

The Great War**Section 4****A Flawed Peace****Terms and Names**

Woodrow Wilson President who proposed the Fourteen Points and represented the United States at Versailles

Georges Clemenceau France's premier and delegate at Versailles

Fourteen Points Plan for a just and lasting peace

self-determination Allowing people to decide for themselves about what kind of government they want

Treaty of Versailles Agreement at the end of World War I between Germany and the Allied Powers

League of Nations International group with the goal of keeping peace among nations

Before You Read

In the last section, you read how World War I spread and finally ended.

In this section, you will learn about the harsh peace that followed.

As You Read

Use a chart to record the reaction by Germany, Africans, Asians, Italy, and Japan to the Treaty of Versailles.

THE ALLIES MEET AND DEBATE

(Pages 424–425)

What decisions were made at Versailles?

Many nations sent delegates to the peace talks in Paris. The main leaders were **Woodrow Wilson** of the United States, **Georges Clemenceau** of France, and David Lloyd George of Britain. Germany and its allies and Russia were not present.

Wilson pushed for his peace plan called the **Fourteen Points**. He wanted to end secret treaties and alliances and give people **self-determination**, the right to form their own nation. He also hoped to set up a world organization that would police the actions of nations and prevent future wars.

Britain and especially France had different views. They had suffered greatly in the war. They wanted to punish Germany. After long debates, the leaders finally agreed on a peace settlement. It was called the **Treaty of Versailles** and was signed in June 1919.

The treaty called for a **League of Nations**—the world organization that Woodrow Wilson wanted. It would include 32 nations. The United States, Britain, France, Japan, and Italy would make up the leadership. Germany and Russia were left out of the League. The treaty took away German land in Europe and took away its colonies in Africa and the Pacific. Limits were placed on the size of Germany's armed forces.

Section 4, *continued*

Finally, Germany was given complete blame for the war. That meant it would have to make payments to the Allies for the damage caused.

1. How did the Treaty of Versailles affect Germany?

A TROUBLED TREATY

(Pages 425–427)

Who opposed the treaty?

Germany's former colonies were given to the Allies to govern until they decided which were ready for independence. Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Yugoslavia were all declared independent. Finland, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania—once part of Russia—were made independent

nations as well. The treaty also broke up the Ottoman Empire. The Ottomans kept control only of Turkey.

The treaty did not make a lasting peace. The United States Senate never approved the treaty or joined the League of Nations. Germans bitterly resented the treaty because it placed all the blame for the war on them. Colonial peoples in Africa and Asia were angry because the treaty did not make them independent. Japan and Italy were also upset by getting few territorial gains.

2. Which groups opposed the treaty and why?

Section 4, *continued*

As you read this section, take notes to answer the questions about the peace settlement that left many nations feeling betrayed.

Wilson's goal of achieving a just peace differed from the peace objectives of France and Britain.	
1. What were the guiding principles of Wilson's Fourteen Points?	
2. What were the concerns and aims of France and Britain?	

After heated debate and compromise, the Treaty of Versailles is signed.	
3. In what ways did the treaty punish Germany?	
4. How did the treaty change the world map?	
5. How was Wilson's Fourteenth Point incorporated into the treaty?	

The legacy of Versailles was one of bitterness and loss.	
6. Why did the United States reject the treaty?	
7. How did this rejection affect the League of Nations?	
8. Why did many countries feel bitter and cheated as a result of the treaty?	