

Chapter Questions for *Guns of August*
Chapter 9: "Home Before the Leaves Fall"

1. What evidence could be provided to illustrate the belief by several of the future belligerent countries that their troops would be "home before the leaves fall?" What realities foretold that to be an illusion? Who, and for what reasons, envisioned a long war? (pp. 133-143)
2. What arguments did British Foreign Minister Edward Grey employ in his August 3rd speech before Parliament in which he sought support for British involvement in the coming war? What happened two hours after his speech? (pg. 136-145)
3. What accusations were made in the German declaration of war on France? (pg. 145) What famous quote did Sir Edward Grey utter on the evening of August 3rd as the reality of the war set in?
4. What was meant by the quote "when we Germans lost the first great battle in the eyes of the world," attributed to the German Crown Prince? (pg. 146)
5. How does Tuchman describe the mood of the people in Brussels after King Albert received the consent of his parliament to defend Belgium against the Germans? (pp. 148-149)
6. What was French Premier Rene Viviani able to announce about the Triple Alliance and how did that assist France? (pg. 150)
7. After proclaiming that the war was provoked by Serbia and Russia, what proclamation did the Kaiser make? Analyze what this statement meant for opposition to the war in Germany. (pg. 151)
8. What did Admiral Tirpitz consider the greatest blunder ever spoken by a German statesman? How did liberals in the Reichstag view the Chancellor's statement? (pg. 152)
9. How did the German Chancellor describe British Ambassador Sir Edward Goschen's ultimatum to Germany and ultimate decision to make war on Germany? In what terms did he refer to Belgium's neutrality treaty? (pg. 154)
10. What did Britain's mobilization order fail to mention and why did that cause concern? What fear threatened to paralyze British military assistance to France? (pp. 156-158)