

Task

What is happening in this picture?





Bullet point 3 ideas of what you think is happening on the first slide:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Watch the clip on the next slide - it might give you a clue.

A historical photograph of World War I soldiers in a trench, with a modern-day soldier in the foreground. The scene is set in a snowy, desolate landscape. In the foreground, a young man in a modern olive-green military uniform with a red band on his cap stands looking towards the left. Behind him, a line of World War I soldiers in brown uniforms and helmets stretches across the trench. The ground is covered in snow, and the sky is overcast. The overall mood is somber and reflective.

1914

Christmas 2014

THE CHRISTMAS TRUCE 1914

Objective
To look at sources and explain what happened during the Christmas truce, and why.





So, what do you know about the Christmas truce?

Give a score out of 10 to show how confident you are about what happened and why (10 very confident - 1 not confident.)

Type this below:



WHAT HAPPENED AND WHY?



On the next 3 slides you will find 3 sources that give you information on the Christmas Truce 1914.

Record on the slide after each source what happened and why it happened.

Source 1:

Second Lieutenant Dougan Chater, letter to his mother (25th December, 1914)

I think I have seen one of the most extraordinary sights today that anyone has ever seen. About 10 o'clock this morning I was peeping over the parapet when I saw a German, waving his arms, and presently two of them got out of their trenches and some came towards ours. We were just going to fire on them when we saw they had no rifles so one of our men went out to meet them and in about two minutes the ground between the two lines of trenches was swarming with men and officers of both sides, shaking hands and wishing each other a happy Christmas.

Complete the task on the next slide



Complete the table below about source 1.

(Bullet point your ideas in the table)

What happened at the Christmas Truce?

Why did it happen?



Source 2:

Company-Sergeant Major Frank Naden of the 6th Cheshire Territorials, interviewed by *The Newcastle Evening Mail* (31st December, 1914)

On Christmas Day one of the Germans came out of the trenches and held his hands up. Our fellows immediately got out of theirs, and we met in the middle, and for the rest of the day we were exchanging food, cigarettes and souvenirs. The Germans gave us some of their sausages, and we gave them some of our stuff. The Scotsmen started the bagpipes and we had a rare old jollification, which included football in which the Germans took part. The Germans expressed themselves as being tired of the war and wished it was over. They greatly admired our equipment and wanted to exchange jack knives and other articles. Next day we got an order that all communication with the enemy must cease but we did not fire at all that day, and the Germans did not fire at us.

Complete the task on the next slide

 **Complete the table below about source 2.**
(Bullet point your ideas in the table)

What happened at the Christmas Truce?

Why did it happen?

Empty space for notes under the question 'What happened at the Christmas Truce?'

Empty space for notes under the question 'Why did it happen?'



Source 3:

Luke Harding, *The Guardian* (11th November, 2003)

The celebrated 1914 Christmas truce took place only because many of the Germans stationed on the front had worked in England.

The German and British soldiers who famously played football with each other in no man's land on Christmas Day 1914 didn't always have a ball. Instead, they improvised. On certain sections of the front, soldiers kicked around a lump of straw tied together with string, or even an empty jam box...

The informal ceasefire stretched all across the 500-mile western front where more than a million men were encamped, from the Belgian coast as far as the Swiss border. The truce was especially warm along a 30-mile line around the Belgian town of Ypres. Not everybody, though, approved. One Austrian soldier billeted near Ypres complained that in wartime such an understanding "should not be allowed". His name was Adolf Hitler.

Complete the task on the next slide

 **Complete the table below about source 3.**
(Bullet point your ideas in the table)

What happened at the Christmas Truce?

Why did it happen?

Empty space for notes under the question 'What happened at the Christmas Truce?'

Empty space for notes under the question 'Why did it happen?'





Watch the clip



Check your 'why did it happen' columns.
Did you type down any of the reasons below?

The soldiers had a lot in common

Soldiers from both sides genuinely liked socialising with each other

Soldiers were homesick and wanted to celebrate Christmas like they normally did back home with friends and family

They were curious to meet their enemies

Soldiers believed it was wrong to kill on Christmas

It gave both sides the chance to bury their dead



Task

Look back at slide 5. Has the number changed?
Now type a number between 1 and 10 as to whether you now know what happened during the Christmas truce and why it happened. (Complete the sentences below.)

The Christmas Truce happened in 1914.

This is what I know:

This is why it happened: