**EOCT Review**

**Chapter 12: The US in WWI**

* + World War I broke out in Europe in 1914 between the Allies (Britain, France and Russia) and the Central powers (Germany, Austria-Hungary, and the Ottoman Empire). The countries at war quickly reached a deadlock, with defensive trenches running hundreds of miles across Europe.
  + Britain set up a naval blockade of Germany. Germany declared a blockade of Britain of Allied shipping and war supplies to Britain, which it enforced with its submarines. Americans continued, as neutrals, to trade with Britain.
  + In the first three years of the war, the United States followed its traditional policy of neutrality. Publication of the secret Zimmerman Telegram, in which Germany offered Mexico the return of some of its former territory taken by the United States, and unrestricted submarine warfare by Germany led to American entry into the war in April 1917.
  + Entry into the war had important domestic effects. Men volunteered or were conscripted into military service. New government agencies coordinated wartime production, the railways, the use of coal and gasoline, and labor disputes.
  + As men went off to war, women and minorities filled their places in factories, farms, and railroads. African Americans left the South for jobs in Northern factories, beginning the “Great Migration.”
  + During the war, individual rights were restricted in the interests of national security. The Espionage Act of 1917 permitted government censorship of the mails and imprisonment of those who interfered with the draft. The Sedition Act of 1918 prohibited the use of “disloyal” language. The socialist and labor leader Eugene Debs was imprisoned for speaking out against the war.
  + The arrival of American troops in Europe broke the deadlock between the Allies and the Central powers. In November 1918, Germany surrendered.
  + President Woodrow Wilson announced American war aims in January 1918 in the “Fourteen Points.” These included national self-determination for the peoples of Europe; freedom of the seas; equal trade terms; a reduction in armaments; an end to secret diplomacy; and the creation of the League of Nations.
  + President Wilson traveled to Paris to negotiate the treaties ending the war. The Treaty of Versailles was especially harsh on Germany. The Treaty included a section creating the League of Nations, a new international organization to preserve peace. When Wilson returned to the United States, the U.S. Senate refused to ratify the treaty or to join the League of Nations.