Fighting on the Western Front

What was the Western Front? The Western Front was a series of trenches in Belgium & France where WWI was fought.

Where was the Western Front located? Located from the North Sea coast of Belgium southward through France.

How long was the Western Front? 100 km.

What years did fighting happen there? Winter 1914 to Spring 1918.

The Schlieffen Plan... 1914

The Germans wanted to quickly knockout France.
The plan called for a sweep through Belgium through France & encircle Paris.

The result: 1914

The Germans did get through Belgium but the British met them at Mons.
British pushed back to Le Cateau.

Battle of the Marne... 1914

British fought against the Germans.
The British held the Germans, kept them from reaching Paris.
Pushed them back to the Marne River.

At this point, the fighting reached a stalemate, which was followed by 3 years of fighting in trenches.

Battle of Verdun... 1916

The symbol of French resistance.
Germans vs. French.
A huge offensive by the Germans.

Battle of the Somme... 1916

An offensive battle for the combined forces of French & British.
The longest & bloodiest of the war.
400,000 French died.
350,000 Germans died.