**Europe : 1914**

In your books write a definition of each of these words, you can use a dictionary (paper or digital) or your own knowledge. Then read the information below.

1. Continent
2. Dominated
3. Empire
4. Rivals
5. Ambitious
6. Provinces
7. Alliance
8. Hostile

**Pre – war Europe**

In 1914 Europe was an area **dominated** by a small number of great powers who had shared out the **continent** between themselves and then gone on to control much of the rest by building up large **empires** overseas. Britain’s was undoubtedly the largest. The five great powers in 1914 were:

1. **Great Britain**
2. **Germany**
3. **Austria-Hungary**
4. **Russia**
5. **France**

All the great powers in 1900 were **ambitious**. Unfortunately theses **ambitions** often conflicted and so the powers became **rivals**. Germany, example, wished to impress the rest of the world and began to build up her navy to match her already impressive army. Britain, as the world’s leading sea power, a position she had held for over a hundred years, naturally became alarmed.

Germany’s increasing strength also alarmed her neighbours, particularly Russia and France. Anti – German feeling became especially strong in France, because the French had been defeated by the Germans back in 1870 and still thirsted for revenge and for the return of their lost **provinces** of Alsace and Lorraine.

There was also great suspicion and **rivalry** over the future of south Eastern Europe. Both countries hoped to increase their territory by advancing into the area known as the Balkans, which then included a number of small and fairly weak states such as Serbia and Montenegro.

Finally, there was bad feeling between Italy, the weakest of the great powers, and her neighbour France, over the future of North Africa. The Italians had hoped to build an **empire** there and were not pleased when France occupied Tunisia in 1881.

The outcome of all these jealousies was a dangerous situation in which the great powers grouped themselves into two **hostile alliances.**

One, the Triple Alliance, contained Germany, Austria and Italy, while the other, known as the triple Entente, included Britain, France and Russia.

It only needed a quarrel between one country in each **alliance** to start a major European war.

1. Find a way to **visually** represent the two alliances. Be ***creative*** but be clear and make sure you include the titles and all 6 countries. It needs to be completed for homework and presented on A4 paper ( I will be enlarging to A3 to display )