Activity 1 – The American Home Front

Directions:

1. **Click on** the following links to learn about the entrance of the United States to WWI:
   - Video Segment 4 – The U.S. Enters the War
   - Propaganda: How America "Sold" WWI

2. **Complete** the following activities using the information learned.

I. Complete the following paragraph with the missing information. Be careful with your *spelling*.



During the first years of the war, the United States decided to remain **(1)** ..... and not taking part in it. Many citizens believed this was the right thing to do; some others, however, thought they had a **(2)** ..... and moral duty to participate, and this would also be an opportunity for the country to become a world power.

The U.S. tried to hold on to this position, but Germany made it change. First, they introduced a **(3)** ..... of unrestricted submarine warfare, and started sinking ships that transported goods and people between the United States and Britain, including the British ocean liner **(4)** "....." in 1915. Then, in the secret **(5)** ..... Telegram, Germany offered Mexico to help them regain the **(6)** ..... that had been lost to the U.S. in 1848 in exchange for their alliance. Eventually, The U.S. declared war on Germany.

Once they decided to join WWI, the United States tried to obtain support from the citizens through the use of **(7)** ..... in the form of posters, pamphlets and films. A branch of the government known as the **(8)** ..... (CPI) started asking people to help the cause in different ways. Citizens were encouraged to consume less food, so that most of it could be sent to the soldiers in the European front; they were offered the opportunity to buy Liberty **(9)** ..... to support the war financially; people could also enlist the **(10)** ..... service to fight as part of the armed forces.

II. Decide if the following statements are true or false. Click on the correct option.

a. Although their country was not actively participating in WWI, some US citizens decided to help as volunteers. **TRUE / FALSE**
b. The United States declared the war on Germany on April 2, 1917. **TRUE / FALSE**
c. The Four-Minute Men program delivered speeches using public mass media, such as TV. **TRUE / FALSE**
d. People who openly disapproved of the country's fighting in the war were severely repressed. **TRUE / FALSE**
e. Due to the negative feelings towards Germany, some German food names were changed. **TRUE / FALSE**
f. The U.S. joining the war was not important for the outcome of the conflict. **TRUE / FALSE**

LIVEWORKSHEETS