



MacArthur Memorial Education Programs

The Best Laid Plans Viewing Guide

Directions: Complete the statements and questions below as you view the video *The Best Laid Plans*.

1. According to sociologist Max Weber, the war in Europe would be “ _____ and _____.”
2. Prior to the war, which country was allied with Germany but then declared neutrality and eventually joined the Allies?
 - a. Belgium
 - b. Italy
 - c. Russia
3. Germany’s _____ _____ anticipates a two front war in which Germany will face _____ and _____.
4. According to von Schlieffen, which enemy did Germany need to conquer first?
 - a. France
 - b. Russia
 - c. Great Britain
5. In order to invade France and capture Paris, the German army entered France through neutral _____.
6. Why does Great Britain enter the war?
 - a. The French needed assistance defending Paris
 - b. Germany violated Belgium’s neutrality
 - c. The Zimmerman telegram threatened British national security
7. New wartime technologies such as the _____ _____ change the face of warfare and casualty rates reach into the hundreds of thousands.

8. How did the Russian army surprise Germany?
 - a. They surrendered within the first month of warfare
 - b. They quickly crushed German forces on the eastern front
 - c. They mobilized much faster than anticipated

9. Orders to destroy the _____ are given in early September after the German army closes in on Paris.

10. Because German Generals von Kluck and von Bulow advanced too quickly on Paris, they created a gap in the German lines. This gap sets the stage for the famous Battle of the _____.

11. The video began with a quote by Max Weber which stated “regardless of outcome, this war is great and wonderful” and ended with the statement “there is nothing great or wonderful about this war at all.” What evidence in the film proved Weber’s statement to be incorrect?