



World War I
Lesson 11
“The War in Europe” Paragraphs

Directions: Use The War in Europe Learning Tree and paragraphs 1-4 of the “World War I” lesson to write two paragraphs addressing the following:

- 1. Describe the situation on the Western Front. What effect did the high casualties have on the French Army?**
- 2. Describe the situation on the Eastern Front. What effect did the high casualties have on Russia?**

Sample Paragraphs:

By 1917 the war in Europe had ground to a stalemate. On the Western Front the French and British faced the Germans across hundreds of miles of trenches. The casualties were enormous. A British offensive in the summer of 1917 captured just six square miles of territory at a cost of 448,614 killed, wounded, and missing soldiers. French casualties were even more appalling. They caused 750,000 men to mutiny and shoot their officers or refuse their orders.

The situation on the Eastern Front was even worse. Russia’s war dead numbered 1.3 million, and it was also locked in a stalemate with Germany. The regime of Tsar Nicholas II was threatened by these losses. His people were growing tired of the war, making an already unstable political situation worse. In February of 1917 he was forced to step down. He was replaced by a provisional government, which was eventually overthrown by Vladimir Lenin’s Bolsheviks. Lenin surrendered to the Germans the following year, allowing the Germans to transfer all their troops from the Eastern to the Western Front.