MOORE HOUSE ACADEMY | GRADE 8 HISTORY

TERM 4 • LESSON 1 • LONG-TERM CAUSES OF WORLD WAR I

WORKSHEET B | Source skills and historical writing

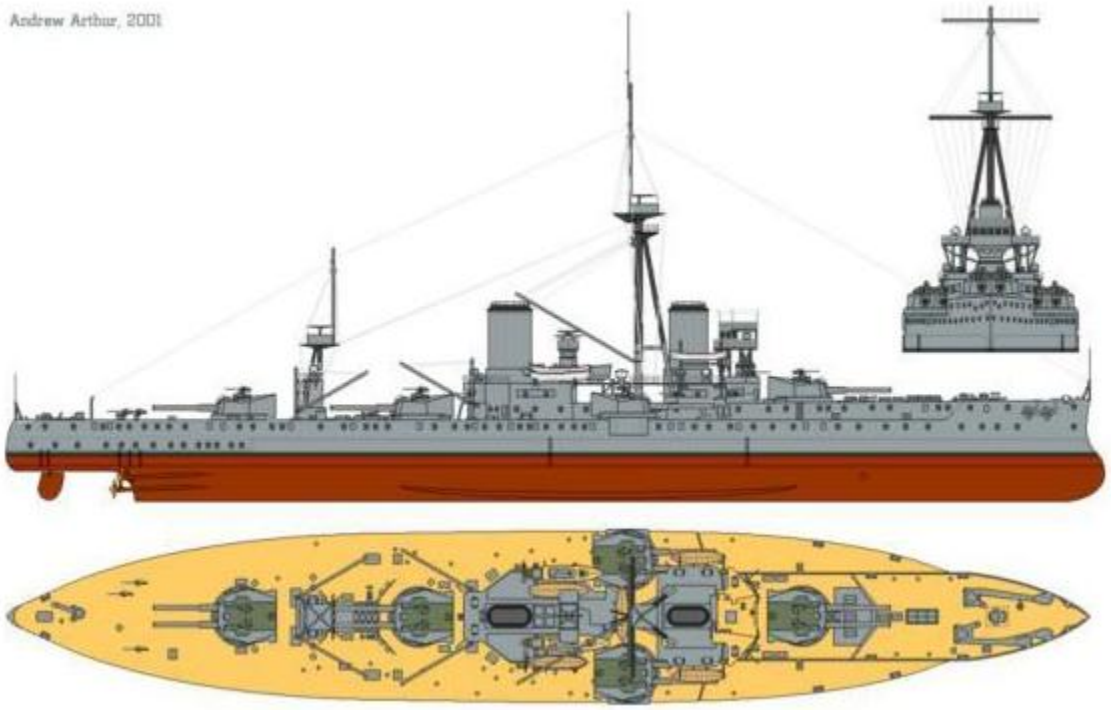
Name: _____ Date: _____

Learning goal: use a short information source, distinguish facts from interpretations, and write a well-supported paragraph.

SOURCE A | Britain and Germany at sea



Historical information summary: Britain depended heavily on sea routes to trade with its empire. Germany expanded its navy as its industry and international ambitions grew.



In 1906 Britain launched HMS Dreadnought, a new type of powerful battleship. The two countries then competed to build modern warships. Each government hoped a stronger navy would protect its interests, but competition also increased suspicion.

A1. Name the two countries competing at sea. (2)

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A2. Give one reason Britain wanted a strong navy. (1)

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A3. Explain how building warships for security could make another country feel less secure. (2)

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A4. Is Source A a first-hand account from 1914 or a modern summary? Explain how you know. (2)

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SOURCE B | Nationalism and rivalries

In some European countries, national pride encouraged people to believe their country should be powerful and respected. In large empires, some communities wanted to govern themselves. Both imperial pride and movements for independence could produce conflict.



B1. Describe two different ways nationalism could increase tensions. (2)

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B2. Why would the government of a large empire be worried by calls for independence? (2)

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Historical writing | PEEL paragraph (6 marks)

Question: Explain how TWO long-term causes increased tensions in Europe before 1914. Use one specific historical example.

P — Point: Name your two causes and state your main idea.
E — Evidence: Include a relevant example (e.g. naval rivalry, overseas colonies or nationalist movements).
E — Explain: Show HOW the causes increased distrust or competition.
L — Link: Connect back to the rising danger of conflict; do not claim war was inevitable.

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Self-check:

☐ Two causes named

☐ Historical example

☐ Cause-and-effect explanation

☐ Clear concluding link