

ACTIVITY EIGHT: THE AFTERMATH

TEACHER DEBRIEFING SHEET

Discussion Questions:

1. Describe the political, social, and economic challenges Germany faced as a result of World War I and the Treaty of Versailles.
2. Describe the political, social, and economic challenges the Allied countries faced as a result of World War I and the Treaty of Versailles.
3. What were the positive and negative impacts of the post-World War I territorial changes? For whom?
4. What long-term (lasting) political, social, and economic effects did World War I have on the world?
5. What are the costs of war and the price of peace?

Task:

Create three illustrated problem-solution spirals (see sample included), one economic, one political, and one social. Each problem-solution spiral must include: 1) a problem the Treaty of Versailles was trying to fix, 2) the solution provided by the Treaty of Versailles, 3) a new problem caused by the solution provided by the Treaty of Versailles, 4) and your group's solution(s) to that new problem.

Task Evaluation Criteria:



- Three problem-solution spirals are presented: one economic, one political, and one social. Each problem-solution spiral includes: 1) a problem the Treaty of Versailles was trying to fix, 2) the solution provided by the Treaty of Versailles, 3) a new problem caused by the solution provided by the Treaty of Versailles, and 4) your group's solutions(s) to that new problem.
- All three problem-solution spirals are illustrated, making use of at least three of the following: color, texture, emotion, visual metaphor, and/or exaggeration.
- Problem-solution spirals include a variety of perspectives (points of view), including those of the people of Germany, the Middle East, and the Allied countries.
- Group accurately incorporates at least five pieces of World War I historical information (events, geography, data, people, etc.) into the problem-solution spirals.
- Group presentation includes discussion of the costs of war and the price of peace.

Extension Questions:

1. Describe the political, social, and economic challenges the Middle East faced as a result of World War I and the Treaty of Versailles.
2. Imagine that you are a citizen of the Middle East. How would you respond to Article 22 of the Treaty of Versailles? Why?
3. Describe how people are impacted when borders change.
4. What are some of the reasons why borders change?
5. What do you think were the political, social, and economic effects of hyperinflation in Germany in the early 1920s?
6. What were the pros and cons of the mandate system? For whom?
7. In cases of migration due to border changes, what did migrants give up? What did they gain?
8. Imagine that you are John Maynard Keynes. What changes would you make to the Treaty of Versailles, and why?
9. How do you think reparations payments affected Germans on a daily basis?
10. If the people of the colonies had helped to write the Treaty of Versailles, how might it be different?

ACTIVITY EIGHT: THE AFTERMATH

ACTIVITY CARD

-  Read the CONTEXT-SETTING CARD. Then use the information on your RESOURCE CARDS to talk about the DISCUSSION QUESTIONS.
-  Examine the TASK and complete the project to meet all of the TASK EVALUATION CRITERIA.

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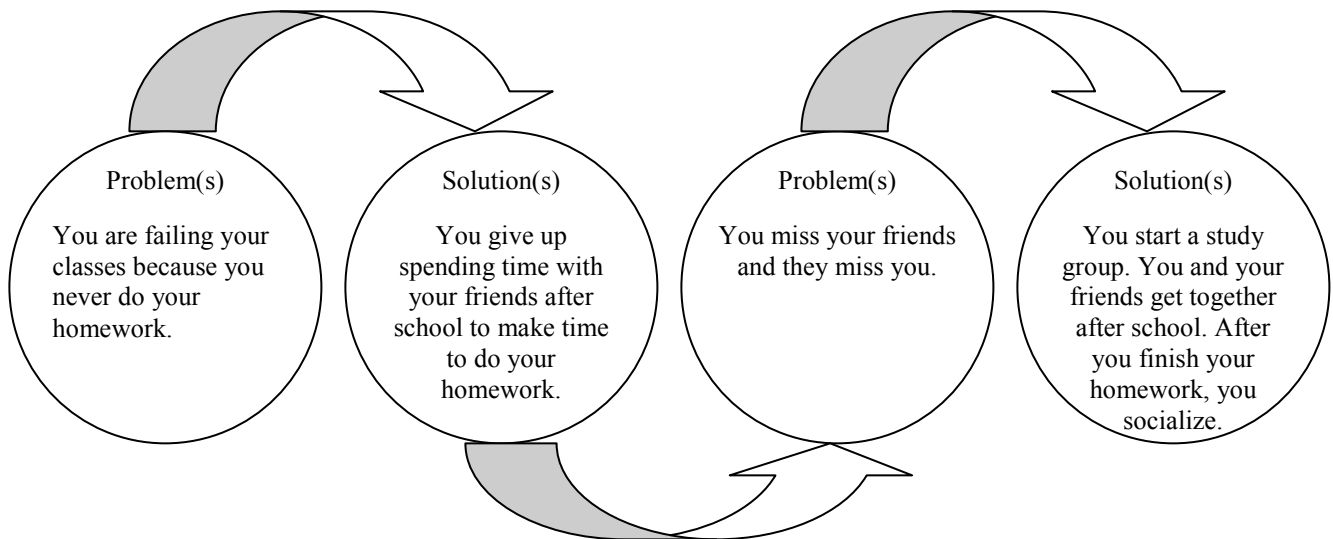
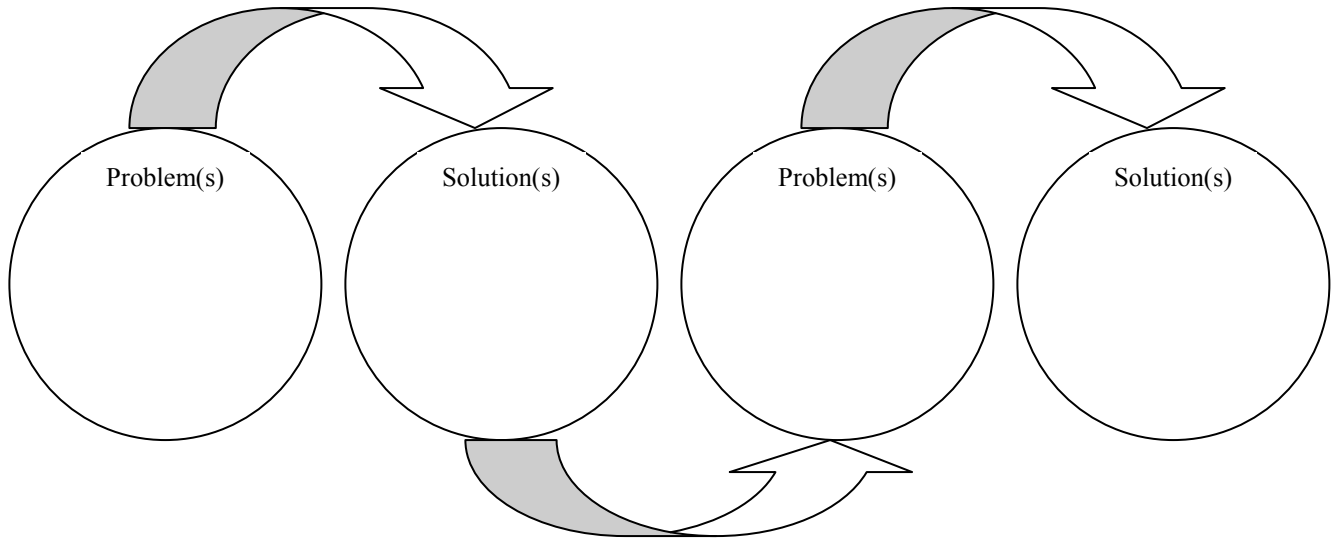
TASK EVALUATION CRITERIA:

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SAMPLE PROBLEM-SOLUTION SPIRAL

Below is a blank sample problem-solution spiral, as well as one model that is filled in. These samples do not include illustrations.



ACTIVITY EIGHT: THE AFTERMATH

CONTEXT-SETTING CARD

After World War I ended in November of 1918, leaders of the major world powers held a peace conference in Paris, France, that resulted in the 1919 Treaty of Versailles. The signing of this Treaty marked the official end to World War I. The three countries with the greatest representation at the conference were the major Allied Powers: Britain, France, and the United States. Representatives from these three nations determined the future not only for their own countries, but for much of the people of the world, including those from other European countries, Africa, and the Middle East.

One of the major outcomes of the Treaty of Versailles was that Germany was forced to accept blame for starting World War I. As punishment, some of Germany's territory was taken away, Germany was required to pay reparations (payments for damages caused during the war) to the Allied Powers, and many restrictions were put on Germany's military.

Another major outcome of the Treaty of Versailles was the establishment (setting up) of a new international organization to maintain peace: The League of Nations. One of the first things the League of Nations was assigned to do was to find a way to stabilize the former colonies of the Central Powers. These colonies included former German territories in Africa and Asia, and the Middle Eastern territories that had been under the rule of the Ottoman Empire. Article 22 of the Covenant of the League of Nations described what was to happen to these territories lost by the Central Powers:

Article 22 of the Covenant of the League of Nations:

To those colonies and territories which as a consequence of the late [recent] war have ceased [stopped] to be under the sovereignty [rule] of the States which formerly governed them and which are inhabited by peoples not yet able to stand by themselves under the strenuous [difficult] conditions of the modern world, there should be applied the principle that the well-being and development of such peoples form a sacred trust of civilisation and that securities for the performance of this trust should be embodied [addressed] in this Covenant.

The best method of giving practical effect to this principle is that the tutelage [care] of such peoples should be entrusted [given] to advanced nations who by reason of their resources, their experience or their geographical position can best undertake this responsibility, and who are willing to accept it, and that this tutelage should be exercised [carried out] by them as Mandatories on behalf of [for] the League...

People all over the world faced new challenges now that the war was over. As borders changed and colonies changed hands, people were faced with the challenge of creating new governments and laws for new or re-shaped countries. Citizens of many countries and colonies suddenly found themselves living within the borders of another country or under the control of a different country, simply because the map of the world had been re-drawn. And paying for the costs of the war and rebuilding the infrastructure of destroyed regions took its toll on the countries who had been involved in the war. Certainly after the war the world was at peace, but the world would experience the effects of the war for decades to come.

ACTIVITY EIGHT: THE AFTERMATH

RESOURCE CARD 1 (OF 4)

After WWI: Changing Borders & International Migration

At the end of World War I, the map of much of the world was redrawn. The 1919 Treaty of Versailles, which both officially ended the war and established (set up) the League of Nations (an international organization designed to maintain the peace) described what would happen to the map of Europe, Asia, and Africa.

After World War I: Changing Borders

The defeated Central Powers (Germany, Bulgaria, Austria-Hungary, and the Ottoman Empire) lost significant amounts of territory in Europe, Asia, and Africa. Russia, an Allied Power, also lost significant amounts of its western territory when it quickly pulled out of World War I to focus on the revolution at home.



The new map reassigned the lost territories in one of three ways. Many territories became new countries, such as Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia. In other cases, borders were redrawn, passing territory from one country to another, as in the case of Alsace-Lorraine, which passed from Germany to France. The remaining cases included the former Central Powers' colonies in Africa and Asia, which became mandates; mandates were territories assigned to be governed by Allied nations until such time as it was decided that those territories had matured (grown up) enough to become independent. The Middle Eastern and African colonies were mostly divided between France and Britain, while the Asian colonies were divided between Japan, Australia, and New Zealand.

After World War I: International Migration

Migration is the movement of people from one place to another. Country border changes caused a large amount of migration after World War I. Many people suddenly found themselves living in a different country without ever having moved. As a result, they migrated to live in the same country with people who belonged to their ethnic group and spoke their language, and where they wouldn't be persecuted because they were different. Many Germans who lived in Alsace-Lorraine and other territories lost by Germany migrated to the new Germany or to Austria. Large numbers of Hungarians moved to Hungary from the new countries of Romania and Czechoslovakia. In addition to migration caused by boundary changes, significant numbers of Armenians left Turkey in the wake of the Armenian Genocide.

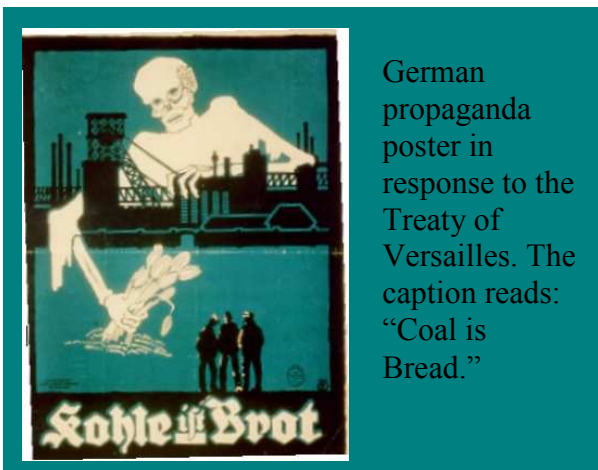
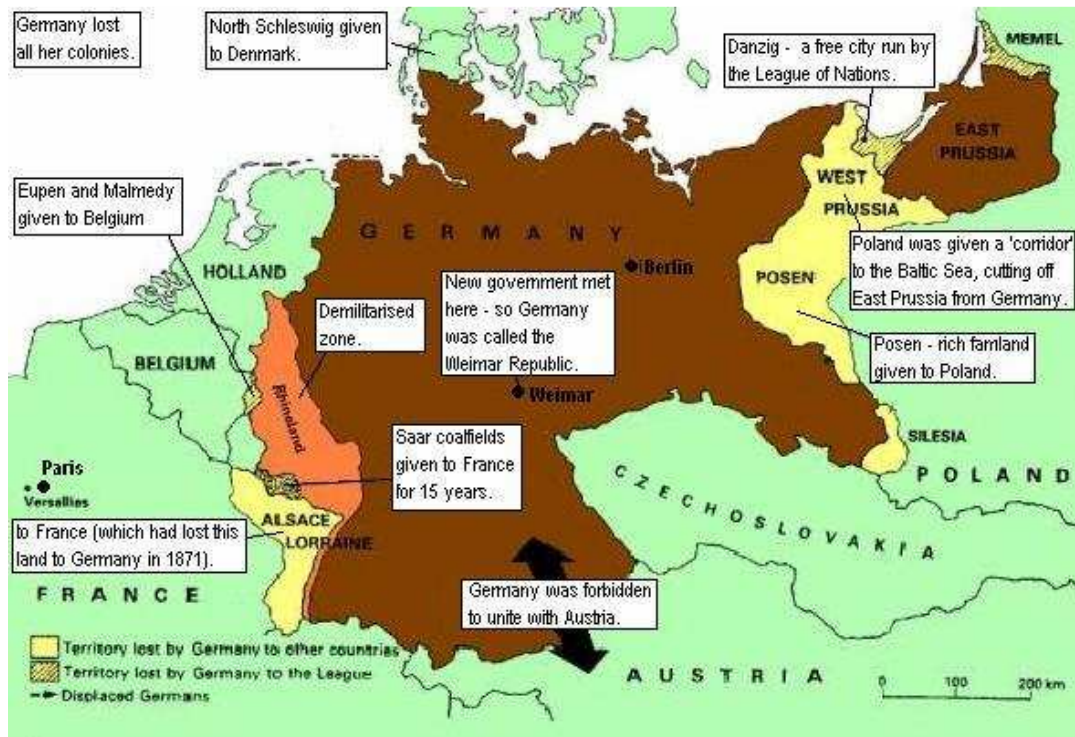
ACTIVITY EIGHT: THE AFTERMATH

RESOURCE CARD 2 (OF 4) Germany After WWI

The 1919 Treaty of Versailles crippled (seriously hurt) Germany. Germany was forced to give up all of its colonies in Africa and Asia, as well as significant portions (parts) of its territory in Europe. Many restrictions (limits) were placed on the German military, and Germany was forced to pay \$33 billion in reparations (war damages) to the Allied Powers.

Article 231, Treaty of Versailles, 1919:

The Allied and Associated Governments affirm [say] and Germany accepts the responsibility of Germany and her allies for causing all the loss and damage to which the Allied and Associated Governments and their nationals [people] have been subjected [have suffered through] as a consequence [result] of the war imposed [forced] upon them by the aggression [violent acts] of Germany and her allies.



"Widows and Orphans" by German artist Käthe Kollwitz, 1919

The Cost of War and the Price of Peace

Revised 9/05

ACTIVITY EIGHT: THE AFTERMATH

RESOURCE CARD 3 (OF 4) The Middle East After WWI

During World War I, much of the Middle East was under the rule of the Ottoman Empire. During the war, the Ottoman Empire sided with the Central Powers (led by Germany and Austria-Hungary). In 1916, Middle Eastern Arabs, under the leadership of Sharif Hussein bin Ali, Emir of Mecca and King of the Arabs, launched what came to be known as “The Great Arab Revolt,” against the Ottoman Empire. The aim of the revolt, which was supported by the Allies (led by Britain and France), was to free Arab lands from Turkish rule in order to establish an Arab state that would unite all Arabs under one government.

What the Arabs did not know was that Britain and France had made a secret agreement in 1916 – the Sykes-Picot Agreement – that laid plans to divide up the Middle East should the Allies win the war.



After the war, the European Allies did not make good on their promise to help create an independent Arab state. Instead, the League of Nations placed many Middle Eastern territories under British and French control. These territories were mandates (a mandate is a region governed by another country until it is ready for independence).

Sir Maurice Hankey, Secretary of the British War Cabinet, in a wartime letter to David Lloyd George, leader of Britain:

...would it not be an advantage, before the end of the war, to secure the valuable oil wells in Mesopotamia [Iraq]?



Bombardment of Damascus, 1925



In 1925, Arabs rebelled against French rule in Syria. The French responded with bombings, including some in the older neighborhoods of Damascus.

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RESOURCE CARD 4 (OF 4) International Economic Challenges After WWI

John Maynard Keynes, an English economist, commented on the Treaty of Versailles in his 1920 book The Economic Consequences of the Peace:

The Treaty includes no provisions [instructions] for the economic rehabilitation [rebuilding] of Europe... It is an extraordinary fact that the fundamental [basic] economic problem of a Europe starving and disintegrating [falling apart] before their eyes, was the one question in which it was impossible to arouse the interest of the Four [Great Britain, France, Italy, and the United States]...

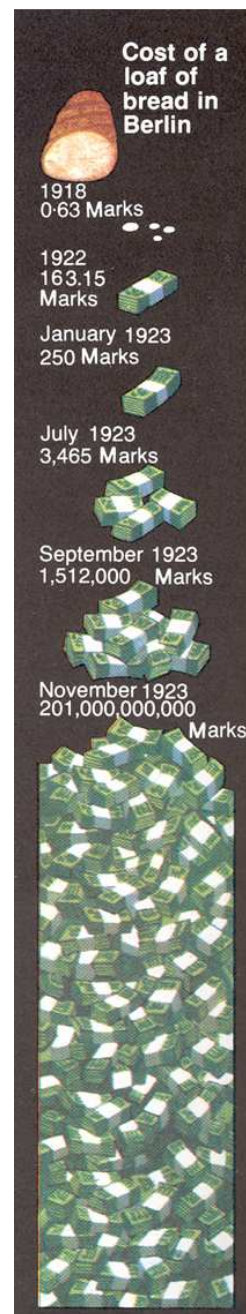
Wherever World War I had been fought, factories, farms, mines, and ships had been destroyed. This destruction meant a loss in production, and, therefore, a loss of jobs. The economic problems caused by war destruction were aggravated by the large numbers of soldiers, who needed to return to the workforce at the end of the war. It was critical that the countries severely damaged by war rebuild as quickly as possible. In order to rebuild, however, those countries needed money. The European Allies hoped to get much of the money needed for rebuilding by collecting reparations (payments for war damages) from Germany.

Germany's Economic Crisis: 1921- 1923

Although the 1919 Treaty of Versailles stated that Germany was to pay reparations, the amount was not decided upon until 1921. The total amount to be paid was 132 billion marks (a mark is the German currency). The German government made the first 2 billion mark payment, paying in money and goods (including coal, iron, and wood). However, Germany was unable to make payment the second year. The French were angered by what they saw as Germany's refusal to pay (rather than Germany's inability to pay) and so they, along with Belgium, invaded the Ruhr Valley, one of Germany's key industrial areas. The French and Belgian soldiers took over railroads, mines, and factories, with the idea that the profits from those industries would be paid directly to the Allies.

The German government began a campaign of "passive resistance" – they urged German workers in the Ruhr Valley not to work for the French. The French responded with violence, killing and wounding or expelling (forcing from their homes) workers who refused to work. During the French occupation (takeover) of the Ruhr Valley, 132 people were killed and approximately 150,000 were expelled from their homes. While Germans were resisting the French occupation of the Ruhr Valley, much money was lost as production stopped in the region.

The loss of income caused by the Ruhr Valley crisis only served to worsen Germany's failing economy. Not only was there not enough money to rebuild the country after the war or to make reparations payments, but now people were struggling to survive. The German government hoped to solve some of these problems by printing more money. However, this action caused prices to rise, and, in 1923, Germany experienced hyperinflation (severe and rapid, or fast, inflation).



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INDIVIDUAL REPORT

Which were greater: post-World War I political, social, or economic challenges? Justify your answer.

Evaluation Criteria:

- Response clearly states which were greater: post-World War I political, social, or economic challenges.
- Response provides at least three reasons why you think the challenges in your chosen category (political, social, or economic) were greater than the challenges in the other two categories.
- Reasons includes a variety of perspectives (points of view), including those of the people of Germany, the Middle East, and the Allied countries.
- Response includes a discussion of the costs of war and the price of peace.