

MAKING CLAIMS – WORLD WAR I

Purpose

You practice testing claims a lot in this course. You make claims as well, often within the context of writing assignments. This activity gives you the opportunity to focus squarely on making claims...and counterclaims. Not only will this help you assess your ability to make strong, evidence-backed claims, but will also give you an idea of how well you understand the causes of World War I.

Process

This is a quick activity where you're asked to make two claims and one counterclaim about the origins of World War I.

Take out the Making Claims – World War I worksheet and come up with two claims about why World War I began. Using course materials, find two pieces of evidence that support each of your claims. Once you've written your two claims and provided supporting evidence, write one counterclaim that relates to one of claims. You should also find two pieces of evidence to back up your counterclaim.

Be prepared to share your claims at the end of class. Note that your claims are most likely what we refer to as causal claims. Historical claims often relate to historical thinking practices such as causation, CCOT, and comparison. You should consider the types of historical claims you want to make when responding to a particular type of historical question.

MAKING CLAIMS – WORLD WAR I

Name:

Date:

Directions: Come up with two claims and one counterclaim about why World War I began.

Claim 1:			
Evidence		Citation	
Evidence		Citation	

Claim 2:			
Evidence		Citation	
Evidence		Citation	

Counterclaim:			
Evidence		Citation	
Evidence		Citation	