



US Entry into World War I (11.4.4)

Background:

In June 1914 the assassination of the Archduke of Austria-Hungary set in motion events that led to the start of the First World War or Great War. Many in America saw this as a purely European conflict and not something that the United States should get involved in. In an address to Congress in 1914 President Wilson said that the US would remain neutral in the war in Europe. Then in 1917 the United States declared war on the Central Powers and the US was then directly involved in the Great War.

Prompt:

Why did the United States enter World War I?

Task:

In a well-thought out essay:

- Write a thesis in response to the prompt.
- Explain what evidence in the documents led you to this conclusion.
- Be certain to cite at least four pieces of evidence from the documents that support your thesis.