

WORLD WAR I AND BEYOND

Reading Strategy**Sequence**

When you study history, it is important to understand the order in which events and developments happened. Understanding sequence will help you understand whether and how events caused other events.

Authors do not always describe events in chronological order. You need to look for clues to help you identify when things happened. Dates clearly tell the exact order in which events took place. However, an author may not give a date for every event. Sequence words such as *next*, *then*, *before*, *after*, and *finally* can also tell you when one event occurred in relation to other events. Keep in mind that two or more events may have happened at the same time.

Directions: Read the following paragraph about the beginning of World War I. Then answer the questions below.

The United States entered World War I in 1917. By that time, though, Europe had already been at war for nearly three years. Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia in July 1914. Germany, an ally of Austria-Hungary, declared war on Russia after Russia made preparations to come to Serbia's aid. Next, France declared war on Germany. Germany then declared war on Belgium so that German troops could march through Belgium to attack France. Finally, Great Britain declared war on Germany in support of its ally, France.

Hint: Make a timeline on which you write events in chronological order. Include a date for each event if the author gives one. Otherwise, simply put events in time order.

1. Which event described in the paragraph happened first?

2. Which event happened last?

3. What happened immediately after Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia?
