

The Treaty of Versailles and Wilson's Fourteen Points

Wilson went to Versailles with the hopes to create a treaty that would end all wars and create a world safe for democracy. The goal of these points was to prevent international conflicts that could lead to war. European leaders, however, had a different idea of how to effectively end the war and achieve peace.

Wilson's Foreign Policy Goals

1. **Spreading democracy:** the citizens of other nations should have the freedom to choose representative or democratic governments. Wilson believed that the United States should help other nations create democratic governments for themselves if they were not already democratic.
2. **Open markets:** nations should work to lower barriers to free trade among themselves. By lowering or ending tariffs and duties on imported goods, nations could expect trading partners to do the same, thus benefiting all. Wilson regarded open markets as an essential part of capitalism and democracy.
3. **International organization dedicated to keeping the peace:** by joining together and promising to protect each other, democratic nations could deter wars of aggression and conquest. Ideally, a powerful nation would think twice about attacking a smaller nation if it was a member of this international organization. This concept is known as "international collective security" and served as the basis for the League of Nations. Wilson, who believed that democratic nations were inherently peaceful, also hoped the League of Nations could promote self-determination around the world.
4. **Active global role for the United States:** in order to achieve his first three goals, Wilson recognized that his nation needed to act as a leader in world affairs and use its power and influence to persuade, even force, other nations to accept these goals and work with the United States to fulfill them.

Summarize Wilson's foreign policy goals using at least two complete sentences.

Wilson's Fourteen Points

Point	Summarize the main idea in your own words.	Explain how this would promote international peace.
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1. Open covenants of peace, openly arrived at.... [so that] diplomacy shall proceed always frankly and in the public view.		
2-3. Absolute freedom of navigation upon the seas, outside territorial waters, in peace and in war. There will also be removal of economic barriers to trade.		
4. National armaments will be reduced to the lowest point consistent with domestic safety.		
5. Impartial adjustment of all colonial claims, ... the interests of the populations concerns must have equal weight with the equitable claims of the [colonial] government.		
6-13. These points restore land to Russia, Belgium, Serbia, Romania, and Montenegro that were occupied by other nations before and during war.		
14. A general association of nations must be formed...for the purpose of affording mutual guarantees of political independence...We cannot be separated or divided in purpose. We stand together until the end.		

Paris Peace Conference: The Big Four				
Country	United States	Great Britain	France	Italy
Leader	Woodrow Wilson	David Lloyd George	Georges Clemenceau	Vittorio Orlando
Goal	Lasting peace	Punish Germany	French security	Gain territory

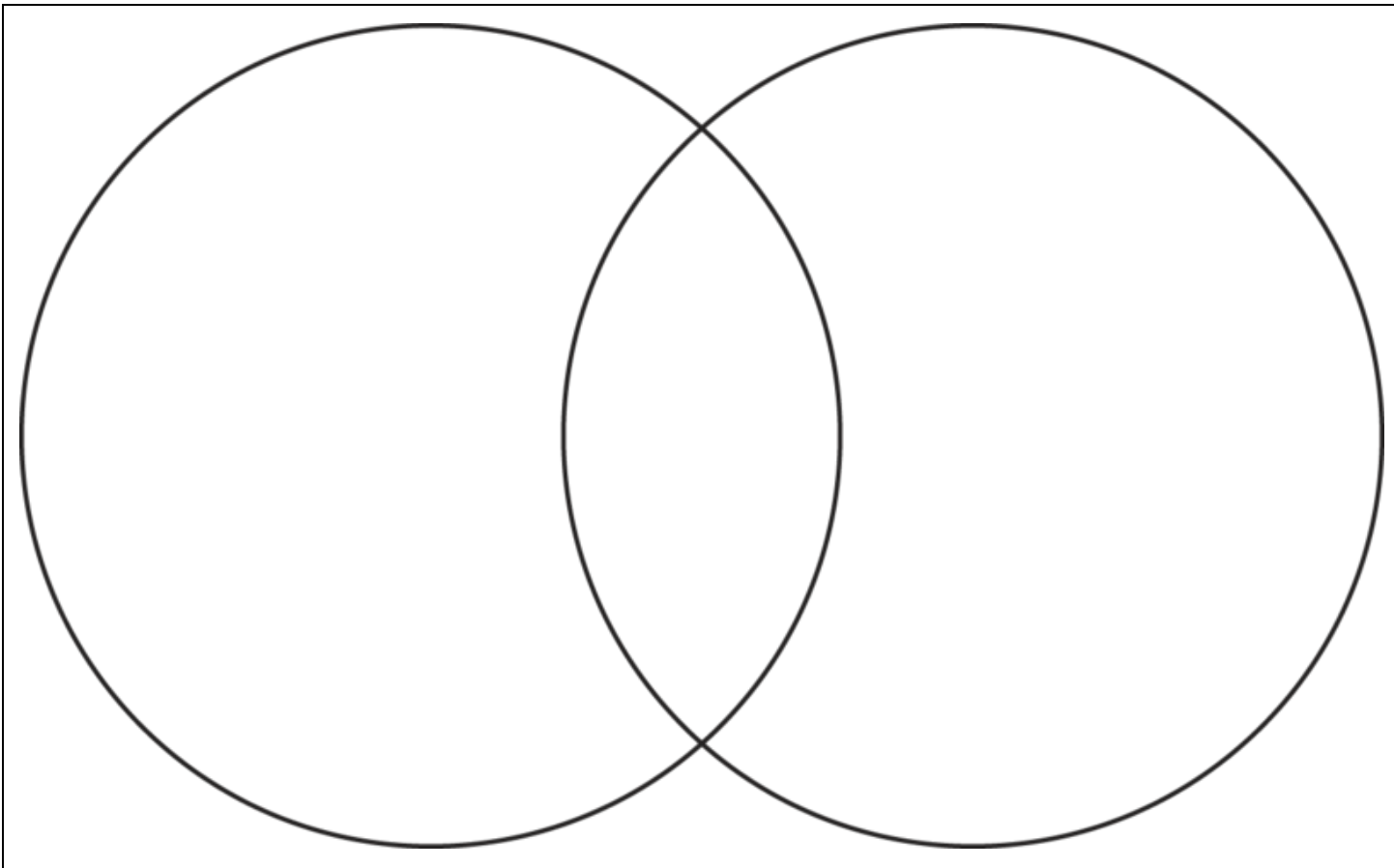
Why do you think each of the Big Four leaders had different goals for the Paris Peace Conference? Write at least two complete sentences.

Compare and contrast the Treaty of Versailles and Wilson’s Fourteen Points

Treaty of Versailles	
International Relations	*League of Nations is formed
Responsibility	*Germany accepts responsibility for starting the war and agrees to make reparations to the Allies
Territory	*New nations formed Germany returns *Alsace-Lorraine to France *France and Great Britain acquire mandates in the Middle East
Military Strength	*Germany will reduce its army and navy and eliminate its air force *German land along the Rhine River is demilitarized

Wilson’s Fourteen Points	
International Relations	*Form an international association of nations: League of Nations *Self-determination of subject peoples *Removal of international trade barriers *Open covenants for peace and no secret diplomacy *Freedom of the seas/
Responsibility	*No one nation is responsible
Territory	*Rectification of boundaries by returning to pre-war boundaries *Fair adjustment of colonial claims
Military Strength	*Reduction of armaments by all nations *German land along the Rhine River is demilitarized

Complete the Venn diagram to compare and contrast the Treaty of Versailles and Wilson’s 14 Points.



Political Cartoon Analysis

Analyze the political cartoon using SCAMS.

S - Subject _____

C- Caption/Text

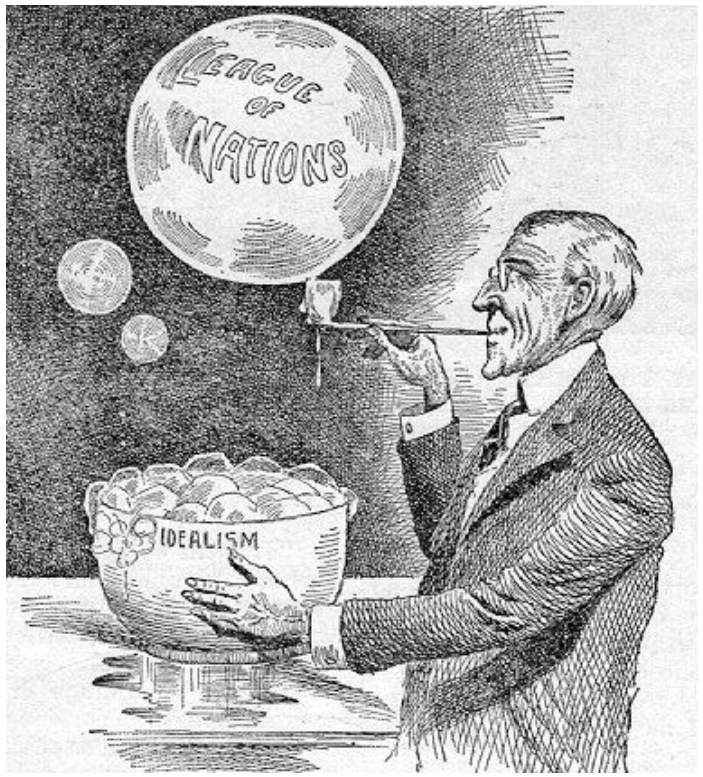
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A - Action

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M - Message _____



<p>—</p> <hr/> <p>—</p> <p>S - Symbols</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Man: _____• Bubbles: _____ <p>_____</p> <p>—</p>	
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Based on this cartoon and everything you have read about the Big Four's goals, what criticisms might Europe have about Wilson's plan for peace? Write at least two complete sentences.

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Why do you think the US Senate refused to ratify the Treaty of Versailles?

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