

ACTIVITY!

Inquire & Investigate



VOCAB LAB



Write down what you think each word means.

What root words can you find to help you?

What does the context of the word tell you?

Allied Powers, Central Powers, genocide, nationalist, persecution, and stereotype

Compare your definitions with those of your friends or classmates. Did you all come up with the same meanings? Turn to the text and glossary if you need help.

A DIFFERENT KIND OF BATTLEFIELD

In the early years of WWI, army recruiters mined soccer games and rugby matches for recruits. According to historian Adam Hochschild, soccer games “proved the single best venue for recruiters.” Arriving spectators would see recruiters wearing sandwich boards bearing the message, “Your Country Needs You.” The game would start with a patriotic speech. Players often stepped forward to enlist, and fans quickly followed their lead.

- **Early in the war, the British newspaper *The Times* published the following lines:**

Come, leave the lure of the football field
With its fame so lightly won,
And take your place in a greater game
Where worthier deeds are done . . .
Come, join the ranks of our hero sons
In the wider field of fame,
Where the God of Right will watch the fight,
And referee the game.

- **What is the “greater game” of which the poet writes? What lines justify the view that England has the support of a higher, divine power in wartime?**

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- **Take a look at posters advertising the Sportsmen's 1000 at these two sites.** In speeches, articles, stories, and images, recruiters often presented war as another way of engaging in team sport "play." Australian recruiters targeted athletes with the "Sportsmen's Thousand" campaign.



 Sportsmen's
1000
Australia

- **Examine the posters.** Read the description of the Australia's Sportsmen's battalion provided by the Australian War Memorial, and answer the following questions.
 - Who is targeted by this campaign?
 - Whose image are they using for recruitment, and why?
 - The image argues that sportsmen and soldiers share certain qualities. What are they?

To investigate more, consider that today, the military continues to sell itself to recruits in creative ways. In the United States, recruiting efforts are increasingly digital. Platforms such as Instagram and e-sports sites are popular ways for reaching potential enlistees. Listen to or read the following piece from NPR. How are the tactics of today's military recruiters similar to those during World War I? How do they differ? Consider the language and imagery that they use.



 NPR army
creative



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