

InterWar Years - The Great Depression

Mrs. Wiedenheft's Modern World History

Day 1

Please view the notes and complete the guided notes over the Treaty of Versailles. These notes briefly review WWI and discuss the terms, or provisions, of the treaty that ended the war. This is also a great introduction to the depression that started in the United States and spread across the globe. These are fabulous notes and guided notes that I got from Brain Wrinkles.com. This should be pretty easy reading and very straight forward. (**pages 2-9**)

Day 2-3

Complete the graphic organizer using the notes provided about the Great Depression that was worldwide. This is a more in-depth look than the notes from yesterday to give you a little better understanding of the Depression which lasted for a little more than a decade. (**pages 10-13**)

Day 4

Look at the pictures from the Great Depression and write a short caption for each describing what is happening. You can describe emotions that you think the people in the picture are feeling. These captions should be 1-2 complete sentences for each picture. (**pages 14-19**)

Day 5

You have several assignments and a quiz due today. Please take time today to make sure that the following assignments have all been completed and submitted. **Please use this time wisely, and do not fall behind. Make sure that you submit, work is not turned in through Google Classroom unless you click submit.**

- The Russian Revolution
- The Romanov Family
- Armenian Genocide and Russian Revolution open note Quiz
- Effects of the Treaty of Versailles Guided Notes
- The Great Depression Notes and Graphic Organizer (chart)
- Great Depression Pictures with Captions

Effects of the Treaty of Versailles

Directions: Use the following website to view slides recapping WWI and the provisions of the Treaty of Versailles. These provisions will help set the stage for WWII.

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1t0hMcEF24frm9Y7FcCNcSIIYXewArbQFk-Av5w2L6FA/present?slide=id.p35>

Punishment

- The Treaty of Versailles was mainly negotiated and written by the _____, with little input from Germany.
- France's Prime Minister, Georges Clemenceau, pushed for _____ for Germany.
- France had been devastated when Germany had invaded, and Clemenceau didn't want Germany to ever be strong enough to _____.
- US President Woodrow Wilson and UK Prime Minister David Lloyd George were concerned a severe punishment would start another war, but the _____.

Land

- In signing the treaty, Germany had to give up one million square _____, some of which had been seized by Germany prior to WWI.
- The majority of the land that was lost was _____ and could have been used to boost Germany's poor economy.
- Germany also lost all of _____.

Reparations

- In addition to accepting the blame for starting the war, Germany had to _____ to other countries for the damages they had suffered as a result of the war.
- Germany owed _____ in reparations.
- This was difficult for Germany to pay because it also had to _____ and infrastructure.

Military

- In order to keep Germany weak, the treaty forced Germany to _____ and stop production of nearly all war materials.
- Germany was also prohibited from _____.

Resentment

- The majority of Germans _____ the harsh restrictions put in place by the Treaty of Versailles.
- As economic conditions throughout the country worsened, many Germans _____.
- Germany had _____ and was distrusted by other countries.
- Even though the Treaty of Versailles ended World War I, the severe consequences given to Germany set events in motion that would eventually lead to _____.

League of Nations

- The Treaty of Versailles also created the _____, a group of countries that promised to work together to make sure that another world war would not occur.
- Germany was not allowed to join until _____.
- The US Senate _____ the Treaty of Versailles and never became a member of the League of Nations.
- The League had _____ and turned out to be too weak.

Germany

- The war had left Germany _____.
- As its people starved and the country lay in chaos, the Allies gave them a bill that they simply could _____.
- The Treaty of Versailles caused Germany to go through an _____.

Depression

- Germany was not the only country who _____.
- Countries around the world fell into a _____ following World War I.
- European economies were in terrible shape because they had suffered _____ and severe loss of life.
- These countries had borrowed money during the war, but now had no money to _____.
- They also experienced _____, a condition where prices rise and money loses purchasing power.

U.S.

- The United States suffered from the Great Depression beginning in October 1929 when the _____.
- Value of stocks began to drop so stockholders began to _____ as fast as they could.
- Businesses could no longer sell their goods because people had less money to spend, so many had to close & workers _____.
- People couldn't _____ to the bank, so they lost everything (homes, farms, etc.).

Worldwide

- Businesses around the world _____.
- When the US stopped buying goods, it _____ in other countries.
- When _____, banks in other countries were hurt too
- Stockholders in other countries could _____ their stocks to American companies
- As businesses and factories around the world _____, buying and selling almost stopped.

World War I

- World War I began in June 1914 and the fighting ended in November 1918.
- Even though the event that sparked the war is easy to pinpoint, the actual causes of WWI are complicated and intertwined with the histories of the countries involved.
- There are four M.A.I.N. causes of World War I...

Militarism

- Countries had built strong militaries to protect themselves and their colonies, and militarism increased as countries competed with each other to build up their armies and navies.
- During this time, the military was given top priority with the countries' politics and economics.
- Between 1870 and 1914, Germany and France doubled the size of their armies, while Great Britain and Germany used their navies to compete for dominance of the seas.
- Tensions rose as countries watched each other build up military power.

Alliances

- European countries made agreements with each other to better protect themselves.
- If one member was attacked, the others were obligated to help.
- When the war began, on one side were the Allies: Great Britain, France, Russia, Serbia, and Belgium.
- The other side were the Central Powers: Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria, and the Ottoman Empire.

Imperialism

- Imperialism is when a country increases its power and wealth by acquiring new lands under its control.
- Rivalries developed as countries tried to grab more and more colonies throughout Africa and Asia.

- The rush for land acquisition caused many European countries to resent and distrust one another.

Nationalism

- Nationalism is when citizens feel fierce pride in their home country.
- As countries expanded their empires, a strong sense of nationalism emerged.
- Many Europeans began to feel that their nation was superior to all others.
- Nationalism was exceptionally high in Serbia, a small nation south of Austria-Hungary, and in Bosnia, a region located in southern Austria-Hungary.
- A large Slavic population lived in both Serbia and Bosnia, and the ethnic group strongly desired their own country, free from Austria-Hungary's control.
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- These nationalistic feelings led to the actual event that sparked World War I.

In Conclusion

- European empire building in Asia and Africa helped lead to World War I because:
- Europeans felt fierce pride in their countries.
- They had developed strong militaries to protect their colonies.
- European countries had built up resentments towards one another and had joined alliances to protect themselves.

Treaty of Versailles - What Next?

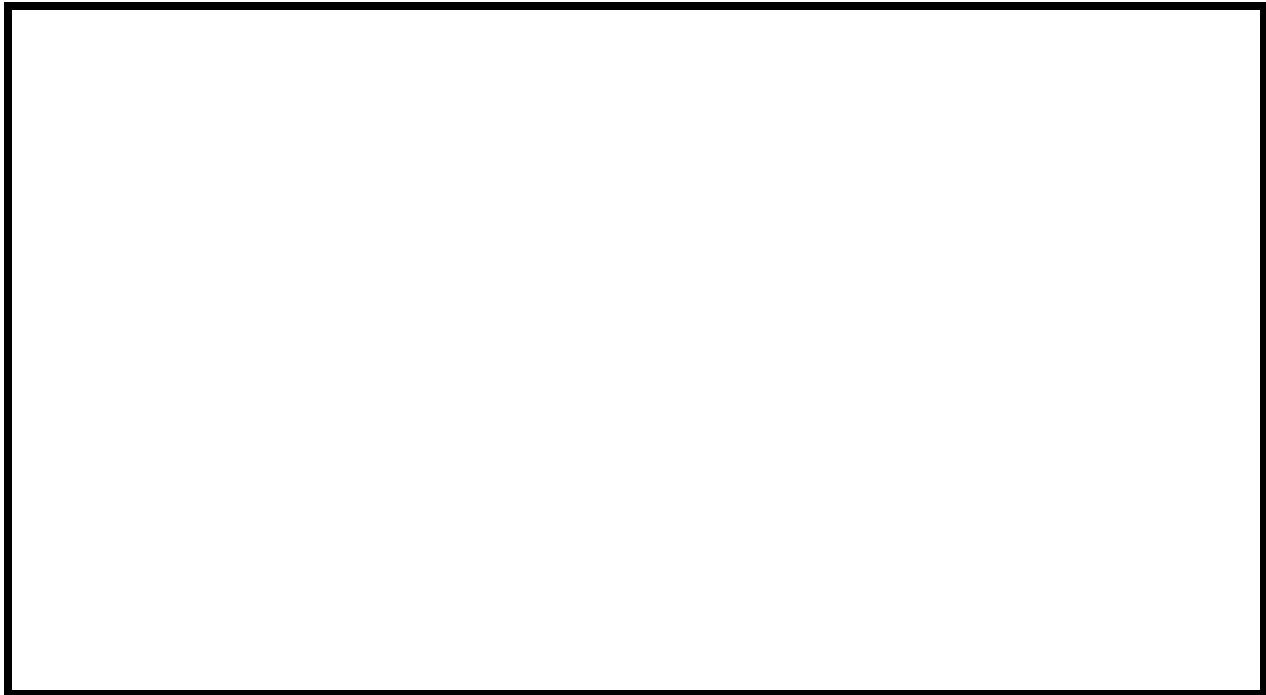
- When fighting ended in 1918, the Allied Powers were victorious, but all of Europe had suffered terrible destruction.
- One by one, the Central Powers signed treaties with the Allies.
- Germany's treaty was the last one to be signed, and it forced Germany to accept the blame for the war.
- The Treaty of Versailles was signed in Versailles, France on June 28, 1919 and officially ended WWI.

Punishment

- The Treaty of Versailles was mainly negotiated and written by the leaders of the Allies, with little input from Germany.
- France's Prime Minister, Georges Clemenceau, pushed for harsh punishment for Germany.
 - France had been devastated when Germany had invaded, and Clemenceau didn't want Germany to ever be strong enough to start another war.
- US President Woodrow Wilson and UK Prime Minister David Lloyd George were concerned a severe punishment would start another war, but the concerns were ignored.

Land

- In signing the treaty, Germany had to give up one million square miles of land, some of which had been seized by Germany prior to WWI.
- The majority of the land that was lost was rich in natural resources and could have been used to boost Germany's poor economy.
- Germany also lost all of its colonies.



Reparations

- In addition to accepting the blame for starting the war, Germany had to pay reparations to other countries for the damages they had suffered as a result of the war.
- Germany owed \$33 billion in reparations.
- This was difficult for Germany to pay because it also had to rebuild its own economy and infrastructure.

Military

- In order to keep Germany weak, the treaty forced Germany to limit its military and stop production of nearly all war materials.
- Germany was also prohibited from joining with Austria.
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*Excerpt from a German newspaper on the day the treaty was signed...
“Today in the Hall of Mirrors of Versailles the disgraceful Treaty is being signed.*

Do not forget it. The German people will press forward to reconquer the place among nations to which we deserve. Then will come revenge for the shame of 1919."

League of Nations

- The Treaty of Versailles also created the League of Nations, a group of countries that promised to work together to make sure that another world war would not occur.
- Germany was not allowed to join until 1926.
- The US Senate refused to ratify the Treaty of Versailles and never became a member of the League of Nations.
- The League had no enforcement powers and turned out to be too weak.



Worldwide Depression Germany

- The war had left Germany almost bankrupt.
- As its people starved and the country lay in chaos, the Allies gave them a bill that they simply could not afford to pay.
- The Treaty of Versailles caused Germany to go through an economic depression.

Depression

- Germany wasn't the only country who suffered.
- Countries around the world fell into a worldwide depression following WWI.
- European economies were in terrible shape because they had suffered property damage and severe loss of life.
- These countries had borrowed money during the war, but now had no money to repay those debts.
- They also experienced inflation, a condition where prices rise and money loses purchasing power.

Worldwide

- Businesses around the world traded with the US.
- When the US stopped buying goods, it hurt businesses in other countries.
- When US banks closed, banks in other countries were hurt, too.
- Stockholders in other countries could no longer sell their stocks to American companies
- As businesses and factories around the world closed one by one, buying and selling almost stopped.

The Great Depression

The two major issues facing many nations following World War I was finding jobs for returning soldiers and rebuilding after the destruction of the war. Many of the nations' economies were in poor shape along with a lot of political unrest. Let's take a look at each of the Big Three - Britain, France, and the United States - individually.

Britain

In Britain, one of the biggest political happenings was that Ireland began fighting for home rule. In 1914, the British Parliament put a bill on hold granting Ireland home rule because of the start of World War I. The Easter Rising of 1916 was a revolt against British rule led by a small militant nationalist group that ultimately failed but did help to gain support around the country. The next major attempt at home rule was led by the Irish Republic Army (IRA) in 1919. During this attempt the IRA launched guerilla-style tactics against British forces and their supporters. Finally in 1922 moderates from both countries reached an agreement - the mostly Protestant Northern counties remained under British rule but the rest of Ireland became the Irish Free State. As this was happening, the Conservative Party - comprised mainly of upper class, professionals, farmers, and middle class - held political power. They were limiting the power of workers to strike, creating political unrest at home.

Britain was not satisfied with the terms of the Treaty of Versailles. The British felt that the treaty was too harsh. They feared that Germany would become too weak and that France and the Soviet Union (formerly Russia) would become too powerful.

Economically, Britain was struggling following the war. They were in deep, deep debt, the factories were out of date, unemployment was extremely high, and wages remained low. These conditions caused frequent strikes and social as well as political unrest. In an effort to end their depression, a coalition government was created that included leaders of each of the 3 major political parties. By working together, the leaders were able to provide some unemployment benefits, but were unable to take decisive actions to improve the economy. By 1931, 25% of workers were unemployed. To put that into perspective, I have about 85 students all together. That would be like saying about 21 of you were unemployed, roughly one whole class!

France

Meanwhile, in France, there is also a lot of political division. There are a lot of different political parties, from conservatives to communists, competing for power with different thoughts on many issues, including how to collect reparations from Germany, who is bankrupt. Government leaders change frequently, creating instability.

Following World War I, France's main concern was protecting itself from Germany. France built the Maginot Line, massive fortifications built along the French and German border in the 1930s to protect against future invasions. Other measures taken by the French were to strengthen

their military, seek out alliances with others including the Soviet Union (Russia), strict enforcement of the Treaty of Versailles, and trying to ensure the complete payment of reparations from Germany. France's main goal was to keep Germany economically weak so that they couldn't ever invade France again.

France's economy wasn't as bad off as Britain's because France was demanding payment from an already bankrupt Germany and the territories that were gained from Germany had lots of raw materials and natural resources to help boost the French economy. However, the political scene was a different story. It was very unstable, even with a leftist party leader (meaning that they support social equality). These leaders tried to solve labor problems and passed some social legislation, but it wasn't enough to satisfy the radicals. Strikes by workers eventually brought the government down, and the government completely lacked strong leadership following the fall of the leftists.

United States

Immediately following WWI, the United States emerged as the world's leading economic power. This is because of loans and investments to help Europe recover and due to the fact that the United States entered the war late, meaning less cost, less destruction of property, and less loss of life in comparison with the rest of Europe. So, how did the US economy go from sky high to rock bottom? Overproduction and risky investments in the stock market.

Overproduction meant that more goods were being produced than were being bought, so factory owners decreased production. By doing this, many workers lost their jobs because they were no longer needed to keep up with the high demand. After WWI, the stock market was at an all-time high, and investors were making money like crazy. Because of this, they started taking more and more risks with investments. In an effort to slow down and stabilize the stock market, the Federal Reserve (central banking system of the United States that regulates banks) raised the interest rates twice. Instead of having the desired effect, this created financial panic, hurting demand because people became nervous about borrowing money, and many sold their stocks at once causing the stock market to crash. A lot of investors lost their fortunes overnight. This created a spiral effect. People decided to buy and invest less, causing businesses to close and banks to fail. When businesses close, people lose their jobs and aren't able to buy anything, causing more businesses to close and more people to lose their jobs. This cycle continued to the point where so many people lost everything they owned, and it was not uncommon to see people sleeping on park benches or waiting in line at a soup kitchen just to get something to eat that day. This happened all across the country.

Current president Herbert Hoover did implement limited measures to help but believed that the government should not intervene. Franklin Roosevelt (FDR) was elected in and implemented a wide variety of economic and social programs called the New Deal, which gave the government an active role in fighting the depression. Programs included laws regulating the stock market,

protected bank deposits, created jobs, gave aid to farmers, and revamped Social Security to include pensions.

Long Reaching Effects of the Depression

Because of the widespread depression, many people started to lose faith in democracies. Living in misery, hopelessness, and despair will leave many people vulnerable to extremists that promise radical solutions to this problem.

Spoiler Alert

Some of these extremists include: Joseph Stalin, Benito Mussolini, and yes, Adolf Hitler. In essence, the harsh terms of the Treaty of Versailles paired with the misery of the Great Depression set the stage for the onset of.... You guessed it! Dictatorships that will ultimately spark World War II.

This graphic explains how the war reparations were paid.

Directions: Complete the table using the notes provided. **You may copy and paste from my notes to fill in the boxes.** You may list things in the first 3 columns. In the last column, please rank each country on a scale of 1-5 (1 being extremely helpful and effective, 5 being totally ineffective and basically did nothing), then explain why your reasoning in a few sentences.

Country	Major Concerns Following WWI	Causes of the Depression	Rank Effectiveness with Reasoning

The Great Depression In Pictures

Directions: Pretend that you are a reporter for a newspaper and that you have taken these pictures to go with an article that you are writing about The Great Depression. Add a caption to each picture. You can include any emotions that you think the people in the photograph are experiencing. Each caption should be 1-2 complete sentences.

Example:

This mother and children are living in a tent, worrying where their next meal will come from and if their life will ever return to what it was before the depression hit.

1.

2.

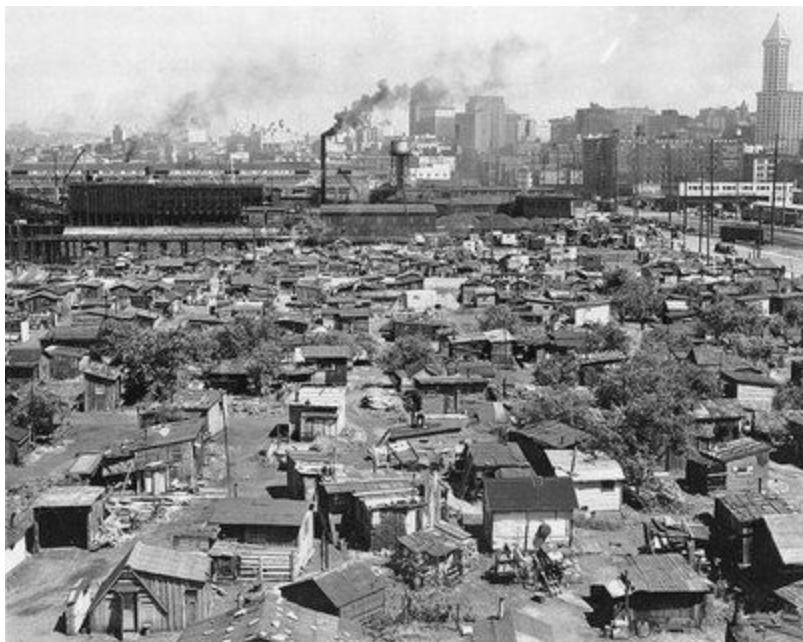
3.



4.

5.

6.



7.

8.

9.



10.