

The Great War: Evaluating the Treaty of Versailles

Directions: Use the following links to help guide you through a web search.

A. Motives for the Treaty: the Trauma of World War I

<http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/FWWdeaths.htm>

1. How might Britain's unique wartime experience shape its aims at the Peace Conference based off the casualties chart?

<http://www.gwpda.org/photos/coppermine/displayimage.php?album=6&pos=28>

2. How France's goals for the postwar settlement might differ from U.S. goals. What might France fear? What would France probably want with respect to Germany? Why?

B. Drawing Up the Treaty: France and the United States

Read the last two paragraphs of Wilson's speech (the part before the actual enumeration of the points) from http://wwi.lib.byu.edu/index.php/President_Wilson%27s_Fourteen_Points

3. What does Wilson say are the goals of the United States? What is his hope for the world and for the postwar talks?

Read the first paragraph right after the enumeration of the Fourteen Points

4. What is Wilson's stated attitude toward Germany? How would this attitude differ from France's?

C. The Terms of the Treaty

5. Analyze before and after maps of Europe and answer the following: How much European land did Germany lose? Which regions specifically? To which countries did this land go? Use links below

<http://www.westpoint.edu/history/SiteAssets/SitePages/World%20War%20I/WWOne02.gif>

<http://www.westpoint.edu/history/SiteAssets/SitePages/World%20War%20I/WWOne51.jpg>

D. The German Response

6. Germany was allowed to fashion a reply to the treaty draft, but its terms were summarily rejected by the Allies. Use link below to answer: What objections does Germany raise to the treaty? Why might these objections be valid (give three examples)?

<http://edsitement.neh.gov/sites/edsitement.neh.gov/files/worksheets/GermanReply.pdf>

E. Read the section at the bottom of the page entitled "TREATY OF VERSAILLES"

<http://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/article.php?ModuleId=10005425>

7. What were some of the underlining reasons the Allies wanted to place a "War Guilt Clause" on Germany?

8. What ideology came to power as a result of revisions of the Treaty of Versailles? Why was this radicalism overlooked by citizens within Germany?

9. Summary: Were the Allied motives justified by the terms placed on Germany in the Treaty of Versailles? Provide at least 3 specific details to support your answer.