Germany, Austria Hungary and Italy.

Britain's foreign policy has been described as 'Splendid Isolation', because the strength of the British navy and the extent of the British Empire meant that Britain felt no need to form European alliances.

However, the increasing military and industrial strength of the newly unified Germany makes Britain feel vulnerable, particularly after the Moroccan Crises of 1905 and 1911.

In the immediate aftermath of the assassination of Franz Ferdinand, you attempt to mediate between Austria Hungary and Serbia, but Germany's strong support of Austria's position undermines your efforts. Historians suggest that you failed to warn Germany violation of Belgian neutrality would bring Britain into the war until German troops were already on the Belgian border, a failure that may arguably have affected the German decision to invade.

On the outbreak of war, you are credited with saying the immortal lines: 'The lamps are going out all over Europe. We shall not see them lit again in our time.'

*You are a real historical character*

## Character Cards

Asterisks indicate the size and complexity of each part: the more asterisks, the bigger the part.

### France\*\*\*\*

You are battle-hardened French officer, who has recently seen action in the Franco Prussian War of 1870-71. You still suffer from the injuries inflicted at that time and have a slight limp which you endeavour to disguise.

France is one of Europe's Great Powers, but defeat by Germany and the added insult of having two French provinces called Alsace and Lorraine annexed into Germany, have made you bitter and determined to get revenge.

You are building up your military strength and reinforcing the Maginot Line in preparation for war. You believe your alliance with Russia is the key to success – Germany is trapped between your two countries and will find it hard to fight a war on two fronts. The Entente Cordiale 1904, between France and Great Britain gives you even greater security; this becomes the Triple Entente in 1907.

You are convinced that German militarism is a threat to France. In 1911, Kaiser Wilhelm II sailed his gunboat into Agadir and sparked off the Moroccan Crisis in 1911: an attempt to interfere in a French colony and disrupt the Triple Entente.

**Costume:** French military uniform.

*You are not a real historical character*

### Raymond Poincaré\*\*

You are Prime Minister and President of France. You are a conservative, with a powerful sense of national pride. You dominate foreign policy with your strong anti-German bias. You lived through the Franco Prussian War of 1870 to 71, when Germany invaded and conquered France, besieging Paris and starving the citizens. You bitterly resent the punitive peace terms by which two French provinces, Alsace and Lorraine, were annexed into Germany. You are convinced that German militarism is a threat to France and that war is imminent. You are building up French forces and reinforcing the Maginot Line in preparation for war. You believe your alliance with Russia is the key to success – Germany is trapped between the two countries and will find it hard to fight a war on two fronts. The Entente Cordiale 1904 and Triple Entente 1907, between France, Russia and Great Britain gives you even greater security.

You travel twice to Russia to maintain firm ties with your most important ally. In fact, you are on the return journey by sea, after one such a meeting when Austria Hungary issues its ultimatum to Serbia in July 1914.

**Costume:** Dark suit, white shirt and bow tie

**Props:** A heavy suitcase packed with military hardware, a large army, the Triple Entente 1907 and a large false moustache.

*You are a real historical character*

## Character Cards

Asterisks indicate the size and complexity of each part: the more asterisks, the bigger the part.

### Von Moltke\*\*\*\*

You are Chief of the German General Staff and nephew to the man who master minded the military campaigns against Austria Hungary and France that led to the unification of Germany in 1871.

You are part of Kaiser Willhelm II's close inner circle and owe your position to his support. Your predecessor, Alfred von Schlieffen, devised the Schlieffen Plan, Germany's only stratagem for fighting a war on two fronts against Russia and France. The Schlieffen Plan requires German forces to march through neutral Belgium. When this happens in 1914, it brings Greta Britain into the war.

You clash with Kaiser Willhelm at the outbreak of war, when he tells you to abort the invasion of France, believing that Britain would then remain neutral. You refuse, knowing that altering the existing plans, would throw the German armed forces into chaos. This refusal makes you ill with stress and leads to your replacement by Von Falkenhayn.

**Costume:** German military uniform

**Props:** A brand new, modern suitcase, packed with a large modern army, a fast-growing navy, modern weaponry, a military alliance with Germany and Italy called the Triple Alliance and a large false moustache. A postcard of a Dreadnought.

*You are a real historical character*

### Belgium\*

You are a non-combatant tradesman with a bright and determined disposition.

Belgium is a highly successful industrialised centre of commerce which had been under Dutch control since The Congress of Vienna, 1815.

In the Belgian Revolution of 1830, you overthrew Dutch control and established the kingdom of Belgium. Your sovereignty was confirmed by the Great Powers of Europe at the London Conference in 1830 and your neutrality was guaranteed by the Treaty of London, 1839.

Germany's war strategy, the Schlieffen Plan, requires German troops to march through Belgium en route for France. You refuse Germany free passage through your territory and fight courageously against a German force ten times your size.

The violation of Belgian neutrality is the reason for Britain entering the war in 1914.

**Costume:** Dark suit, white shirt and tie

**Props:** A salesman's suitcase of coal, steel, glass and textiles

*You are not a real historical character*

## Character Cards

Asterisks indicate the size and complexity of each part: the more asterisks, the bigger the part.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chuck Morris**</b></p> <p>You are an American action hero from the 21<sup>st</sup> century. You have played many violent characters in Hollywood films and TV series. This experience has taught you that violence achieves nothing.</p> <p>You have teamed up with Austrian and Belgian action heroes, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Jean Claude fan Damn to take this message back to the countries on the brink of war in 1914.</p> <p>You hope to persuade them to seek peace through arbitration, discussion and reconciliation.</p> <p><b>Costume:</b> a muscle-packed T-shirt and combat trousers  <b>Props:</b> An American accent</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>You are not a real historical character</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Arnold Schwarzenegger*</b></p> <p>You are an Austro-American action hero from the 21<sup>st</sup> century. You have played many violent characters in Hollywood films. This experience has taught you that violence achieves nothing.</p> <p>You have teamed up with American and Belgian action heroes, Chuck Morris and Jean Claude fan Damn to take this message back to the countries on the brink of war in 1914.</p> <p>You hope to persuade them to seek peace through arbitration, discussion and reconciliation.</p> <p><b>Costume:</b> a muscle-packed T-shirt and combat trousers  <b>Props:</b> An Austrian accent</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>You are not a real historical character</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sound Effects Operator (SFX)</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(A non-speaking part)</i></p> <p>You supply the sound effects. Follow the script for your cues. One of the Narrators will prompt you like this:</p> <p><b>N2:</b> <i>(Suddenly, a train thunders past and all the lights go out.)</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>You are not a real historical character</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Jean Claude fan Damn*</b></p> <p>You are a Belgian action hero from the 21<sup>st</sup> century. You have played many violent characters in Hollywood films. This experience has taught you that violence achieves nothing.</p> <p>You have teamed up with two other action heroes, Chuck Morris and Arnold Schwarzenegger, to take this message back to the countries on the brink of war in 1914. You hope to persuade them to seek peace through arbitration, discussion and reconciliation.</p> <p><b>Costume:</b> a muscle-packed T-shirt and combat trousers  <b>Props:</b> A French accent</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>You are not a real historical character</i></p>

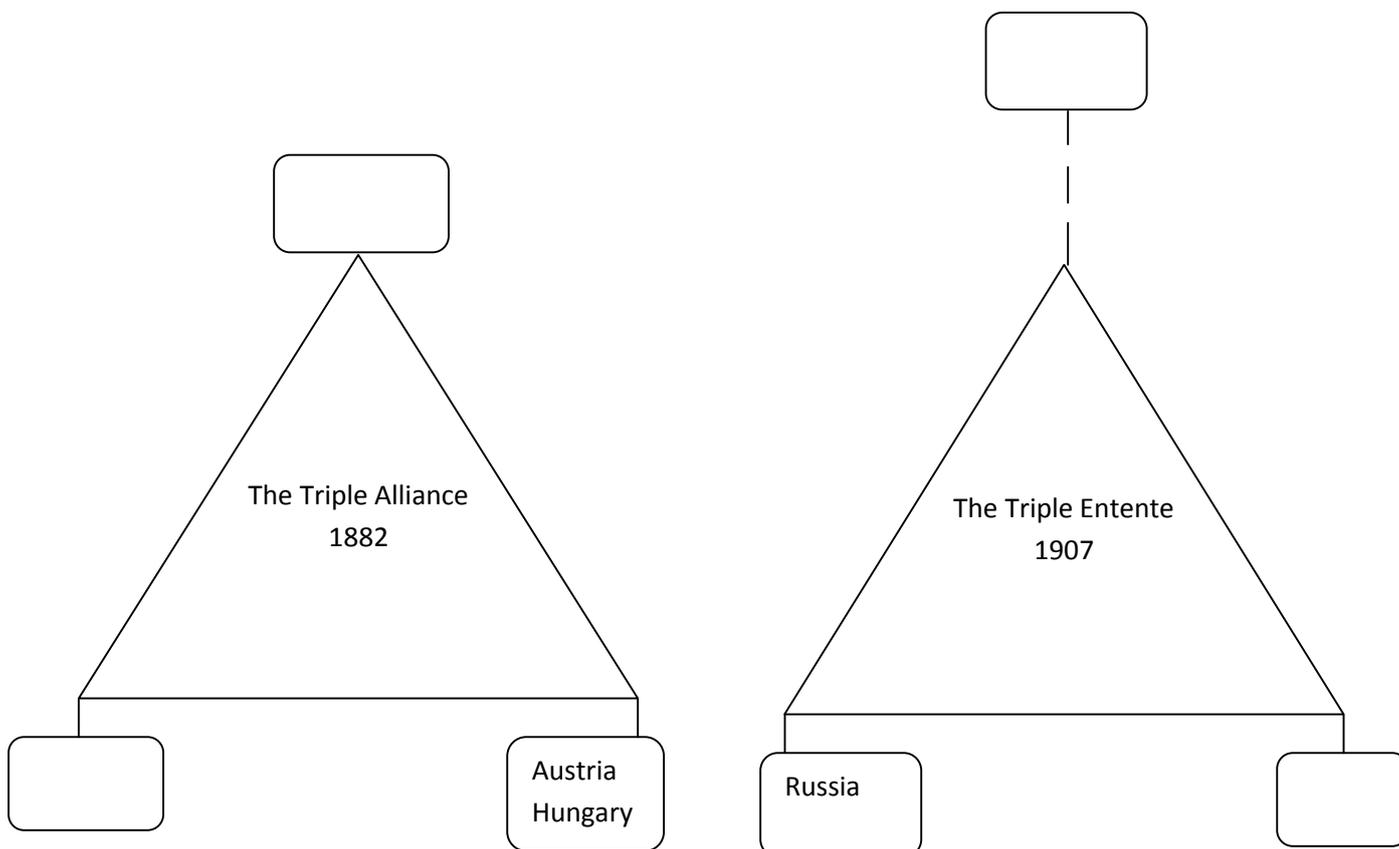
## Character Cards

Asterisks indicate the size and complexity of each part: the more asterisks, the bigger the part.

Gavrilo Princip	Ottoman Empire/ Turkey*
<p data-bbox="443 268 728 300"><i>(A non-speaking part)</i></p> <p data-bbox="94 347 1079 453">You are a 19 year old Serbian student who belongs to the Black Hand Gang. You are nationalistic and you would do anything to undermine Austria-Hungarian control.</p> <p data-bbox="94 501 1079 647">You and six friends have come to Sarajevo in Bosnia to assassinate Archduke Franz Ferdinand. So far you have thrown bombs at him and missed. You had almost given up and gone for a sandwich in Schiller's Café, when the Archduke's car does a three point turn directly in front of you.</p> <p data-bbox="94 695 1079 762">You shoot him in the throat and Sophie, his wife in the stomach and kill them both. This event sparks off the First World War.</p> <p data-bbox="94 810 728 842"><b>Costume:</b> Little black moustache, a scruffy jacket</p> <p data-bbox="94 850 436 882"><b>Props:</b> an automatic pistol</p> <p data-bbox="369 930 806 962"><i>You are a real historical character</i></p>	<p data-bbox="1111 268 2119 453">You are a tired, ancient man, exhausted by centuries of maintaining your control over the vast Ottoman Empire. At the height of your strength, in the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries, the Ottoman Empire stretched across south east Europe, including the Balkan states, western Asia, the Caucasus, north Africa and the Horn of Africa.</p> <p data-bbox="1111 461 2119 730">In the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, you are a shadow of your former self. Defeated in the Crimean War (1853 -56), Russo-Turkish War (1877-78) and the Balkan Wars (1912-13), your power is at its lowest ebb. Serbia has become independent and Bosnia and Herzegovina has been annexed by Austria Hungary. You fought this, but your troops were defeated in three weeks. You are exhausted, but you cannot forget that you were once a Great Power. Your nickname now is 'The Sick Man of Europe'.</p> <p data-bbox="1111 778 2119 810"><b>Costume:</b> The old, dusty, 17<sup>th</sup> century outfit of a Turkish military commander</p> <p data-bbox="1366 930 1854 962"><i>You are not a real historical character</i></p>

## Worksheet – lesson 2

- Turn your page sideways and draw two triangles (see below).  
Using the information you have gained from the script, complete the two alliance systems:



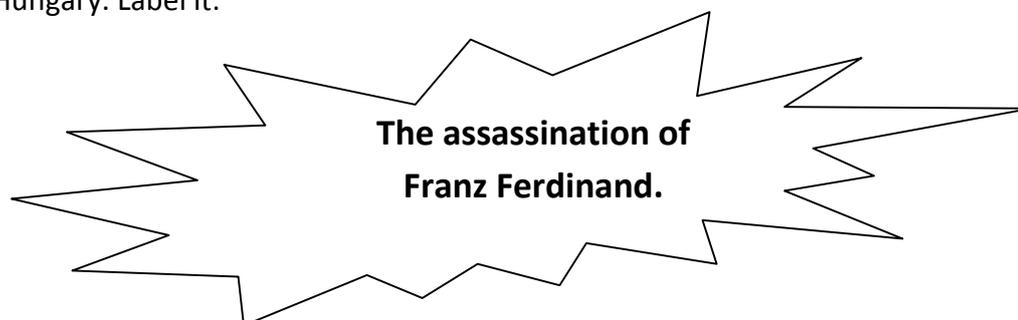
- Look at **Pages 7 and 8** in the script.

- Which Triple Entente country should be connected by broken lines because it did not form a military alliance with its allies?
- Think of 3 reasons why this country felt confident enough to remain apart from the European alliance systems.

- Look at **Page 9** in the script.

- Which country in the Triple Alliance did not fight on the side of the Alliance powers in 1914?

4. Use different coloured pens and connect Serbia, Bosnia, Slovenia, the Ottoman Empire and Belgium to the main alliance systems.
5. Use coloured pens and draw an explosion in the space between Russia and Austria Hungary. Label it:



This is the spark that ignites the First World War.

6. Find **Page 14**. Explain how Great Britain became involved in the war.
7. Bring up a map of Europe 1914 on the whiteboard for reference.  
Split into the groups below, based on your characters and the countries to which you belonged.

<b>France, Poincaré, Narrator 1, Jean Claude fan Damn</b>	<b>Russia, Sukhomlinov, Narrator 2, Arnold Schwarzenfeffer</b>
<b>Great Britain, Sir Edward Grey Narrator 3, Sound Effects Operator</b>	<b>Germany, Von Moltke, Narrator 4, Chuck Morris</b>
<b>Franz Ferdinand, Andrassy, Austria and Hungary, Ottoman Empire</b>	<b>Serbia, Bosnia, Slovenia, Gavrilo Princip</b>

You acted out the events of 1914, so you have an inside view of your country's fears, feelings and behaviour; however, you are back in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and your job is to look at your country's behaviour objectively.

**Narrators, Sound Effects Operator, Chuck Morris, Arnold Schwarzenfeffer and Jean Claude fan Damn** will help to maintain an objective, unbiased view.

**Remember, you are trying to understand, explain and ultimately discover whether it is possible to defuse the situation that led to the First World War.**

<b>HIGHEST THREAT LEVEL 6</b>	<b>THREAT LEVEL 5</b>
<b>THREAT LEVEL 4</b>	<b>THREAT LEVEL 3</b>
<b>THREAT LEVEL 2</b>	<b>LOWEST THREAT LEVEL 1</b>

### Collaborative Card Game:

#### Task 1:

Design a mind map or make a list of all the countries you are afraid of and briefly explain the reasons why.

In a different colour, make a list of all the nebulous things that your country is afraid of: loss of power, status, territory, economic strength, independence, influence and so on.

*Pages 7 to 18 of the script will help you with this task*

#### Task 2:

Cut out the six threat cards on the preceding page. Most groups will not need all their cards. Serbia's group may need extra cards.

Rank the countries you feel most threatened by and decide on the level of threat you feel: Highest Threat Level 6 to Lowest Threat Level 1.

Place your cards in order.

#### Task 3:

Now look at all the things your country has put in place to defend itself against its enemies. You should be prepared to dismantle these defences if other acceptable assurances for your safety can be offered.

*Pages 18 to 22 of the script will help you with this task*

- Sit in a circle. You are about to play a collaborative game of cards.
- The aim of the game is to avoid going to war as Europe did in 1914.
- Remember you are no longer in character – you bring your own personalities to bear on this exercise.
- Throw a dice. Whichever group gets the highest number goes first. All the other groups follow on in a clockwise direction.
- The first group selects the country that poses the biggest threat to them and places that card into the middle of the circle, briefly explaining the issues involved.
- The country on the card must do what it can to reduce the threat they pose to the first group.
- The other groups follow in a clockwise direction.

## Topics for discussion and research:

- What has changed in the 100 years between 1914 and 2014?
- Do you share Chuck Morris' confidence about the forces for peace that exist in the 21<sup>st</sup> century?
- In 2012, the EU received the Nobel Peace Prize for 'transforming most of Europe from a continent of war to a continent of peace' – how far does the EU deserve this accolade, in your opinion?  
If you accept that the EU is a force for peace, what elements of the EU encourage the peaceful co-existence of European nations?
- How successfully has the UN defused, prevented or stopped the outbreak of war in Europe?
- What other factors exist in 2014 that affect the relationships between European countries? Are they forces likely to foster peace or war? Explain your ideas.

## Can individuals make a difference?

- Research the achievements of **Nelson Mandela** and **Frederick Willem de Klerk** in ending apartheid in South Africa.
- Find out more about **Jean Jaures** and **Baroness Bertha von Suttner**. Why were these individuals unable to avert war in 1914?
- Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany, King George V of Great Britain and Tsar Nicholas II of Russia were cousins. Why did this family connection not stop them going to war? How much influence did the political systems in Germany, Great Britain and Russia give to their monarchs?  
Research the characters of all three men. What impact might their characters have had on the descent into war?  
Does a democratic system make the maintenance of peace more or less likely?
- The leaders of France and Germany were so oblivious to the likelihood that the assassination of Franz Ferdinand and Austro-Hungary's ultimatum would lead to war that they went on holiday: Von Moltke took a four week break at a health spa, Kaiser Wilhelm of Germany went sailing off the coast of Norway, Poincaré and the French Prime Minister Viviani set sail for St Petersburg for discussions with their Russian allies.  
Is there a danger that war might take Europe by surprise in 2014?