**Background Reading: From Ottoman Collapse to the End of the First World War**

Directions:

1. Highlight the time markers in each paragraph and underline the subject in each sentence. (An example has been done for you.)

2. Fill in the table by copying or summarizing what each group did or felt. Pay close attention to the hints already given in the table.

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| **Background Information** | **Ottoman Empire** | **Arabs** | **British/Europeans** |
| In the 16th century, the Ottoman Turks established and began to expand their empire. The Arabs, one of the groups living in the Middle East, became controlled by the Ottoman government. | established and began to expand their empire |  | X |
| During the First World War, the Ottoman Empire joined the Central Powers alliance. The British government met with leaders of the Arab provinces of the Ottoman Empire. Together they planned an Arab Revolt against the Ottoman Empire. The British wanted to create disorder and turmoil to make it difficult for them to fight in the war. The Arabs wanted to become an independent Arab nation. |  |  |  |
| By the end of the First World War the Ottoman Empire had collapsed. Europeans took over control of the Middle East instead of granting independence to the groups within that area. This created deep-seated hatreds between the Arab world and Europe that still exist to this day. Europeans determined the borders of the modern Arab states based on secret agreements, perceptions of Middle Eastern society, and an eye toward resources and imperial control. |  | hold deep-seated hatreds toward the Europeans that still exist today |  |
| After the peace process, the Arab regions of the defunct Ottoman Empire became **“mandates”** of the League of Nations, the international organization inspired by U.S. president Woodrow Wilson. These **mandates** were controlled by Great Britain, France, Japan, Australia, and South Africa. These nations controlled the governments of the **mandates.** | was defunct (not operating) |  |  |

**Answer the following questions using complete sentences.**

1. In your own words, what is a mandate?

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2. What geographical areas and people became mandates? AND who controlled the mandates?

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3. Why did the mandate system feel like a “new method of imperialism” to the people of the Middle East?

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4. Does the mandate system help explain the current political borders (2003 Map) of the Middle East? Why or why not?

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