

Lesson 4

A Flawed Peace



The Paris Peace Conference

- The Central Powers and Russia were not allowed to take part in the negotiations.
- Conflicting goals of nations:
 - President Wilson wanted “peace without victory”
 - British prime minister Lloyd George promised to build a post war Britain “fit for heroes.”
 - French leader Georges Clemenceau wanted to weaken Germany so it could never again threaten France.
- Problems with the Peace:
 - many people who had been ruled by Russia, Austria-Hungary & the Ottoman Empire wanted national states of their own.
 - Some ethnic groups became unwanted minorities in newly created states.
- Wilson creates the **League of Nations**.
 - based off the idea of **collective security**, a system in which a group of nations acts as one to preserve the peace of all. Wilson felt the League could correct any mistakes made in the Paris Conference.

The Treaty of Versailles

- In June 1919, the Allies ordered the new German Republic to sign the treaty they had drawn up at the palace of Versailles (France).
 - The treaty forced Germany to assume full blame for causing the war, **the war-guilt clause**.
 - It imposed huge **reparations**, or payments for destruction caused by the war, pensions for millions of Allied soldiers, widows, and families.
 - The total cost of German reparations would later be calculated at **\$30 billion** (2.7 trillion today).
 - The German military was reduced to only 100,000 soldiers. The Air Force was removed and most of the Navy too.
 - Alsace and Lorraine was returned to France.
 - Overseas colonies of Germany were taken away.
 - Hundreds of square miles of western and eastern Germany were stripped away.
 - Germans resented the treaty for 20 years and sparked a deadlier world war in the years to come.

#5a

Assignment

- **Map Skills pg. 438**
- Answer:
 1. Which Central Powers nation appears to have lost the most territory?
 2. On which nation's former lands were most of the new countries created?
 3. How many new nations can you identify?
List them all.

#5b

Outline

- I. **A Troubled Treaty** (pg. 437-438)
 - A. **New Nations and Mandates**
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - B. **Initial Successes of the Peace Agreement**
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - C. **“A Peace Built on Quicksand”**
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.

#6 World War I Article

- **Assignment:**

- Research an article online about World War I. Can be from that era (1914-1918 or any time).
- Read the entire article.

- 1. Title:**

- 2. Author:**

- 3. Website publisher: (i.e. New York Times)**

- 4. Summarize the article in your own words. One to two paragraphs.**

- 5. List two new things you learned about WWI from your article.**