



WORLD BOOK WEB

The Battles of Villers-Bretonneux Scavenger Hunt – World Book Advanced

Learn more about the battles of World War I and Australia's involvement on the Western Front.

Find It!

1. Where is Villers-Bretonneux located?
2. What happened in the first battle of Villers-Bretonneux?
3. What happened in the second battle of Villers-Bretonneux?
4. How did the second battle of Villers-Bretonneux end?
5. What nations fought on the side of the Allies at Villers-Bretonneux?
6. What major event occurred on 21 March, 1918?
7. Why did the Germans attack Villers-Bretonneux?
8. Create a Timeline in TIMELINES outlining the events of the Battles of Villers-Bretonneux?
9. What was the outcome of the Battles of Villers-Bretonneux?
10. How did the events at Villers-Bretonneux impact the rest of the war?

Did You Know?

- 1,200 Australians were killed in the second battle of Villers-Bretonneux.
- The German Offensive broke Allied lines and ended the three-year-long stalemate on the Western Front.
- During the Spring Offensive, Germans achieved huge gains in territory but it failed to achieve German victory.
- More than 52,000 Australian men enlisted to fight in 1914. However, recruitment figures fell in late 1915. To increase numbers, men marched from country towns to cities recruiting men to join the army.
- 330,000 Australians saw service overseas in World War I. More than 2,000 Australian women served overseas in the Australian Army Nursing Service.

Learn More!

- Click here to learn more about the German Spring Offensive
<http://worldbookonline.com/advanced/article?id=ar755537>
- Click here to learn more about the Western Front
<http://worldbookonline.com/advanced/article?id=ar756270>
- Click here to view a Timeline on World War I
<http://worldbookonline.com/wbtimelines/viewtimelines?source=WB&timelineld=52fc5f6e7fa57cac1bf1b7f2>
- Click here to learn more about the Australian recruitment marches of 1915-16.
<http://worldbookonline.com/advanced/article?id=ar756126>

Answer Key

1. Villers-Bretonneux is a village located in northern France.
2. In the first battle of Villers-Bretonneux the allies repelled a German assault on the village through quick counterattacks.
3. In the second battle of Villers-Bretonneux, German attacks using heavy artillery, poisonous gases, flame throwers and tanks broke the Allied defences. The Germans took Villers-Bretonneux.
4. Counterattacks by Allied troops enabled them to retake much of the territory lost to the Germans in Villers-Bretonneux. Heavy fighting through the night by Australian troops helped the Allies clear the Germans from Villers-Bretonneux and push them back to their lines.
5. Allied troops fighting in the Battles of Villers-Bretonneux were British, Australian and French. The French forces included the Moroccan Division, a unit made up of troops from French colonies in Africa and the French Army's Foreign Legion.
6. On 21 March, 1918, the Germans launched the Spring Offensive on the Western Front.
7. Germany wanted to capture Amiens, an important Allied rail, communications, and supply centre. To do this, the Germans had to break the Allied defences centred on Villers-Bretonneux.
8. See Timeline answer sheet
9. The Battles of Villers-Bretonneux helped prevent attacks on Amiens, and are considered Allied victories. However, the battles themselves ended in a stalemate, with Allied and German lines ending roughly where they began.
10. The strong Allied defence at Villers-Bretonneux played a key role in stopping the overall German offensive.

The Battles of Villers-Bretonneux (WWI)

From 1918 to 1918

[Hide Media](#)
[Print](#)

Event Date	Event Description	Note
 Mar. 21, 1918	Germans launched the Spring Offensive	Germany wanted to capture Aimens, an important Allied rail, communications, and supply centre. To do this, the Germans had to break the Allied defenses at centred on Villers-Bretonneux.
Mar. 30, 1918 - Apr. 5, 1918	First Battle - German troops attacked Allied lines near Villers-Bretonneux.	Allies counterattack clears the Germans from Villers-Bretonneux but fighting continued for several days resulting in heavy losses on both sides. Despite the victory, the site remained a stalemate with neither side gaining any territory. The Battles of Villers-Bretonneux proved decisive in the war as it stopped the Germans from capturing Aimens, an important Allied rail, communications and supply centre.
Apr. 5, 1918	Allied counter attacks end the first battle for Villers-Bretonneux.	Germany wanted to capture Aimens, an important Allied rail, communications, and supply centre. To do this, the Germans had to break the Allied defenses at centred on Villers-Bretonneux.
 Apr. 24, 1918 - Apr. 26, 1918	Second Battle - Germans attacked Villers-Bretonneux for a second time breaking Allied defences.	German used heavy artillery and poisonous gas on Allied lines. It is during this battle that tanks fought on the battlefield.
		Allies counterattack clears the Germans



Apr. 26, 1918

Allied counterattacks take back Villers-Bretonneux from the German forces.

from Villers-Bretonneux but fighting continued for several days resulting in heavy losses on both sides. Despite the victory, the site remained a stalemate with neither side gaining any territory. The Battles of Villers-Bretonneux proved decisive in the war as it stopped the Germans from capturing Aimers, an important Allied rail, communications and supply centre.