



Cambridge (CIE) IGCSE History



Your notes

Was the Treaty of Versailles Fair?

Contents

- * Why was There a Need for the Treaty of Versailles?
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Why was There a Need for the Treaty of Versailles?



Your notes

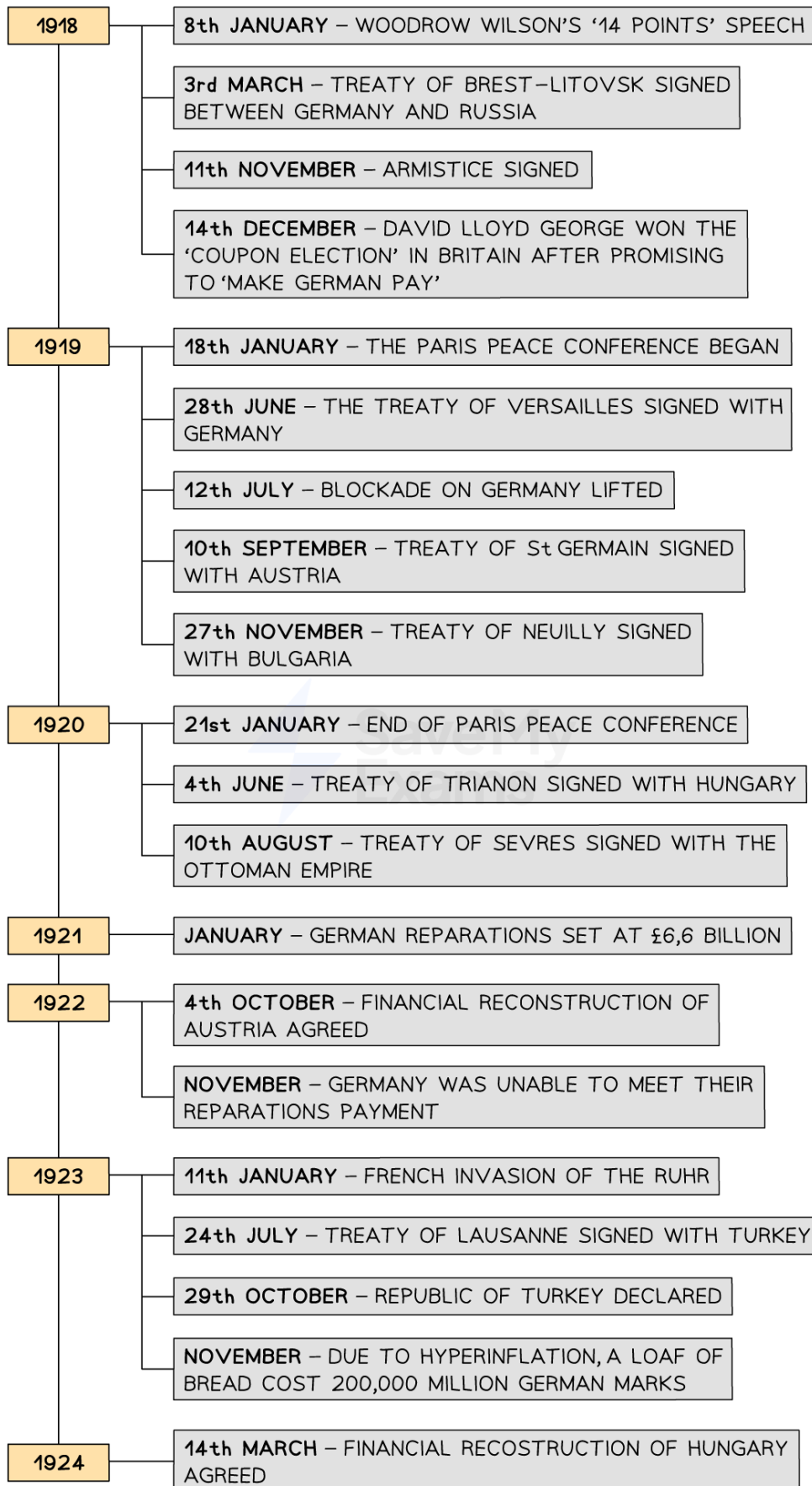
Was the Treaty of Versailles fair?

Why was there a need for the Treaty of Versailles?

Timeline & Summary



Your notes



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Your notes

There was a need for peace **treaties** due to the conflict of the **First World War from 1914 to 1918**. The First World War occurred between the Triple **Alliance**, or Central Powers, of **Germany, Austria-Hungary and their allies** and the Triple **Entente** of **France, Britain and Russia**. During the 1910s, most European leaders were planning for a conflict. Germany launched the **Schlieffen Plan in August 1914**. This aimed for Germany to rapidly invade and conquer France by cutting through neutral Belgium. This **plan ultimately failed**, creating the need for **trench warfare**. European countries would later use the Schlieffen Plan as evidence that Germany was **aggressive and caused the First World War**.

During the First World War, Germany created **harsh peace terms for their enemies**. As a result of its poor military performance and the **communist revolution**, Russia **withdrew** from the conflict. In March 1918, the **Treaty of Brest-Litovsk forced Russia to give up around 1 million square miles of land** and over a third of its population. The Allies used this treaty against Germany in the **Paris Peace Conference**. Some European countries argued that Germany should suffer as harsh peace terms as they had forced Russia to endure.

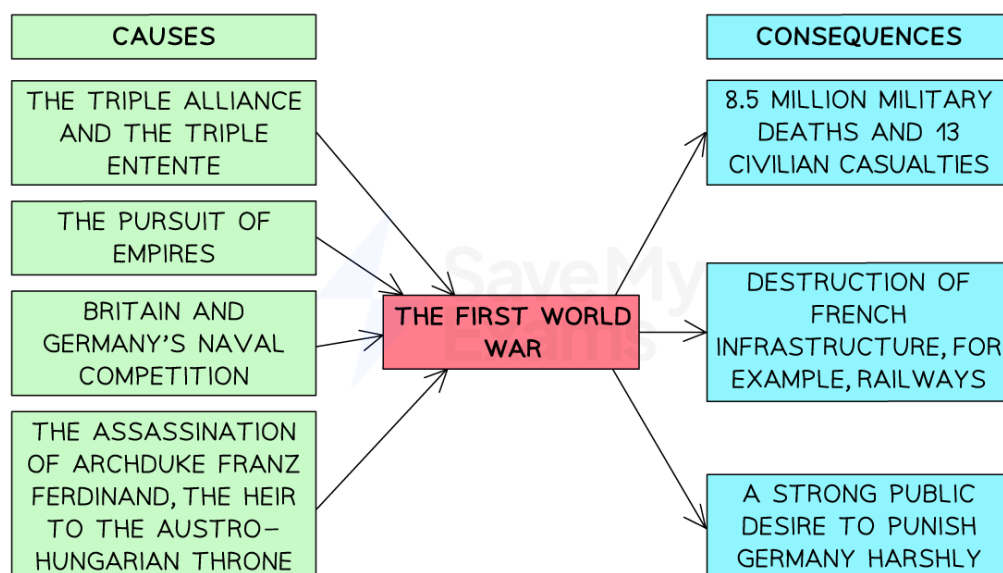
Germany launched their **Spring Offensive** in March 1918 and their military leaders were confident it would result in German victory. Despite its early successes, **the gamble of the Spring Offensive did not deliver the necessary defeat** of the Allies. **The USA joined the war in April 1917** in support of Britain and France, boosting the number of Allied soldiers. **Germany surrendered on 11th November 1918**. German politicians of the new **Weimar Republic** signed the **Armistice**. The German army retreated in November 1918 but it was not defeated. Some Germans did not believe in signing the armistice because Germany had not lost the war on the battlefield.

The First World War had a devastating impact on Europe. Historians estimate that the conflict caused around **8.5 million military deaths and around 13 million civilian casualties**. In France, in the 18 to 30 age group, there were 15 women for every man in 1919. Britain also suffered heavy losses. Around **750,000 British soldiers died** in the First World War. A significant amount of fighting and trenches occurred in Belgium and France. This is known as the **Western Front**. The use of **artillery and offensive mining caused mass destruction of the landscape**. The conflict destroyed hundreds of factories, railways and roads. This created significant economic problems for France. The levels of destruction made some leaders of Europe **seek revenge against Germany**. This influenced the type of peace achieved in the Treaty of Versailles.

Causes and consequences of the First World War



Your notes



A flow diagram showing the causes and consequences of the First World War

Motives & Aims of the Big Three at Versailles



Your notes

Who were the Big Three?

- The **armistice** only ensured **temporary peace**
 - There needed to be an official peace document where the Allies agreed on the terms of the Central Powers of **Germany**, **Austria-Hungary**, **Türkiye** and **Bulgaria's** defeat
- Discussions began in **January 1919** at the Palace of Versailles, Paris
 - The meeting is called the **Paris Peace Conference**
 - The meeting aimed to create **five peace treaties called the Versailles Settlement**. The biggest treaty was the **Treaty of Versailles**, which dealt with Germany
- The '**Big Three**' negotiated the terms of the treaty. These were:
 - **Georges Clemenceau** (Prime Minister of **France**)
 - **Woodrow Wilson** (President of the **USA**)
 - **David Lloyd George** (Prime Minister of **Great Britain**)



GEORGES CLEMENCEAU,
FRANCE



WOODROW WILSON,
USA



DAVID LLOYD GEORGE,
GREAT BRITAIN

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An illustration showing the members of the 'Big Three'



Examiner Tips and Tricks

Students often struggle to spell Clemenceau. His name does not sound the way it is spelt as the French alphabet has different sounds to the English alphabet. Keep practising the spelling of this name until you feel more confident. You could also

create a mnemonic for words you find difficult in this topic. This will help you to remember the order of the letters in each word.



Your notes

Motives of the Big Three

Georges Clemenceau's Motives

- Clemenceau saw the Paris Peace Conference as an opportunity to **gain territory back**
 - France and Germany had **fought twice during the 19th century**
 - Germany had taken key areas from France including the region of **Alsace-Lorraine**
- **France feared future invasion from Germany**
 - **Germany and France shared a border**
 - **Clemenceau wanted to limit Germany's military strength**
- Clemenceau was angry and uncompromising
 - The majority of the **Western Front was in France**
 - The fighting had destroyed many roads, hospitals and factories
 - Clemenceau wanted **Germany to pay to repair these damages** and take responsibility for starting the war

Woodrow Wilson's Motives

- Wilson was an **idealist**. He wanted to create a **lasting peace after the First World War**
- The Versailles Settlement should embody what he called the '**14 Points**'. Some of his 14 Points were that:
 - All national groups should have their own country. This is called **self-determination**
 - All countries should follow a policy of **disarmament to avoid war** in the future
 - All countries should **discuss their issues openly** and not sign secret treaties
 - All countries should **remove trade tariffs** and cooperate economically
- Wilson pictured a new organisation called the **League of Nations**
 - This League encouraged countries to communicate their problems rather than use violence and war
 - Wilson wanted **all countries to join** the League of Nations
 - It would **support the implementation of Wilson's 14 Points**
- Wilson wanted to trade with Germany
 - Large **reparations** would make Germany weak and could lead to its collapse as a country

- A strong, economically secure Germany would help **rebuild Europe** after the First World War

David Lloyd George's Motives



Your notes

- Lloyd George was **realistic** and agreed with aspects of France's and the USA's motives
- Britain had experienced **high casualties** like France
 - **The British public hated Germany and wanted revenge**
- Lloyd George understood some of Clemenceau's personal anger towards Germany
 - Before the start of the First World War, Germany had challenged Britain's naval power
 - From 1884 onwards, Germany had expanded its empire. Britain wanted to have the strongest and biggest empire in the world
- Britain also supported Wilson's point that a **strong Germany was better for European economies**
 - A prosperous Germany would want to trade with Britain and buy its **imperial goods**



Worked Example

What were Wilson's aims for the League of Nations?

4 marks

Answers:

Wilson wanted the League to keep the peace (1). Disputes between nations would be resolved by the League (1). Wilson intended that all states would join (1). Wilson hoped that the League would encourage countries to follow a policy of disarmament, as stated in his 14 Points (1).



Examiner Tips and Tricks

This style of question does not require you to explain your answer. The Cambridge IGCSE gives you **a point for each relevant piece of information** that you write. Therefore, do not spend any additional time trying to describe or explain each reason.

Aims for the Treaty of Versailles

THE AIMS OF THE 'BIG THREE' AT THE TREATY OF VERSAILLES



Your notes



GEORGES CLEMENCEAU,
FRANCE

NICKNAME: TIGER

- FRANCE HAD BEEN DEVASTATED BY WORLD WAR 1
- HE BELIEVED THAT GERMANY SHOULD BE SEVERELY PUNISHED BY LOSING THEIR MONEY AND LAND



WOODROW WILSON,
USA

NICKNAME: THE SCHOOLMASTER OF POLITICS

- HE BELIEVED IN THE 14 POINTS TO ENSURE WORLD PEACE
- HE WANTED GERMANY TO BE IN THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS



DAVID LLOYD GEORGE,
GREAT BRITAIN

NICKNAME: THE WELSH WIZARD

- HE WAS THE MIDDLE GROUND BETWEEN CLEMENCEAU AND WILSON.
- BRITONS WANTED REVENGE BUT HE WANTED TO TRADE WITH GERMANY AND AVOID ANOTHER WAR

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An illustration showing a summary of the Big Three's differing aims for the Treaty of Versailles

- Due to their different motives, the Big Three all had **different aims** for the Treaty of Versailles:
 - **Georges Clemenceau wanted a harsh treaty** that included:
 - **High reparations**
 - The protection of France's borders
 - The splitting of **Germany into states**
 - Germany **disbanding its armed forces** to prevent another invasion
 - The **return of Alsace-Lorraine** to France
 - Giving France the rich industrial area in Germany known as the **Saar Basin** to rebuild its economy
 - Germany giving its **overseas colonies to France**



Your notes

- **Woodrow Wilson wanted a soft treaty** that included:
 - The **creation of independent states** like Poland that had access to the sea
 - The return of Alsace-Lorraine to France
 - The **end of Germany's empire** and the weakening of all empires
 - **Avoiding blaming Germany** for the start of the First World War. This included not making Germany pay high reparations
 - The inclusion of all nations, including Germany, in the **League of Nations**
 - **Freedom of the seas**. Wilson believed that trading ships should have access to any waters without fear of attack
- **David Lloyd George wanted a fair treaty**, somewhere between Wilson's and Clemenceau's vision. His treaty would include:
 - Retaining a **strong trading relationship with Germany**
 - Taking **Germany's overseas colonies**
 - Harsh enough terms to **satisfy the British desire for revenge**. Lloyd George had just won an election on the promise that he would 'make Germany pay'
 - Germany keeping its **military strength to prevent communism** from Russia spreading into Europe
 - **A reduction in Germany's navy** to reinforce Britain's naval **supremacy**

How different were the aims of the Big Three for the Treaty of Versailles?

	Clemenceau	Wilson	Lloyd George
Military aims	Harsh	Soft	Moderate
Territorial aims	Harsh	Moderate	Moderate
Political and economic aims	Harsh	Soft	Moderate



Worked Example

Describe Clemenceau's demands at the beginning of the peace negotiations

4 marks

Answers:

Clemenceau wanted to weaken Germany (1). He demanded that Germany's armed forces be disbanded (1). Clemenceau insisted that Germany should pay reparations

for the damage it caused to France in the war (1). Clemenceau wanted Alsace-Lorraine to be returned to France (1).



Examiner Tips and Tricks

For a 'Describe' question, you should aim to complete the question in **four minutes, one minute per point**. This will give you one minute to read through your answer.



Your notes



Terms of the Treaty of Versailles

The Military Terms of the Treaty of Versailles

Article Number	Description of Term	Impact on Germany
42	The Rhineland (an area in Western Germany that bordered France) became demilitarised . Allied troops were stationed there until 1930	Germany was not allowed to have soldiers in the Rhineland. This made them vulnerable to an invasion from France
160	Germany's army was restricted to 100,000 men	Many ex-soldiers became unemployed
181	Germany's navy was restricted to six battleships and could not have submarines	Germany became weaker . They could not develop the military technology that other countries had
198	Germany was not allowed to have an air force	

The Territorial Terms of the Treaty of Versailles

Article Number	Description of Term	Impact on Germany
45	France was given the area of the Saar, with its coalfields, for 15 years	Germany lost 15% of their coal resources . This affected their economy
51	Alsace-Lorraine became a part of France again	Germany did not have a buffer between themselves and France any more
80	Anschluss (the union between Germany and Austria) was forbidden	Austria was a part of Germany's cultural identity . Many Austrians considered themselves to be German
87	Germany lost Posen and West Prussia, which allowed the Allies to create a	The 'Polish Corridor' divided Germany into two . Roughly one

	'Polish Corridor'. This gave Poland access to the sea	million Germans came under Polish rule
199	France and Britain ruled all 11 of Germany's colonies in Africa and the Far East as mandates	Germany's reputation as a global power was destroyed . They had fewer items to trade with other countries



Your notes

The Political and Economic Terms of the Treaty of Versailles

Article Number	Description of Term	Impact on Germany
1-26	The League of Nations was created, but Germany was not allowed to join	Germany felt excluded from world politics. They were more likely to resort to violence to resolve disputes
231	The ' War Guilt ' Clause. Germany had to agree that they started the First World War. The clause made Germany accept responsibility for the deaths and destruction during wartime	This clause created the most anger among the German population . They felt it was unfair to take all of the blame for the atrocities caused by the First World War
232	Germany would have to pay the Allies reparations as a condition of their surrender. The amount was set at 132 billion gold marks (£6.6 billion) . Germany had until 1980 to pay the debt	This amount would be enough to bankrupt Germany , especially as the territorial terms reduced their ability to trade



Worked Example

Why were the German people unhappy with the Treaty of Versailles?

6 marks

Partial answer:

One reason why the German public was unhappy with the Treaty of Versailles was because of the amount of reparations that Germany was expected to pay (1). The Treaty of Versailles demanded that Germany pay 132 billion gold marks or £6.6 billion to the Allies (1). This created unhappiness in Germany because this amount was considered to be far too high (1). The amount was enough to bankrupt Germany, affecting the prosperity of the German people (1).



Examiner Tips and Tricks

In Paper One, 'explain why' questions are worth either six or ten marks. For full marks in this question, an examiner is looking for **two fully explained reasons** as to why the German people were unhappy with the Treaty of Versailles. Use the PEE structure in your answer:

- **P** – Make a **point** about the question
- **E** – Use **evidence** that supports the point that you have made
- **E** – **Explain** why this evidence caused unhappiness in Germany. Avoid repeating the point again. Explain how this factor caused the German people to be unhappy with the Treaty of Versailles



Your notes

The Compromises Made by the Big Three



Your notes

CONFLICT

THE SAAR COALFIELDS AND THE RHINELAND SHOULD BE UNDER FRENCH CONTROL!



THE PEOPLE IN THESE REGIONS ARE GERMAN. THEY SHOULD REMAIN WITH GERMANY

WILSON ALLOWED CLEMENCEAU TO HAVE CONTROL OVER THE SAAR. THE RHINELAND WAS DEMILITARISED

BRITAIN WANT LENIENCY TO GERMANY IN EUROPE BUT STRICTER POLICIES TOWARDS THEIR COLONIES AND NAVY. BRITAIN ARE ACTING SELFISHLY!



I AM TRYING TO SATISFY THE BRITISH PUBLIC WHILST CONSIDERING HOW EUROPE RECOVERS ECONOMICALLY

MANY OF LLOYD GEORGE'S VIEWS WERE SUPPORTED BY WILSON. AS A RESULT, CLEMENCEAU HAD TO MAKE MORE COMPROMISES THAN LLOYD GEORGE

YOUR VIEWS THREATEN THE PROSPERITY OF OUR ECONOMIES. WE NEED OUR EMPIRES!



I BELIEVE IN SELF-DETERMINATION. NO ONE SHOULD HAVE EMPIRES, INCLUDING BRITAIN AND FRANCE

CLEMENCEAU AND LLOYD GEORGE ACCEPTED WILSON'S DEMANDS TO MAKE INDEPENDENT STATES IN EASTERN EUROPE.

WILSON HAD TO ALLOW BRITAIN AND FRANCE TO GAIN GERMANY'S COLONIES

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An illustration showing the conflicts and resolutions between the Big Three

Areas of Compromise Between the Big Three



Your notes

	Clemenceau	Wilson	Lloyd George
Military compromises	Did not believe that the treaty restricted Germany's army enough	Britain's naval supremacy meant that Wilson abandoned the idea of free navigation of the seas	
Territorial compromises	The Rhineland was not given to France . The Allies demilitarised the area	Forced to allow Britain and France to increase their empires	Reluctantly agreed to the independence of Eastern European nations like Latvia and Bulgaria
Political and economic compromises	Wanted to set the reparation payments higher	Germany was not allowed to join the League of Nations	Worried about the reactions of Germans under the control of France and Poland



Examiner Tips and Tricks

A question may ask you to explain how far you agree that **Wilson was the most satisfied with the Treaty of Versailles**. This is a ten-mark question in Paper One. When approaching this style of question, consider:

- Provide a **balanced argument**. You should have a minimum of **three explanations** (two on one side; one on the other)
- The **strength of both sides** of the argument. Wilson achieved self-determination for Eastern European countries. However, Wilson had to compromise with Clemenceau and Lloyd George by allowing them to take Germany's overseas colonies and expand their empires. Therefore, Wilson was not happy as he did not achieve all of his aims for self-determination
- Concluding your thoughts with a reflection on the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statement. Use words like '**partially**' or '**fully**' to explain this

Why Did the Big Three Have to Compromise?

- No leader could achieve everything they wanted from the Treaty of Versailles because:
 - Each leader of the Big Three had **different aims and motives**
 - Each leader had **different public pressure**



Your notes

- **Britain and France suffered a large amount of casualties** during the First World War
 - **Lloyd George** had won the 1918 election on the campaign to ‘**make Germany pay**’
 - Over **two-thirds of the French Army died or were wounded** in the First World War. The French wanted to impose severe punishment on Germany
- The **USA did not want revenge** on Germany because they had not suffered as much in the First World War
 - They joined the war in 1917, much later than the other Allied countries
 - **No fighting occurred on US soil**
 - The USA suffered less in terms of casualties
 - Before entering the First World War, the USA **gave loans to Allied countries**
 - At the end of the conflict, the USA began to **recall its loans**
 - The repayments made the **US economy boom**

What was the Impact of the Treaty of Versailles on Germany?



Your notes

The 'Diktat'

- The Treaty of Versailles took force on **10th January 1920**
- Many Germans argued that the **Weimar Republic should not have signed the Treaty of Versailles**
 - They believed that German politicians committed a '**dolchstoß**' – or a 'stab in the back'
 - The politicians who signed the Treaty of Versailles were called '**November Criminals**'. This was because November was the month the government signed the **armistice**
 - Many Germans felt **humiliated and weaker** than the rest of Europe
 - German people and politicians called the treaty a '**diktat**'
 - German representatives were **not allowed to attend the peace talks**
 - Germany had to **accept the terms of peace** otherwise the Allies would take control of the country

What Sections of the Treaty of Versailles Angered the German People?

Area of the treaty	Why did this anger the German people?
The War Guilt Clause	The German public did not think it was fair that they had to take all of the blame for the First World War . Other countries were planning for war in the 1910s
Restrictions on armed forces	The armed forces were a source of pride for the German people. Many Germans felt humiliated and vulnerable to attack . They were bitter that the rest of Europe was not forced to disarm
Reparations	Many Germans believed that the reparations were set too high . Germany had already been financially ruined by the First World War . From 1922, Germany could not pay its reparations bill
Territorial losses	The Treaty of Versailles placed German citizens under the rule of other countries. Many Germans felt that the Allies had taken away their cultural identity

Rise of Extremism: The Kapp Putsch



Your notes

- The **Spartacist** Revolt in January 1919 came close to overthrowing the new Republic
 - The Weimar Republic used the **Freikorps to stop the communist uprising**
 - The Freikorps was a **right-wing** group
 - They were **armed ex-soldiers** who became unemployed after the Treaty of Versailles restricted the German Army
- In March 1920, President Ebert planned to **disband** the Freikorps units in Berlin
- **5,000 Freikorps** members and their leader, **Wolfgang Kapp**, attempted to **overthrow the government in a putsch**
- Kapp and the Freikorps invited the **Kaiser** back to govern Germany
 - Many of the lower classes would not support the Kaiser returning to Germany
 - They had achieved more rights and freedoms since the Kaiser's **abdication**
- The workers, with the Weimar government's encouragement, called for a **general strike**
 - **Berlin lost gas, electricity and water supplies**
 - There was no public transportation
- After four days, Kapp left Berlin
- The Freikorps continued to cause issues in the Weimar Republic after the Kapp Putsch
 - Within the first three years of the Weimar Republic, there were **376 political assassinations**
 - In **August 1921**, two members of the Freikorps shot and killed **Matthias Erzberger**. Erzberger signed the armistice

Occupation of the Ruhr

- In **December 1922**, France accused Germany of not sending the amount of coal required by the Treaty of Versailles
- **French and Belgian troops entered the Ruhr in January 1923**
 - **The soldiers seized coal, manufactured products and machinery**
- Chancellor Cuno urged the coal workers to use **passive resistance**
 - The workers:
 - Went on **strike**
 - **Sabotaged** machinery
 - The French responded by bringing their own workers into the Ruhr
 - The Weimar government **could not force the soldiers out** of the Ruhr because the Treaty of Versailles:
 - **Restricted Germany's army to 100,000 men**



- **The French had 750,000 soldiers**
- Contained terms that **legalised France's actions**
- The French occupation of the Ruhr destroyed Germany's economy because **the Weimar government:**
 - Insisted on **paying wages to the striking workers**
 - Began **importing coal** from other countries to meet demand
 - Could not provide factories with enough coal
- Germans experienced **shortages** in everyday items. This increased the prices of these products

Hyperinflation, 1923

- The term inflation means the **increase in prices**
 - Inflation happens in an economy **over time**
 - For example, a loaf of bread in January 1971 cost 10p. The average price of bread in January 2023 was £1.06
 - Inflation is measured as a **percentage**
- Hyperinflation is when prices rise rapidly and become **out of control**
 - Wages struggle to match the cost of living
- In extreme cases, a country's **currency loses its monetary value**



Examiner Tips and Tricks

Inflation can be a tricky concept to understand, especially how it can cause money to lose all its value. Imagine that you have a rare diamond necklace. It would cost a lot of money to purchase the necklace because it is so rare. Now imagine that someone made 100 more diamond necklaces. The necklace is now not as rare, meaning it would not be worth as much as it was previously. Applying this concept to money, the more currency there is in circulation, the less it is worth. As a result, printing money can limit the impact of inflation but overprinting money can be dangerous to an economy.

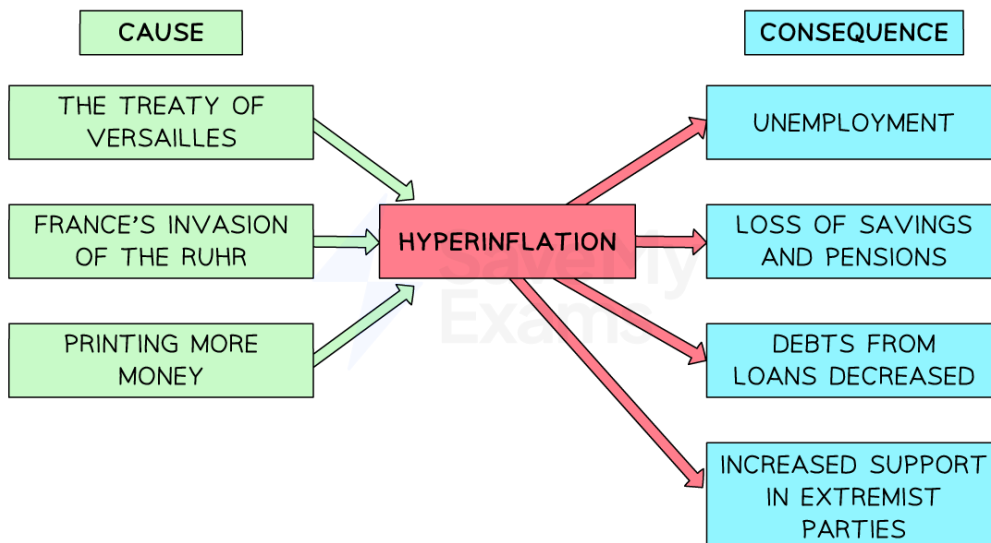
- To pay the striking Ruhr workers and purchase coal, the Weimar government decided to **print more money**
 - In 1923, there were 300 paper mills and 2,000 printers whose sole purpose was to print currency
 - The decision to print an excessive amount of money **caused the hyperinflation crisis**
- **By November 1923, the German currency (the mark) had become worthless**
 - Some workers received pay twice a day so they could purchase essential goods before their wages became worthless

- People filled wheelbarrows full of money to buy a loaf of bread

Causes and Consequences of Hyperinflation



Your notes



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A diagram illustrating the causes and consequences of hyperinflation



Worked Example

Study Source A. How useful is this source to a historian studying the Treaty of Versailles? Explain your answer using details from the source and your knowledge

7 marks

Source A: A satirical cartoon by German cartoonist Erich Schilling in 1921 entitled “The monstrosity of the Paris Conference”. The bottom caption reads “If only she didn't crush her parents!”



Your notes



Partial answer:

Source A is useful to a historian studying the Treaty of Versailles (1). This is because it shows a typical view of how the German public felt about the Treaty. The cartoonist, Erich Schilling, drew the Treaty of Versailles as a monster on top of skulls (1). The German public believed that the 132 billion marks reparations bill set in the treaty would ruin their economy and, as a result, their lives (1). The occupation of the Ruhr and the resulting hyperinflation crisis of 1923 proved that Schilling was correct in being afraid of the treaty's ability to destroy people's lives (1).



Examiner Tips and Tricks

Exam tip

All sources are, in some way, useful for a historian. To achieve full marks for this question, you need to comment on the nature, origin and purpose of the source

- **Nature** – The source is a cartoon produced in 1921. Cartoons are useful for understanding the zeitgeist, or the mood of the time. A limitation of cartoons as historical sources is that events are often exaggerated

- **Origin** – The cartoonist is from Germany. He is likely to have a negative view of the Treaty of Versailles. Therefore, the source is typical of the period
- **Purpose** – Cartoons are often drawn to entertain or to provide an opinion. Consider key events in Germany before 1921 that would motivate Schilling to produce this image

This method of source analysis ensures you are using details from the source and your own knowledge in your answer.



Your notes

Rise of Extremism: The Munich Putsch

Causes of the Munich Putsch		
Long-term	Mid-term	Short-term
The people were angry with the Weimar government from its beginnings. The Treaty of Versailles in 1919 was a 'dolchstoß' for many Germans	Mussolini , the fascist leader of Italy, inspired Hitler . Mussolini led his successful 'March on Rome' in 1922. He implemented a putsch using his paramilitary force	The French invasion of the Ruhr caused many shortages of goods in Germany
From 1920, the NSDAP was growing in popularity in Munich and Bavaria		The hyperinflation crisis reached its worst state towards the end of 1923. People resented the Weimar government for how they handled the crisis

- In November 1923, Hitler decided that the Nazi Party was ready to take control of Germany
 - The putsch relied upon the support of **Kahr, Seisser and Lossow**
 - These were key officials in **Bavaria**
 - Hitler knew that, if he established control of Bavaria, it would be easier for him to take over Berlin

What Happened in the Munich Putsch?

- The Munich Putsch failed and Hitler was arrested for high treason



Your notes



On 8th November 1923 in a Beer Hall called the Burgerbrau Keller, in Munich

Hitler stormed into the Bavarian government's meeting with 600 members of the SA. Hitler jumped on table and fired a gun. In his speech, he stated he was taking over Munich and marching on Berlin



Kahr, Seisser and Lossow swear loyalty to the putsch

Hitler took Kahr, Seisser and Lossow to a side room. At gunpoint, he made the men agree to support his plan and make Ludendorff the Head of the Army

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Your notes



Your notes



Kahr, Seisser and Lossow escape and warn President Ebert

The men asked Ludendorff if they could return home as their wives would be worried. Ludendorff released the men. Kahr, Seisser and Lossow warned Ebert of Hitler's putsch



5am on 9th November in the streets of Munich

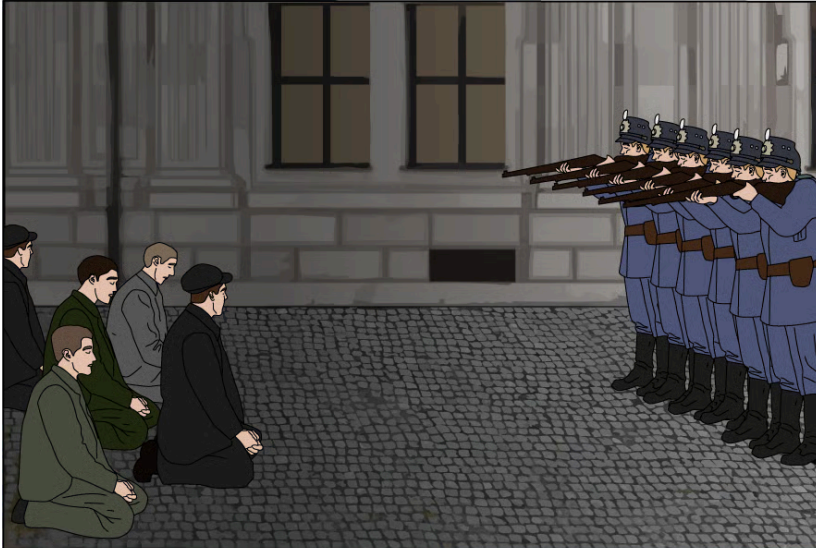
Hitler realised the Bavarian leaders had betrayed the putsch. At midday, 1,000 SA and 2,000 volunteer supporters continued the putsch. They marched to the centre of Munich and declared Hitler as President of Germany



Your notes



Your notes



The Putsch is stopped and leaders are arrested

Röhm had not taken control of the main army barracks. The Army opened fire. 14 Nazis were killed. Goering was shot in the thigh. Ludendorff, Röhm was arrested. Hitler is arrested on 11th November



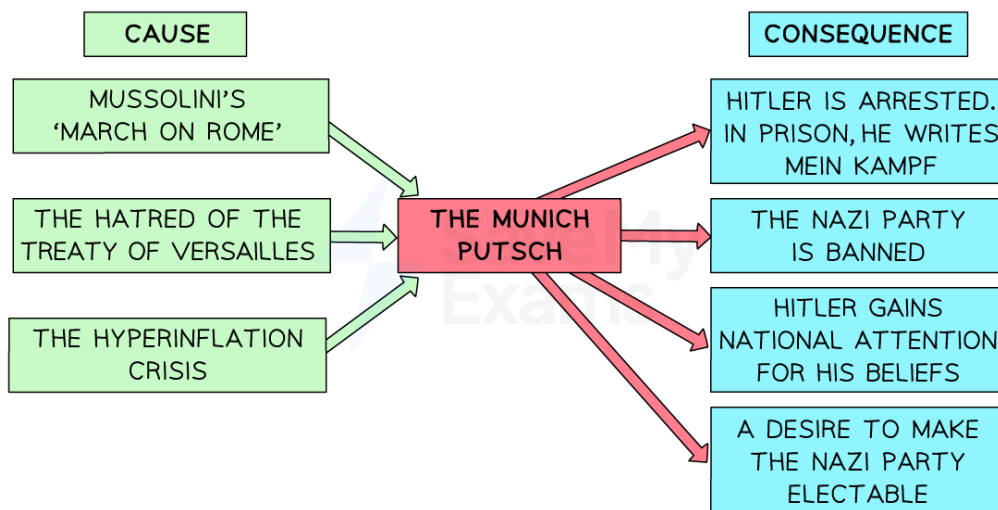
Following trials, Ludendorff is found not guilty, Hitler sentenced to 5 years

In 1924, Ludendorff and Hitler are tried for high treason. Ludendorff, as a war hero, is acquitted. Hitler's speech persuades the right-wing judges not to deport him back to Austria. Hitler is sentenced to only five years in prison

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Causes and Consequences of the Munich Putsch



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A flow diagram to show the causes and consequences of the Munich Putsch



The Post-War Treaties

- **Four other treaties** created the Versailles Settlement. These are:
 - The Treaty of St Germain
 - The Treaty of Neuilly
 - The Treaty of Trianon
 - The Treaty of Sevres
- Representatives of each country were forced to sign the treaty

The Treaty of St Germain

Date	Format	Terms	Impacts
September 1919	The Allies' dictated peace treaty with Austria	▪ Ending of the Austro-Hungarian empire ▪ Loss of land to Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia ▪ Anschluss with Germany forbidden ▪ Austria limited to 30,000 troops ▪ Reparations ▪ Accept blame for starting the First World War ▪ Recognition of the League of Nations	▪ Land given to Czechoslovakia housed most of Austria's industry ▪ Austria experienced a financial crisis in 1921 ▪ Never paid reparations ▪ The small states created from the old Austro-Hungarian empire caused conflict and instability in Eastern and Central Europe



Examiner Tips and Tricks

An exam question could ask you why the Treaty of St Germain was important. In Paper One, this would be worth 6 marks. You would have to fully explain two reasons why the treaty was important using the PEE structure:

- **P** – Make a **point** about the question
- **E** – Use **evidence** that supports the point that you have made
- **E** – Explain why this evidence caused the treaty to be important. Avoid repeating the point again. For example, the treaty ended the Austro-Hungarian empire, which had been one of the most powerful empires before the First World War.

Apply these skills to any of the treaties mentioned below



Your notes

The Treaty of Neuilly

Date	Format	Terms	Impacts
November 1919	The Allies' dictated peace treaty with Bulgaria	▪ Loss of land to Yugoslavia, Greece and Romania ▪ Recognise the existence of the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes ▪ Bulgaria limited to 20,000 troops ▪ Reparations set at £100 million ▪ Accept blame for starting the First World War ▪ Recognition of the League of Nations	▪ Loss of access to the Aegean Sea ▪ The Allies cancelled 75% of Bulgaria's reparation bill ▪ Bulgaria continued to claim their right to Macedonia ▪ Continued unrest in the Balkans

The Treaty of Trianon

Date	Format	Terms	Impacts
June 1920	The Allies' dictated peace treaty with Hungary	▪ Ending of the Austro-Hungarian empire ▪ Loss of two-thirds of its land and a third of its population ▪ Hungary limited to 35,000 troops ▪ Reparations ▪ Accept blame for starting the First World War	▪ The collapse of its economy, which resulted in not paying reparations ▪ The treaty forced many ethnic Hungarians, called Magyars, out of Hungary ▪ Conflict within Hungary during the 1920s

		▪ Recognition of the League of Nations	
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Your notes

The Treaty of Sevres

Date	Format	Terms	Impacts
August 1920	The Allies' dictated peace treaty with Ottoman Türkiye (Turkey)	▪ Ending of the Ottoman Empire ▪ Britain and France to take control of land in the Middle East ▪ Loss of control of the Dardanelles Strait, an important waterway ▪ Türkiye limited to 50,000 troops ▪ Allied control of Türkiye's tax system and budget ▪ Reparations ▪ Accept blame for starting the First World War ▪ Recognition of the League of Nations	▪ The people of Türkiye threatened to overthrow the government ▪ The Allies negotiated a new treaty with Türkiye in 1923 called the Treaty of Lausanne ▪ The new treaty gave Türkiye ▪ Land back in Europe ▪ Control of the Dardanelles Strait ▪ No reparations or restrictions of the army



Worked Example

What features of the Treaty of Versailles were shared by the other peace treaties of 1919–20?

4 marks

Answers:

All five of the post-war treaties made countries accept a War Guilt Clause (1). All allies of Germany had an obligation to pay reparations (1). Each losing nation had to restrict its army (1). The defeated countries all lost territory (1).



Examiner Tips and Tricks

Other potential answers to this question include:

- Recognition of the League of Nations
- All the treaties were diktats



Your notes

Impact of the peace treaties of 1919–1920

Key Opinions on the Treaty of Versailles

EUROPE PRE–WORLD WAR I



EUROPE POST–WORLD WAR I

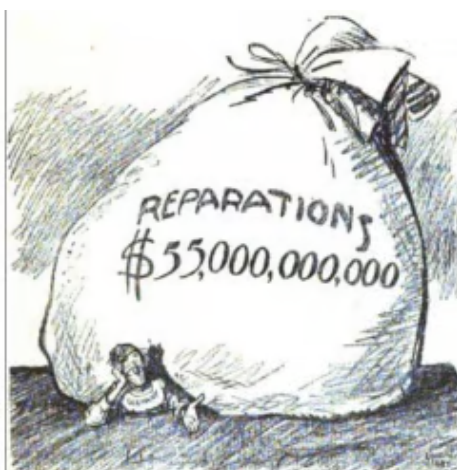


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The Treaty of Versailles can be justified	The Treaty of Versailles cannot be justified
Some journalists in Britain insisted that Germany could afford the reparations	Due to economic crashes, Austria's and Hungary's reparations were cancelled. When Germany's economy collapsed, the Allies reduced but did not stop reparations
The French claimed that Germany's diktat on Russia in 1917, the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk, was much harsher than the Treaty of Versailles	The Treaty of Lausanne undermined the Treaty of Versailles. It indicated that the Allied politicians knew the Versailles Settlement was unfair
Marshal Foch , the French commander of the Allied forces, stated that the treaty did not protect France from invasion	Some British politicians and journalists believed that the treaty's terms would cause Germany to start another world war
Some politicians in the USA believed the treaty was the best solution , given the political context in 1919	The Allies had different motives and aims . They were more interested in achieving their own aims rather than creating a fair treaty
Some people in Britain and France thought that the treaty was too lenient . As long as Germany existed as a country, they were still a threat to world peace	Forcing Germans to live under foreign rule and its exclusion from the League of Nations isolated Germany. This increased support for extremist groups in Germany

Contemporary Opinions of the Treaty of Versailles



A cartoon published in a US newspaper, 1921. Germany is saying, 'Let's see you collect it.'



Your notes



Placard for Lloyd's News on 29th June 1919. It is announcing the signing of the Treaty of Versailles

"If we aim at the impoverishment of Central Europe, vengeance, I dare say, will not limp. Nothing can then delay for very long the forces of Reaction and the despairing convulsions of Revolution, before which the horrors of the later German war will fade into nothing, and which will destroy, whoever is victor, the civilisation and the progress of our generation."

A quote from the British economist John Maynard Keynes in *The Economic Consequences of the Peace* (1919)



Worked Example

Study Sources E and F. Whose account can be trusted more, Wilson's or House's?
Explain your answer using details of the sources and your knowledge.

8 marks

Source E: From a speech by President Wilson during a tour across the US, 8 September 1919

I want to say that I did not find any of my colleagues in Paris reluctant to do justice to Germany. But I hear that this treaty is very hard on Germany. When a country has committed a criminal act, the punishment is hard, but the punishment is not unjust. Germany permitted itself, through an unscrupulous government, to commit a criminal act against mankind, and it is to undergo the punishment, not more than it can endure



Your notes

but up to the point where it can pay it. But the terms of this treaty will not be fully carried out if any one of the great influences that brought that result about is withheld from its implementation. Every great fighting nation in the world is on the list of those who are to constitute the League of Nations. I say every great nation, because America is going to be included among them, and the only choice, my fellow citizens, is whether we will go in now or come in later with Germany.

Source F: A diary extract from Edward House, a member of the USA's delegation to the Paris Peace Conference

June 29, 1919: I am leaving Paris, after eight fateful months, with conflicting emotions. Looking at the conference in retrospect there is much to approve and much to regret. It is easy to say what should have been done, but more difficult to have found a way for doing it...

How splendid it would have been had we blazed a new and better trail! However, it is to be doubted whether this could have been done, even if those in authority had so decreed, for the peoples back of them had to be reckoned with. It may be that Wilson might have had the power and influence if he had remained in Washington and kept clear of the Conference. When he stepped from his lofty pedestal and wrangled with representatives of other states upon equal terms, he became as common clay.

To those who are saying that the Treaty is bad and should never have been made and that it will involve Europe in infinite difficulties in its enforcement, I feel like admitting it.

Partial answer:

I believe that House's account is more trustworthy than Wilson's (1). This is because of the type of source it is. House was writing in his diary at the time of the Paris Peace Conference. This allowed House to be more honest about his unhappiness with the Versailles Settlement (1). In comparison, Wilson's source is a speech on his tour of the US. Wilson had to be more positive about the outcome of the Treaty of Versailles to satisfy the American public. Therefore, House is more likely to represent how the US government truly felt about the Treaty of Versailles (1).



Examiner Tips and Tricks

This question would be worth 8 marks in Paper 1. To complete this answer successfully, you should:

- Evaluate the nature, origin and purpose of both sources
- Explain how the two sources differ
- Consider the author of each source and the knowledge of the historical event, in this case, the Treaty of Versailles
- Come to a conclusion about which source is more trustworthy