How did Imperial Rivalry contribute to the outbreak of War?

L/O – To consider how imperialism led to increasing tension between the two alliances
Definitions

- Kaiser
- Imperial
- Nationalism
- Militarism
- Power-vacuum

belief in having a strong military
relative to economics
supporting your nation or national identity

Can you match each word to its definition? Press start to begin.
The Race for Colonies

- In 1914, many people lived in **colonies** ruled by one the Great Powers.

- Colonies provided European nations with **cheap raw materials** for industry and also a place where the Europeans could sell their **home-produced goods**.

- Between 1750-1900, Britain took over **£1000 million** in tax and goods from its empire.

- Some colonies were important as **military or trading bases** such as Egypt due to the Suez Canal.
German Threat

• Britain and France both had huge overseas empires which made them rich and powerful. As such, they were determined to protect their colonies from any country which threatened them.

• Kaiser Wilhelm II in 1901 said he wanted Germany to also have what he called ‘its place in the sun’. He felt that Germany was hemmed in, encircled by the threat of France and Britain.

• Britain and France knew that any gains Germany made would be at their expense. So, as Germany became more threatening, Britain and France became friendlier to help each other resist German expansion.
Exam Question


- Give 3 statements that could be inferred from Source A about British views on German imperial ambitions (3 marks)
The Morocco (Tangier) Crisis - 1905

• In 1904, Britain & France signed the Entente Cordiale which committed them to work together. Kaiser Wilhelm II decided to test how strong that agreement was.

• He knew France wanted control of Morocco, one of the few remaining independent countries in Africa.

• So in 1905 he visited Tangier in Morocco and made a speech saying he supported the independence of Morocco against French involvement.
The Morocco Crisis - 1905

- Germany then called for a **conference** to discuss the issue but really it was to humiliate France into backing down.

- The French were furious and both France and Germany **prepared for war**.

- Eventually the French agreed to attend a conference in **Algeciras, Spain** to discuss the issue as they did not want to risk war over Morocco.
The Morocco Crisis – Algeciras Conference

- At the conference of 13 nations, only Austria-Hungary supported Germany as France had the support of Britain, Russia, Italy, Spain and the USA.

- They said that although Morocco was independent, France had special rights in the country and won control over the political & financial affairs of Morocco.
The Morocco Crisis - Consequences

- Wilhelm had hoped to split France and Britain but all that he had achieved was that Britain and France moved closer together.

- Britain now agreed to send troops to help France if it was attacked by Germany.

- Although the conference solved the crisis, it only worsened tensions between the Triple Alliance & Triple Entente.
Activity

• **Cut out and stick the cards into either causes or effects of the First Moroccan Crisis.**
The Agadir Crisis - 1911

- Six years later, there was a Second Moroccan Crisis. In 1911, there was a rebellion against the ruler, the Sultan Abdelaziz.

- France sent in troops to put down the uprising and used the rebellion as the opportunity to take over Morocco.

- The French knew that several countries would complain that their trade would be harmed if the French took control, so they offered compensation.
The Agadir Crisis - 1911

- Kaiser Wilhelm II was not satisfied with this so he sent a gunboat, the Panther, to the Moroccan port of Agadir to threaten the French.

- The British were concerned that Wilhelm was trying to set up a naval base in Morocco. So the British Chancellor, David Lloyd George, made a strong speech threatening to go to war if Germany continued to bully France.
The Agadir Crisis - 1911

- The British fleet was told to **prepare for war** to back up this speech.

- Wilhelm realised that his actions could cause war and he also had **economic problems** back home.

- So he backed down and **accepted French control of Morocco** in return for 100,000 sq miles of the French Congo, **but this was mostly just** worthless swamp and jungle.
• Once again, Britain and France had **stood firm** and Wilhelm had been forced to back down.

• As one German complained, the Agadir Crisis had ‘**amused the world and ended by making us look foolish**’.

• Wilhelm was determined that the next contest would not be one in which he looked foolish. Tension between the Great Powers was **growing**.
Exam Question

- **Source A** → A British cartoon showing Kaiser Wilhelm. The Caption reads, ‘It’s Rock. I thought it was going to be paper’.

- **Give three statements that could inferred from Source A about the 1911 Agadir crisis (3 marks)**

  **SOLID.**

  Germany. “DONNERWETTER! IT’S ROCK. I THOUGHT IT WAS GOING TO BE PAPER.”
Activity

• Complete the table by arranging the cards into the correct columns.
The Agadir Crisis 1911

The Moroccan sultan asks the French to help restore order. France sends troops to Morocco.

The German

The German

A war scare

In the Treaty of Berlín, Germany accepts French rule in Morocco in exchange for African territory.

A pro-independence rebellion erupts in Morocco.
Consequences of Morocco Crisis

1. Worsened tensions between the Triple Alliance and Triple Entente.

2. Britain now secretly agreed to send troops to help France if it was attacked by Germany.

2. Showed that the Entente Cordiale was strong as Britain had defended France in the crisis.

3. Led to the Anglo-Russian Entente being signed the following year since both countries backed France.

4. Kaiser Wilhelm II was angry at being humiliated and was determined not to back down again, which lead to German involvement in the Second Moroccan Crisis (Agadir Crisis 1911)

5. France had gained control of the economic and political affairs of Morocco whilst the Police was controlled by both Spain and France.
Copy the following table into your books:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Consequences of Agadir Crisis</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. France subsequently established a full protectorate over Morocco (March 30, 1912), ending Moroccan independence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Increased British fear and hostility and drew Britain closer to France, reinforcing the Entente.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. France and Britain made a naval agreement where the Royal Navy promised to protect the northern coast of France from German attack.</td>
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