

# History

## Task 1

For each source (picture/extract) answer the following questions:

- What can you infer about the source?
- What is the source representing?
- How useful is the source?

## Task 2

Using the information in this section, answer the questions below.

- Who was Lloyd George?
- Who was Clemenceau?
- Who was Woodrow Wilson?
- Describe the Treaty of Versailles.
- What was the most important terms of the Treaty?
- How did the Treaty of Versailles change the face of Europe?
- How did Congress fail to ratify the treaty?
- Why were cartoons made of the treaty? What does this show?
- Why did some believe the treaty was hypocritical?




## Section 1: What were the aims and motives of the big three at Versailles?



### Source 1:

From left to right, Lloyd George, Clemenceau and Wilson meet in Paris to decide the fate of post war Europe.

### Aims of the Big Three:

	<p><b>Lloyd George</b>- Somewhere in the middle between Wilson and Clemenceau. Wants Germany's navy and colonies- his interests are in preservation of the British Empire. Britain has suffered badly in WWI, but also L.G is a pragmatist- He realises compromise must be found, and still wants Germany as a trading partner. The most cunning of the big three.</p>
	<p><b>Clemenceau</b> - France has suffered the heaviest casualties and damage in WWI and been invaded by Germany for the second time in 43 years (1871). Wants Germany crippled by reparations and their armies and borders limited, so they cannot threaten France again. Public opinion in France demands this</p>
	<p><b>Wilson</b> - wants Germany to be treated leniently. The U.S.A have suffered very little compared to Britain and France in WWI, and he believes if Germany are treated too harshly, they will seek revenge. Wants his 14 points (see next page) implemented*</p>

President **Wilson** was determined that the **Fourteen Points** would serve as a basis for the negotiations and he was determined that the Covenant (or Constitution) of the League of Nations would be in each of the treaties. The Fourteen Points were as follows:

1. No more secret alliances
2. Free navigation of all seas
3. No economic barriers between countries
4. Reduction of arms
5. All decisions regarding colonies should be impartial
6. German army removed from Russia
7. Belgium to regain independence
8. France liberated and gets Alsace Lorraine back
9. Italians are allowed to live in Italy. Borders to recognise nationality
10. Self determination for those in Austria-Hungary
11. Self determination for Balkan states
12. Turkish people should govern Turkey; self determination for old Otto man empire
13. Independent Poland should have access to the sea
14. League of Nations set up

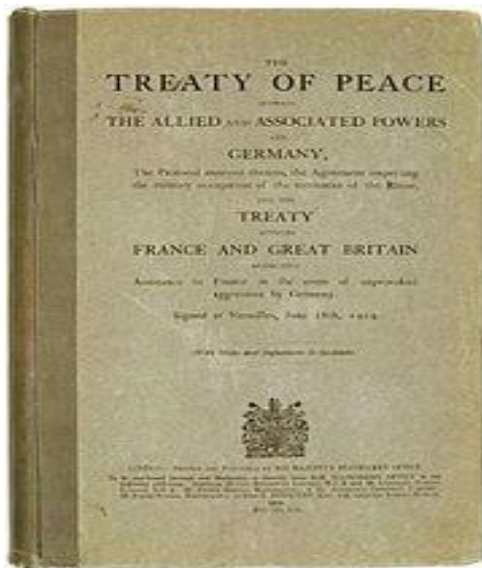
However, Britain and France would certainly not like all of Wilson's points, as we shall see later.



*Source 2:*

An American cartoon shows the Fourteen Points as a barrier to Imperialism. Such views would not sit well with Britain, owner of the world's largest empire.

## Section 2: The Treaty of Versailles



*Source 3:*

The Treaty of Versailles. It was signed in the palace of Versailles on June 28th 1919, exactly 5 years to the day since the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand.

### The most important terms of the Treaty

1. **Guilt** – clause 231: Germany accepted blame 'for causing all the loss and damage' of the war.
2. **Army** – army: 100,000/ no submarines/ no airplanes/ 6 battleships/ Rhineland de-militarised
3. **Reparations** – £6,600 million – in installments, until 1984).
4. **Germany lost land** – Alsace-Lorraine to France/ Saar to France (15 years)/ Malmedy to Belgium/ North Schleswig to Denmark/ West Prussia and Upper Silesia to Poland/ Danzig a 'free city'/ Memel to Lithuania/ German colonies became 'mandates' of the League of Nations.
5. **League of Nations set up** - Germany not invited to join.
6. **Anschluss forbidden** - Germany could not unite with Austria.



Source 4 European territory lost by Germany



Source 5 How Versailles changed the face of Europe

Europe in 1914 (left) and 1919 (right) post - Versailles. What is noticeable is the huge change, bit tin the size of the central powers, and the number of new countries. This led to a dangerous situation in post war Europe - a number of new, vulnerable and ethnically mixed states, surrounding the wounded Germany. By the end of 1939 Poland, Czechoslovakia, Danzig, the Saarland and Austria would be under German control.

**Section 3 Why did the victors not get everything they wanted?**



Source 6

The treaty was largely met with euphoria in Europe and America, but behind the scenes not everyone was happy.

<b>Woodrow Wilson</b>	
What is he happy about	What is he unhappy about
Self determination for Czechoslovakia, Poland, Austria and Hungary. Alsace given back to the French, Belgium independent. League of Nations set up.	Thinks reparations are too big, and in general the treaty is too severe. Disarmament hasn't happened (other than to Germany).
<b>George Clemenceau</b>	
What is he happy about	What is he unhappy about
Restrictions on Germany's armed forces, Rhineland de-militarised, Alsace Lorraine given back, Article 231.	Reparations - wanted more. Some in France wanted Germany split up into separate states (as had been pre 1870).
<b>Lloyd George</b>	
What is he happy about	What is he happy about
German colonies given to L of N, (mostly as British mandates). German Navy limited. Probably made sure reparations were lower than Clemenceau wanted. Article 231 pleased him too.	German colonies given to L of N, (mostly as British mandates). German Navy limited. Probably made sure reparations were lower than Clemenceau wanted. Article 231 pleased him too.

As we can see, no one was completely satisfied. A compromise was inevitable. Their aims and motives meant everyone went away with reason to be discontented.

### Congress fails to ratify the treaty

In November 1919, the U.S congress failed to ratify the treaty of Versailles, worried about entry into the League dragging America into another Euro- pean conflict. America followed a period of 'isolationism', which would last until 1941 and the attack on Pearl Harbor. Wilson also suffered a stroke in September 1919, reducing his political influence and power, as he was increasingly incapacitated. Without America recognising the treaty, there was no America to lead the League of Nations, and the treaty suffered from a lack of credibility that the Germans would later exploit.



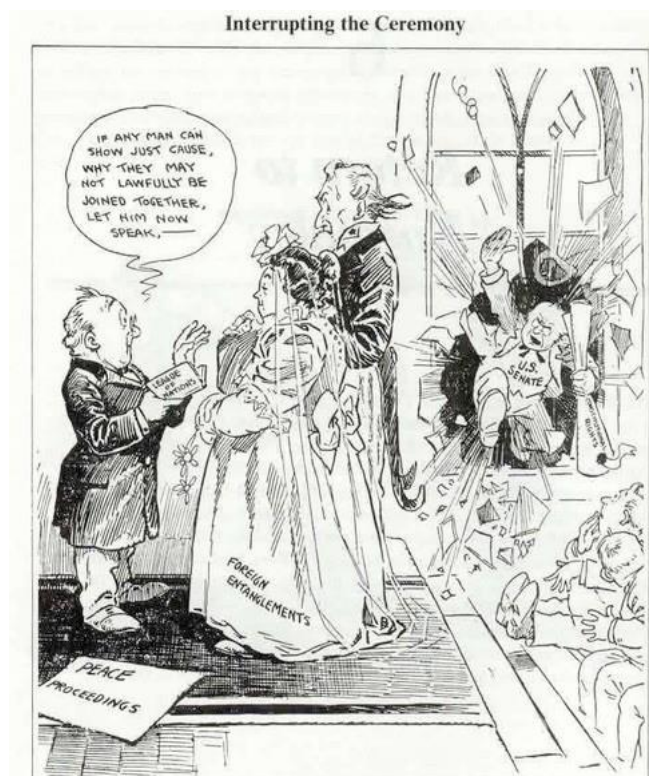
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### Source 7

The US senate murders the peace treaty, to the horror of humanity

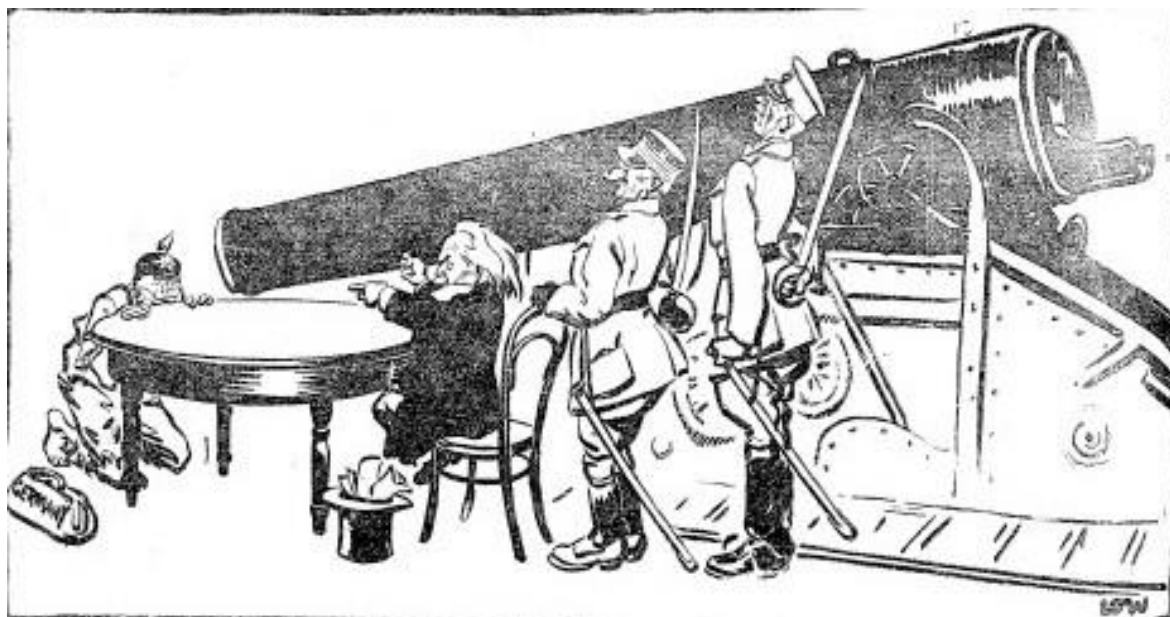
### Source 8

The senate saves America from becoming wedded to foreign wars.



John T. McCutcheon. *The Tribune* (Chicago), 1918.

#### Section 4 Cartoons about Versailles



Source 9

The hypocritical Big Three abolish the militarism of Germany, but do so with the use of military force; Allied armies stood poised to invade Germany if the treaty wasn't signed - it was truly a diktat.



Source 10

Another comment on the 'diktat' - the Kaiser is forced into signing. Actually, his abdication soon after the armistice meant he was not involved in the signing of the treaty.