

WWI and the use of technology

- Industrial Revolution → New types of technology and warfare
- WWI saw more war related deaths than ever before due to changes in warfare
- Ethics of technology and war began to be debated

Advancements in Technology

- **Machine gun-** (The Maxim gun) Originated in the US but Germans caught on and took advantage. The weapon's full potential was demonstrated on the Somme.
 - attackers were mowed down by the thousands before they could even get to the other side of "no-man's-land."
- **Tanks-** Solution to stalemate. British Mark I, was designed in 1915 and first saw combat at the Somme in September 1916.
- **Planes-** Artillery could be dropped from above- often targeting civilian areas

Advancements in Technology

- **Flamethrowers-** flamethrowers could “neutralize” (i.e. burn alive) enemy soldiers in trenches/bunkers without inflicting structural damage (the bunkers might come in handy for the new residents).
 - The flamethrower was first used by German troops near Verdun in February 1915.
- **Poison Gas-** Used throughout WWI on both sides- inflicting horrifying casualties. The first successful use of chemical weapons occurred on April 22, 1915, near Ypres, when the Germans sprayed chlorine gas from large cylinders towards trenches held by French colonial troops.

