

# The Treaty of Versailles (1)

World War I officially ended at 11 am on 11 November 1918. However, the damage caused by a war that had dragged on for four years needed to be formally addressed by a **treaty** between the two sides.

## *What was the Treaty of Versailles?*

A treaty is an agreement between two sides to stop fighting. There was a different treaty for each member of the Triple Alliance. The Treaty of Versailles dealt with Germany. The treaty was signed at the Palace of Versailles in France on 28 June 1919. It created formal peace between Germany and the members of the Triple Entente.

## *Who was involved?*

Germany was the target of the treaty, but it was not part of the talks about what should go into it. Only the Triple Entente and their allies were present. Some of the allies, especially France, wanted to see Germany punished harshly for its part in the war.

Germany was presented with a finished treaty and forced to sign it because it had lost the war. Many people were angry with Germany, and the **terms** of the treaty were designed to punish Germany and make it weak so that it could not start another war.

## *What was the outcome?*

The outcome was the harsh **punishment** of Germany. The terms of the treaty stated that Germany must accept **war guilt** by saying it was to blame for starting the war. There were **financial** (money), **military** (army) and **territory** (land) losses for Germany. It also had to pay **reparations** - money paid to other countries to make up for the damage caused. The treaty also created an organisation in Europe called the **League of Nations**, which would make decisions and help control nations like Germany.

# The Treaty of Versailles (2)

## Instructions

Read the Resource sheet, 'The Treaty of Versailles (1); then answer the following questions.

Unjumble the keywords from the Resource sheet, and then use them in full sentences.

The first letter of each jumbled word is underlined. The first one has been done for you.

1 yatter

a *treaty*

b A *treaty* is a formal peace agreement.

2 serpatarion

a \_\_\_\_\_

b \_\_\_\_\_

3 henpmistun

a \_\_\_\_\_

b \_\_\_\_\_

4 retms

a \_\_\_\_\_

b \_\_\_\_\_

5 awr qutil

a \_\_\_\_\_

b \_\_\_\_\_

6 nicanifal

a \_\_\_\_\_

b \_\_\_\_\_

7 tiliyarm

a \_\_\_\_\_

b \_\_\_\_\_

8 yortirret

a \_\_\_\_\_

b \_\_\_\_\_

9 fo gueLea siNtaon

a \_\_\_\_\_

b \_\_\_\_\_

# Examining the treaty

## Instructions

Read the Resource sheet, 'The Treaty of Versailles (1)'; then answer the following questions.

**Literal questions (the answer is HERE, written in front of you)**

1 What is a treaty?

---

2 Who was involved in the treaty talks?

---

3 What three things did Germany lose as a result of the treaty?

---

**Inferential questions (the answer is HIDDEN, you have to work it out based on the information provided)**

4 From a Triple Entente perspective, why was the treaty needed?

---

5 Would Australia be involved in the treaty talks? Why/why not?

---

6 Why did France want Germany to be harshly punished by the treaty?

---

**Evaluative questions (the answer is in your HEART, you have to give your opinion)**

7 Do you think France was a neutral place to have treaty talks? Why/why not?

---

8 Do you think the treaty was fair on Germany? Why/why not?

---

9 If you were German, how would you feel about the outcome of the treaty? Why?

---

# Terms of the treaty

The Treaty of Versailles included clauses (terms) that Germany had to agree to in order to make peace with other countries. This included five clauses:

- 1 A League of Nations was created. This was a group of nations who would work together to stop wars happening.
- 2 'War guilt' meant Germany had to accept responsibility for starting World War I.
- 3 Germany had to pay money to other countries to make up for the damage caused during the war.
- 4 Military removal meant that Germany's army and navy were restricted, and it was not allowed to have an air force.
- 5 Land removal meant that much of Germany's territory was given away to other countries.

## Instructions

Answer the following questions about the clauses in the treaty from the perspectives of Germany and France.

Germany	France
1 Do you think that the new League of Nations will treat you fairly? Why/why not?	
2 Do you think Germany should have to accept all the blame for the war? Why/why not?	
3 Is it fair that Germany is the only member of the Triple Alliance that has to pay damages to other countries? Why/why not?	
4 Should Germany be allowed to keep its large military? Why/why not?	
5 Should some of Germany's land be taken away from it? Why/why not?	