

AIF	Australian Imperial Force
aliens	people of foreign background who were targets of hatred and official harassment
anti-conscription	against the introduction of compulsory military service
armistice	a short truce or end of hostilities; 11 November 1918 is known as Armistice Day for World War I
attrition	an attempt to win the war based on which side can last the longest; this involved having the greatest number of troops

bayonet

a 53 cm knife, a leftover weapon from early centuries when infantry faced the enemy at close range; often used in trench raids

BEF

the British
Expeditionary Force

big push

an attempt to win the war by intensive heavy shelling of enemy positions followed by an all out assault on the enemy trenches using superior numbers built up especially for the occasion, e.g. the Battle of the Somme

blighty

a British expression describing an injury that enabled the wounded to be sent home to Britain

civilian

a citizen who is not involved with the military in any capacity

conscription

compulsory military
service

duckboard

wooden slats placed in the
bottom (sump) of the trench to
allow drainage and a better
footing for the soldiers in wet
conditions

dugout

an area in the side of the
trench that was scraped
out to form a sleeping
shelter

Eastern Front

the area of battles
between the Germans,
Austro-Hungarians and
the Russians

enlistment

the voluntary joining of
the army

gas

Chlorine, phosgene and mustard gas were used to disable the enemy but was difficult to control due to wind changes

Hindenberg Line

a defensive set of German trenches designed as a fortified fallback position

home front

a recognition in most nations engaged in the war that production and morale at home were important ingredients of success on the battlefield

imperialism

the imposition of one nation's government, culture and/or economic needs on another; usually involves conquest, settlement, economic exploitation, administrative control

infantry

the foot soldiers of the army

internationalism

a way of looking at world issues that goes beyond national boundaries

Jutland

the only major naval battle of the war that took place on 31 May 1916 between the German High Seas Fleet and the British Grand Fleet

League of Nations

an international organisation formed as a result of the Paris Peace Conference which aimed to achieve collective security and to avoid war

Ludendorff offensive

a series of German attacks along the Western Front during the First World War, beginning on 21 March 1918, which marked the deepest advances by either side since 1914

Lusitania

a British Cunard liner that was carrying about 100 American citizens when it was sunk by a German U-boat in 1915