

EXERCISE #2
Entangling Alliances

CHAPTER TWO

Block _____ Date _____

Name _____

Read the following scenario in small groups.

Rob just turned seventeen, and is in his graduating year at Mayberry High School. He moved to the school last year so that he could play on the top-ranked basketball team. From his first day at Mayberry, his physical abilities and his daring and rude personality rubbed many other students the wrong way. Rob continued to alienate himself from his teammates, Matt and Mike, with his aggressiveness both on and off the court. Other students, Mandy and Melissa, have also had problems with Rob in the cafeteria and in the halls. Matt, Mike, Mandy and Melissa have all become close friends as a result of their growing dislike for Rob. Even though they play basketball too, they don't think that life should revolve around winning at all costs. Secretly, they start trying to turn the other ball players against Rob. On the other hand, Rob has many followers who admire his "no holds-barred" persona. Randi and Ryan are often seen with Rob at lunch. Randi and Ryan, previously ignored by the in-crowd, enjoy the attention they get from hanging out with Rob.

Near the end of the basketball season, Matt and Mike feel as though they can't take any more of Rob's attitude. One day after practice they notice brass knuckles in Rob's locker. Bracing himself for future trouble, Matt throws a bat in the trunk of his car. Meanwhile, Randi hears about the bat and tells Rob that Matt and Mike are planning to jump him after practice. Rob starts carrying a switchblade under his pant leg. One afternoon on the way home from practice, Randi and Matt (who have hated each other since grade nine) have words, and Randi lets on that Rob is armed with a blade, so Matt better lay off. Later that night, Matt lets Mike, Mandy and Melissa know about Rob's knife. Mike decides that he's going to steal his dad's handgun in case things get ugly.

The next day after homeroom, Randi is hit by a spitball in the back of his head. Randi swears to the principal that it had to be Matt, but he has no proof. Rob tells Randi not to worry about it; he'll take care of everything. Rob tells Randi and Ryan to follow him after school.

*Adapted from World History Simulations
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Write the end of the story... What happens next?

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Think of the causes of the First World War, and match each term with the corresponding cause of conflict from the Rs versus Ms case study. Explain how the term helped to cause the First World War. An example has been done for you.

Rs versus Ms	First World War <i>These factors existed prior to the war</i>
Friends unite because of growing dislike	TERM: EXPLANATION:
Desire to have more power / influence	TERM: <i>Imperialism</i> EXPLANATION: <i>Britain and France both had colonies, and Germany wanted them too. Colonies= power</i>
Like their image/reputation and will fight to protect it	TERM: EXPLANATION:
Old hatred since grade 9	CONCEPT: EXPLANATION:
Start carrying more dangerous weapons	TERM: EXPLANATION: