**President Wilson’s Speeches**

1. Read the first speech. Does Wilson think the United States should enter WWI? Why or why not?

2. Read the second speech. Does Wilson think the United States should enter WWI? Why or why not?

3. Contextualization: Use the 1917 speech to “imagine the setting.” (a) What does Wilson accuse Germany of doing?

(b) Do you think this is a good reason to go to war?

(c) What additional information would you need to have before making a decision?

4. Close reading: Re-read the last two paragraphs of the 1917 speech. Why do you think Wilson added these paragraphs?

How do you think these words made Americans feel?

**Guiding Questions for Textbook:**

1. What are TWO reasons that the textbook gives for why the U.S. entered the war?

2. Based on the reasons in Wilson’s 1917 speech and in the textbook, do you think the United States had good reasons for entering WWI?

**Guiding Questions for Howard Zinn:**

1. Sourcing: Before reading the document, what do you predict Howard Zinn will say about the United States’ reasons for entering WWI?

2. Close reading; Why does Zinn claim that Wilson made a flimsy argument?

3. Close reading: What does Zinn suggest are the *real* reasons the United States entered the war?

4. Close reading: What evidence does Zinn provide to support his claims that the United States was motivated by other reasons (besides German attacks on U.S. ships)?

5. Do you find Zinn’s argument convincing? Why or why not?