- Unrestricted submarine warfare declared by Germany in 1917. Made USA more likely to join the war and thus end stalemate as their boats would be targeted and needed to continue to export to Europe in order to sustain their economy. Lusitania sunk in 1915 had already heightened the tensions between USA and Germany, and USW enhanced it.

- Naval Blockade is the most important factor. British supported in blocking supply ships reaching Germany by the French in the Mediterranean, Russians in the Baltic and Black Sea, Japanese in the Pacific and the US in the Atlantic. Supply Ships blocked from all angles - only 642 reached Germany throughout the entire war. 185,000 civilians dying per month in 1918 leading to a huge morale loss and a push to end stalemate by civilians.

- Overall: most important factor in the ending of Stalemate. Led to lack of resources and loss of morale that meant Germany couldn’t continue in a state of war.

**Failed German Spring Offensive**

- Rushed forward so it would happen before the USA joined. In the first Operation of the Offensive, most experienced troops wiped out. Inexperienced men replaced so were more likely to surrender and less prepared to fight - feigned Spanish Flu. Lack of morale and momentum, hence end of stalemate.

- Exhaustion of the German troops means many succumbed to the Spanish flu - 500,000 casualties.

- Overall: pushed USA to put men on the ground as didn’t want to fight alone until 1919. Spring offensive meant they had to - broke parity of armies - hence broke stalemate.

**Entry of the USA**

- 250,000 US men went on the front line monthly from July 1918. Broke parity and was detrimental to the German psychological state.

- Meuse Argonne was their sole American battle. Progress made in breaking the Hindenburg Line - not very important but showed the Germans USA’s capabilities.

- Led to Psychological impact. New, fresh, enthusiastic troops that they knew they couldn’t win against. Hence loss of morale.