

What did Europe look like after WWI?



Following WWI, much of Western Europe had been destroyed by war, famine and revolution. Russia had killed their monarchy in the 1917 Revolution, Germany's king abdicated and the devastation of the losses of WWI became clear. WWI not only changed the physical landscape of Europe, but also the political world...



The fighting ended on November 11th 1918 but what happened next...

Russia

- Bolshevik leader Lenin was in charge of Russia who were involved in a civil war as he began creating the USSR.
- They had suffered massive losses in WWI
- The country was still recovering from the Russian Revolution of 1917.



The fighting ended on November 11th 1918 but what happened next...

Germany

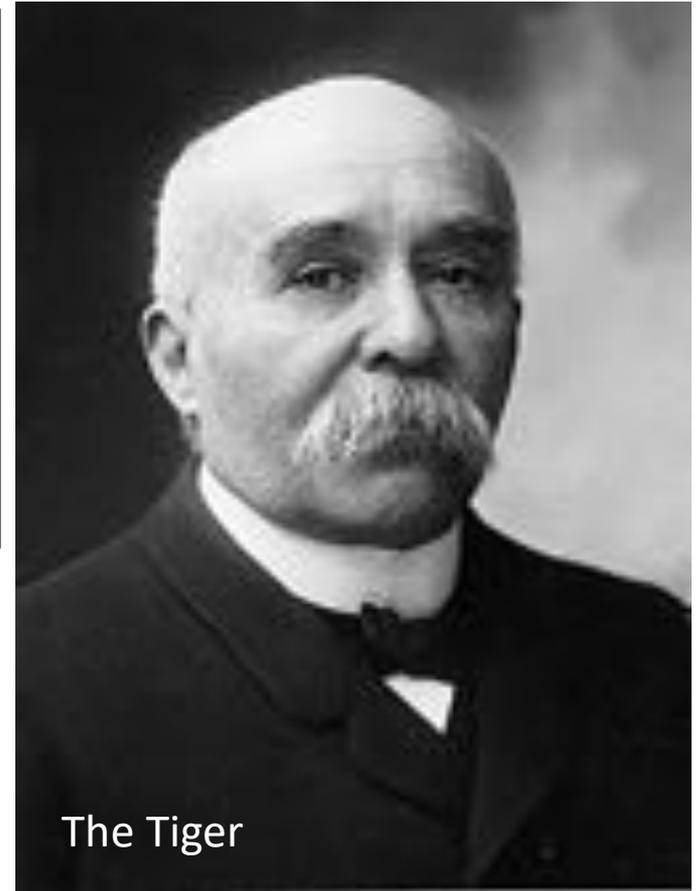
- Friedrich Ebert became the new leader (President) of Germany replacing the **abdicated** Kaiser
- Germany was now a Republic and a Democracy for the first time ever
- The country was in massive debt of 150 billion marks
- Riots throughout the country, starvation and anger came to boiling point
- Communist plots
- Massive deaths & casualties from WWI



The fighting ended on November 11th 1918 but what happened next...

France

- Georges Clemenceau was the President of France
- France had been devastated along the Western Front
- Massive deaths and casualties
- Clemenceau wanted revenge and wanted Germany punished severely

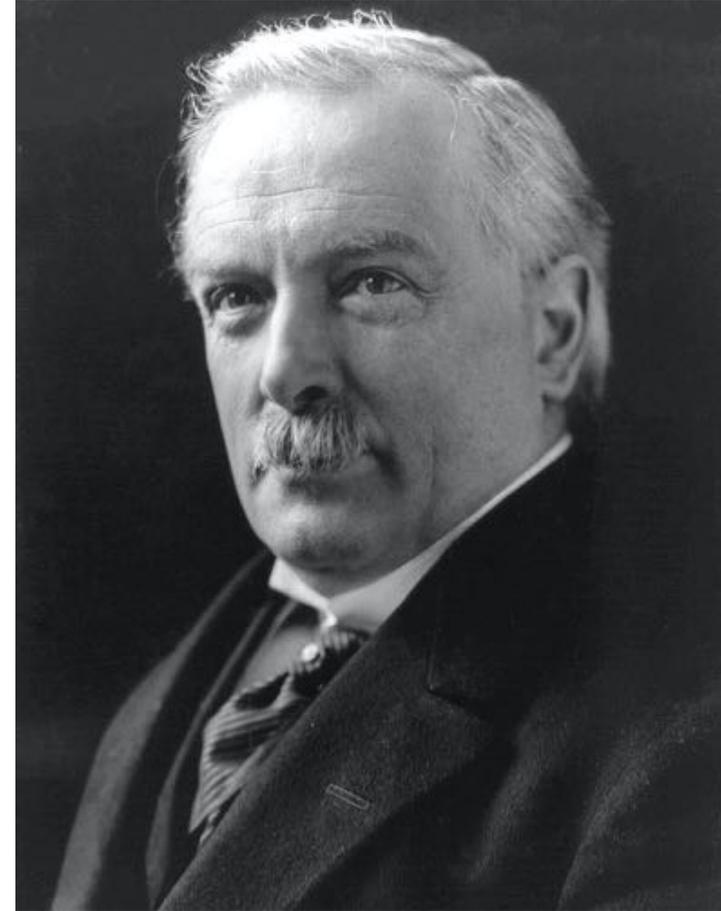


The Tiger

The fighting ended on November 11th 1918 but what happened next...

Britain

- David Lloyd George was Prime Minister
- Britain was suffering from hunger and the deaths and casualties
- The British people were angry and wanted Germany to be severely punished



The fighting ended on November 11th 1918 but what happened next...

USA

- President Woodrow Wilson wanted to rebuild Europe
- He was a key part of the post war negotiations
- He created the League of Nations that was supposed to stop another war like WWI from ever happening again.



Who was to blame for the war?

Britain

Germany

France

Increasing level of
blame



Who caused most damage?

Britain

Germany

France

Increasing level of
damage



Who lost the most men?

Britain

Germany

France

Russia

Austria-Hungary

Increasing number of
casualties



Who was in a position to fix things?

Britain

Germany

France

Russia

Austria-Hungary

USA

Increasing potential to
'fix things'



Who could gain the most from a peace settlement?

Britain

Germany

France

Russia

Austria-Hungary

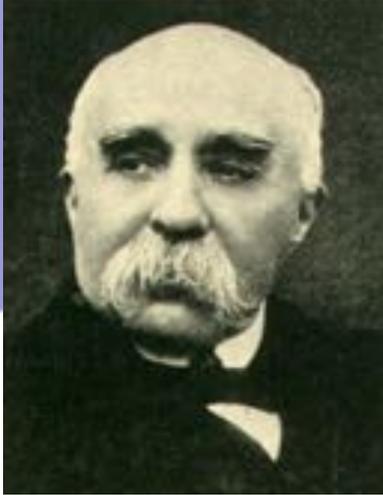
USA

Increasing level of gain



The Big Three

Georges Clemenceau



David Lloyd George



Woodrow Wilson



They will meet at Versailles 28th June 1919 to decide what to do with Germany

The Treaty of Versailles

As a group, we're going to decide what to do with Germany.

On your table you have three flags, if you want to contribute to the negotiations you need to hold a flag up and speak on behalf of that country...

On that sheet is the priorities of that country...

Read these carefully before we start..



Article 1. Guilt Clause

It is all your
fault!!



We blame
you!



You started
the war.
Admit it!!!

Should you insert a clause: "Germany is responsible for all the damage of the war."?

Article 2. Size of Army

Should you insert a clause: “To stop German aggression in the future their armed forces should be removed / limited”?

2.1: What size should you set the German army: Men

2:2 How many airplanes should Germany be allowed: planes



FACT
German Army before the war had 11,500,000 Soldiers!!

Article 3. Size of Navy



3.1: What size should you set the German navy:
..... Battleships

3.2: How many submarines should Germany be
allowed: submarines

Article 4. The Rhineland

The Rhineland
should be
demilitarised?



Germany should
be split into many
tiny states?

The Rhineland
should become an
Independent
state?

Article 5. Reparations



Reparations is the money that a guilty country pays in compensation for what they have done

What size should you set reparations?: £ bn

Should you insert a clause: “As Germany is responsible for the war damage they should pay for it”?

Article 6. Territories



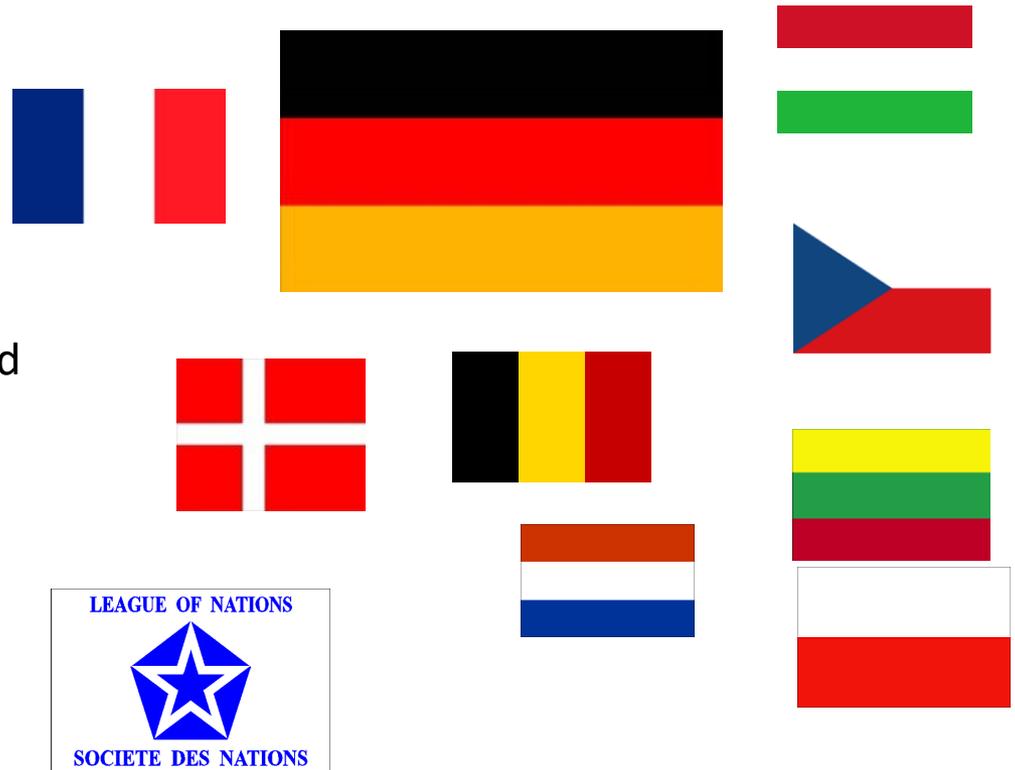
Germany owned many territories both around their own country and also abroad as part of their empire. Many of the other countries wanted to claim these to give themselves more land and power.

Should you insert a clause: “Having a growing Empire gives Germany too much power, we need to take their Empire and split it between the victors”?

Article 6. Territories

Options for German territory

- Alsace Lorraine to France
- Saar Coalfields to France
- Malmedy to Belgium
- Eupen to Belgium
- Ruhr to Belgium
- West Prussia and Upper Silesia to Poland
- Silesia to Poland
- East Prussia to Poland
- North Schleswig to Denmark
- Danzig a 'free city'
- Memel to Lithuania
- Bavaria to Hungary
- Saxony to Czechoslovakia
- Bremen to Holland



Article 7. League of Nations

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

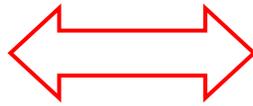


SOCIETE DES NATIONS

A league of nations would in theory give the countries of the world a place to discuss their issues before they turned into war

Should you insert a clause: “Germany shall not be a part of the League of Nations, they will talk their way out of blame”?

Article 8. Anschluss



Should you insert a clause: “Germany must not be allowed Anschluss with Austro-Hungary, this alliance in fact must be destroyed”?

Actual terms of the Treaty.

Who do you think would be most pleased? (Britain, France or USA)

Blame:

War Guilt Clause 231:



This clause said that Germany had caused WWI. Germany didn't agree but had to accept this leading to anger of the German people and leaders

Reparations:

£££

Germany had to pay £6.6 Billion to the allies (Britain & France)

They were already in debt from WWI and had their own destruction to deal with, this made Germans even angrier

Terms of the Treaty of Versailles

28th June 1919:



Army (Military):



- Army reduced to 100,000 men, limited to use in Germany, **0** tanks
- 6 Battleships, 6 Cruisers, 12 destroyers and 12 torpedo boats
- **0** submarines
- **0** Airforce
- Rhineland demilitarised, French troops placed in Rhineland until 1930

Territory: Lost 10% population, 13% of European territory, 50% of iron, 15% of coal reserves

- Germany lost all **11** colonies in Africa, they were given to the allies
- Alsace Lorraine given to France
- Posen & West Prussia given to Poland
- German port of Danzig separated from Germany
- Riches from the Saar coalfields given to France for 15 years



BRAT: Blame, Reparations, Army, Territory

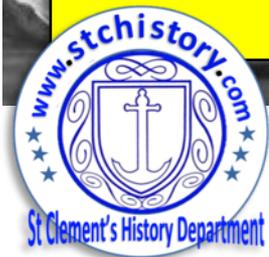
DIKTAT ALERT





Crucially, Ebert had no say in what happened at Versailles. The Treaty of Versailles was a DIKTAT – Dictated to him and he had to accept the terms.

Stick your copy of the terms in your book and annotate around each one why this might upset the German people...



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