

Lusitania & the Zimmermann Note Worksheet

Part I - Lusitania

Directions: Use the information below & information from your notes & textbook to answer the following questions. Answer the questions using complete sentences.

The following notice accompanied the advertisement to the left:



“NOTICE!

Travellers intending to embark on the Atlantic voyage are reminded that a state of war exists between Germany and her allies and Great Britain and her allies; that the zone of war includes the waters adjacent to the British Isles; that, in accordance with formal notice given by the Imperial German Government, vessels flying the flag of Great Britain, or any of her allies, are liable to destruction in those waters and that travellers sailing in the war zone on ships of Great Britain or her allies do so at their own risk.

IMPERIAL GERMAN EMBASSY

WASHINGTON, D.C., APRIL 22, 1915.”

1. Why were travelers being warned that if they rode on the *Lusitania* they would have to do so at their own risk?
2. According to the Notice, where was the “zone of war”?
3. What happened to the *Lusitania*, and how did that affect popular opinion in the United States?

Part II – Zimmermann Note

Directions: Use the reading passage below & answer the following questions using complete sentences.

We intend to begin on the first of February unrestricted submarine warfare. We shall endeavor in spite of this to keep the United States of America neutral. In the event of this not succeeding, we make Mexico a proposal or alliance on the following basis: make war together, make peace together, generous financial support and an understanding on our part that Mexico is to reconquer the lost territory in Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona. The settlement in detail is left to you. You will inform the President (of Mexico) of the above most secretly as soon as the outbreak of war with the United States of America is certain and add the suggestion that he should, on his own initiative, invite Japan to immediate adherence and at the same time mediate between Japan and ourselves. Please call the President's attention to the fact that the ruthless employment of our submarines now offers the prospect of compelling England in a few months to make peace.

Signed, ZIMMERMANN

- telegram from Arthur Zimmermann, German foreign minister
to the German ambassador to Mexico (January 16, 1917)

4. What is the German foreign minister prepared to offer Mexico if Mexico will go to war with the United States? Why might Mexico consider such an offer?

5. What other country do the Germans plan to attempt to recruit as an ally?