

Ways of the World: A Global History with Sources for the AP® Course
AP® Skills Workshop Activity Handout: Causation Arguments
Chapter 20: Milestones of the Past Century

Name _____
Date _____ Class _____

1. Activity: Writing a Thesis. Using the information in the section “Outcomes: Legacies of the Great War” on pages 879–883 as your evidence, write a thesis statement for the prompt that follows. Remember that a good thesis needs to: answer the prompt, be argumentative, provide a roadmap for the essay, and address the counterargument.

Prompt: *Evaluate the extent to which total war caused social changes after World War I.*

2. Activity: Building a Causation Argument Paragraph. Using the thesis statement that addresses the prompt below, create one causal paragraph of your argument. Use evidence from the section “The Russian Revolution and Soviet Communism” (pages 883–886):

Prompt: *Evaluate the extent to which World War I caused the Russian Revolution.*

Thesis: *Although communist ideology was brought on by the Industrial Revolution and the widening division between the rich and the poor it created, the real catalyst for worldwide communism was the Russian Revolution, which began as a result of World War I.*

Topic sentence 1:

Evidence A:

Evidence B:

Evidence C:

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Paragraph: _____

3. Activity: Creating a Source-Based Causation Argument. Based on the prompt below, use the Working with Evidence section of this chapter (pages 911–917) to create a contextualizing intro, a thesis, and two topic sentences for paragraphs. Then, select the evidence in the documents you would use to support your argument.

Prompt: *Using the documents provided, evaluate the extent to which the desire for empire influenced the rise of fascist ideology before World War II.*

This prompt could be answered by making a comparison, but because we are working on causation, try to stick to creating an argument with causes and/or effects.

Contextualizing intro:

Thesis:

Topic sentence 1:

Evidence A:

Evidence B:

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Evidence C:

Analysis:

Topic sentence 2:

Evidence A:

Evidence B:

Evidence C:

Analysis:
