

**Source:**

#flo #ret #disorganized #incomplete

**1 | Ope there goes gravity**

prompt:

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The political scientist Kenneth Waltz argues that the causes of war can be analyzed at three different

Analyze World War 1 according to one (or a blend) of these levels of analysis. Make an argument that co

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resources: GHMW Unit 4.pdf palmer reading <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1KTggTDz3YI7fT9MxwG4l25qMPNyiU>

levels of analysis:

- individual
- state
- systemic

example: put an egg in a highway, do you blame the car that chrushes it?

how do we think about inevitability?

relative usefullness of each one

how do they intersect? system provides inevitability, but is that emergent out of the qualities of the individual?

potential essay: top down, each one informs the next. simply map to analysis levels

claim: not actully three seperate levels? higher up levels cannot be generated without the previous?

systems need to account for randomness, which is inevitable. thus, higher level analysis?

the fact that ferdinand dying caused this meant that there was a higher level issue?

systems: random chance events will happen

was it a random chance event? was this the 'natural progression of things'?

or is the aproach, 'random chance events are inevitable (in a system with so many actors), thus the system must be set up for this? or it is part of the system?'

top down:

- because of this system, it was inevitable that a state would act out.
- lets look at this state. because of this state, it was inevitable that a person would act out
- lets look at that person
- discuss merits of different levels of analysis?

bottom up:

- this person did this, and that caused the war.

usefulness of analysis at different levels?

war is a local minima in the system

nukes have allowed us to jump peaks and reach a lower minima

warring state has incentive to bring allies into war

non warring states have incentive to ally with winning side and gain power with them, as well as prevent others from becoming too powerful – BOP dynamic from *raison d'état*

this brings the entire system into war

as more actors join into the war, you MUST join the war. one side of the war will win, and massively gain power. you cannot stay at your old divided power level.

just as peace is an emergent property of *raison d'état* (BOP), global war can be as well? easily “excitable”