* Essay no.1: Analyse the major changes in warfare from antiquity to modern days. What are the most significant changes? What has remained unchanged? **Deadline: 26.03.2012**
* Ancient Warfare describes the methods, concepts and technologies used during wars in the ancient period, which covers the time from 34th century BC to 4th century AD. While very early wars are also considered the focus lies on highly structured warfare of big empires during Classical Antiquity, such as the Greek Empire, Gupta Empire and ends with the fall of Roman Empire in 476 [cite].
* Modern warfare, on the other hand, refers to the period during and after the Second World War.
* From ancient to modern times other eras are distinguished including Medieval, Gunpowder, and Industrial warfare.
* During Napoleon’s time the character of the army changed from king-based to nation- or state-based. This had major impacts on the army’s moral and therefore strength. It, additionally, changed the reasons for war. Because of the arising of nationalism wars were started because of gaining power and land for the people and no longer because of private feuds between several monarchs.
* Additionally he changed the formation from a wide and few rows deep schema to a few columns wide, but deep formations allowing him to beat nearly all major European war players in this time except the British, which focused their soldier education on the shooting and reloading of guns achieving doubled shooting speed compared to other nations.
* Napoleon focused on the centre of the battle field heading into it with his deep formations, whereas Carl von Clausewitz proposed to heavily aim at the flanks of the enemy and introduced the notion of Blitzkrieg as used by the Germans during World War II. Blitzkrieg brings some advantages over strategies used in the past:
  + less long-term logistics required
  + shock effect as benefit for attacker
  + less costly, because battle periods may generally be shorter
  + allows to focus battalions for shorter periods of time achieving greater impacts
* In this time the British managed to reduce the canon weight dramatically achieving a greater impact upon strike while having, e.g., smaller ships and equipment in general. This vastly reduces construction costs and brings canons to the battlefields in a higher number (??). Also specially designed war ships are introduced during this time.