

International Relations: Were the Peace Treaties of 1919–23 Fair?

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HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

In this study guide, you will see a series of icons, highlighted words and page references. The key below will help you quickly establish what these mean and where to go for more information.

Icons

WHAT questions cover the key events and themes.
WHO questions cover the key people involved.
WHEN questions cover the timings of key events.
WHERE questions cover the locations of key moments.
WHY questions cover the reasons behind key events.
HOW questions take a closer look at the way in which events, situations and trends occur.
IMPORTANCE questions take a closer look at the significance of events, situations, and recurrent trends and themes.

Highlighted words

Abdicate - occasionally, you will see certain words highlighted within an answer. This means that, if you need it, you'll find an explanation of the word or phrase in the glossary which starts on page 16.

DECISIONS questions take a closer look at choices made at events and situations during this era.

Page references

Tudor (p.7) - occasionally, a certain subject within an answer is covered in more depth on a different page. If you'd like to learn more about it, you can go directly to the page indicated.

WHAT IS THIS BOOK ABOUT?

The title of the first unit in the Core Content of Option B in the CiE History iGCSE is 'Were the peace treaties of 1919-1923 fair?' This unit investigates the post-First World War peace treaties of 1919-1923.

Purpose

This unit focuses on international relations and the way in which different nation states interacted, and the change, continuity and significance of their relationships over time. You will study their priorities, agreements, disagreements and the key events that affected them.

Enquiries

This unit gives you the information you need to understand the following:

- ∃ The motives and aims of the Big Three at Versailles.
- ₿ Why the victors did not get everything that they wanted.
- Di The impact of the Treaty of Versailles on Germany up to 1923.
- Discrete Contemporary opinions of the treaties and whether they could be justified at the time.

Topics

Topics covered in this course include:

- 🔡 The Paris Peace Conference.
- 🔡 The role and aims of the Big Three.
- 🔡 The terms of the Treaty of Versailles.
- **Reactions to the Treaty of Versailles.**
- 🔡 The impact of the Treaty of Versailles on Germany.
- 🔡 The Treaty of St Germain with Austria.
- 🔡 The Treaty of Neuilly with Bulgaria.
- 🔡 The Treaty of Trianon with Hungary.
- 🔡 The Treaty of Sevres with the Ottoman Empire.
- 🔡 The Treaty of Lausanne with Turkey.
- 🔡 The arguments why the treaties could be considered fair or unfair.

Key Individuals

Key individuals studied in this course include:

- \rm David Lloyd George.
- \rm Georges Clemenceau.
- le Woodrow Wilson.

Assessment

This unit usually appears as one of four possible questions in Option B Core Content International Relations Since 1919 on the Paper 1 exam, of which you must complete two. Therefore you will answer one question on the success of the League of Nations if this appears as an option on your exam paper. The question is comprised of 3 sections - a, b, and c. However, check with your teacher to find out whether this unit will appear on the Paper 2 source paper in your exam.

- Solution on the Paper I exam, you may choose to complete a three-part question on this topic, which will be divided into sections a, b and c.
- Question A is worth 4 marks and requires you to describe key features of the time period. You will be asked to recall 2 relevant points and support them with details or provide at least four relevant points without supporting detail.
- Question B is worth 6 marks and requires you to explain a key event or development. You will need to identify 2 reasons, support those reasons with relevant factual detail, and then explain how the reasons made the event occur.

WHAT IS THIS BOOK ABOUT?

- Question C is worth 10 marks and requires you to construct an argument to support and challenge an interpretation stated in the question. You will need a minimum of 3 explanations in total and fully evaluate to come to a justified conclusion. The best approach is to discuss 2 arguments on one side of the debate and 2 arguments on the other, before coming to a brief conclusion. You will have the opportunity to show your ability to explain and analyse historical events using 2nd order concepts such as causation, consequence, change, continuity, similarity and difference.
- If this topic appears on Paper 2, you will answer six questions on a range of source material about this topic. Check with your teacher to find out your Paper 2 topic.

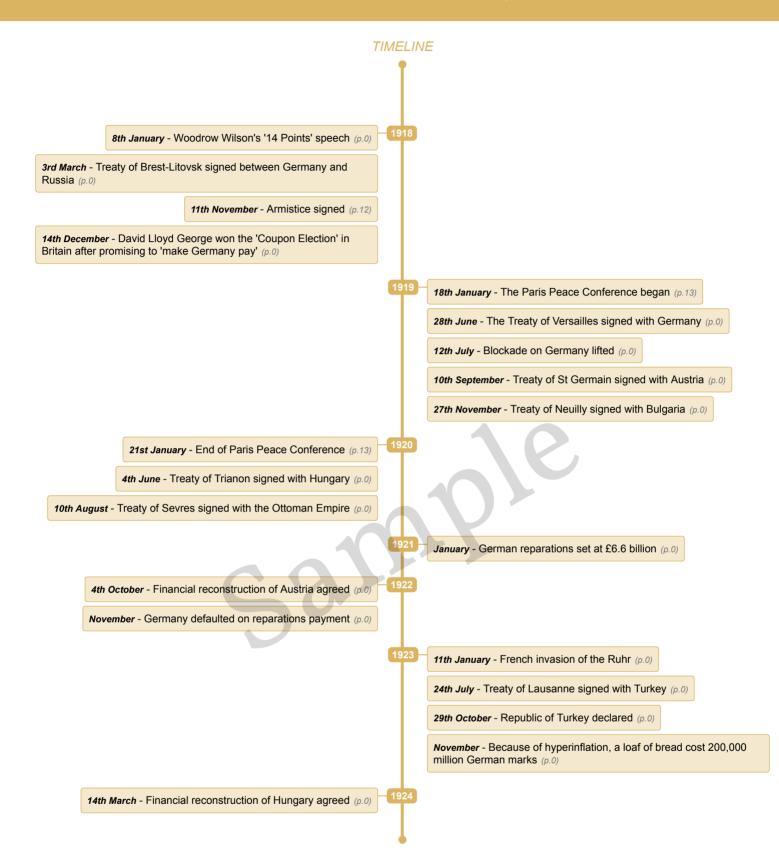
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POST-FIRST WORLD WAR TREATIES, 1919 - 1923



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THE OUTCOMES OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR

'This is a war to end all wars.' - Woodrow Wilson, quoting HG Wells



What was the impact of the First World War on Italy?

Italy also suffered losses during the First World War.

Italy lost approximately 500,000 soldiers in the fighting.



- About 3,400 Italian civilians were killed.
- Nearly a million Italian soldiers were wounded.

What was the impact of the First World War on the Ottoman Empire?

- The Ottoman Empire collapsed as a result of the war. There were 4 key outcomes:
- The Sultan was forced to sign the Treaty of Sevres (p.0) in 1920.
- 🔽 The Ottoman Empire was broken up and some land along the Turkish coast was given to Greece.
- Nationalist forces led by Mustapha Kemal rose up against Greek occupation and began a war to regain their lost territory.
- France and Britain withdrew their troops and the Greeks were defeated. The new state of Turkey was able to negotiate a better treaty signed at Lausanne in 1923.

DID YOU KNOW?

The total number of deaths globally as a result of the First World War is estimated to be 20 million.

The number of wounded is thought to be about 21 million.



THE PARIS PEACE CONFERENCE

'We were preparing not only peace, but eternal peace.' - Harold Nicholson

What was the Paris Peace Conference?

In 1919, representatives from around the world gathered to discuss the terms of peace after the First World War. They met in the Palace of Versailles, just outside the centre of Paris.

Which treaties were decided at the Paris Peace Conference?

- 5 treaties were decided at the Paris Peace Conference, and I treaty agreed later on. They included:
- 🗹 The Treaty of Versailles was signed in June 1919, and officially ended the war between the Allies and Germany.
- The Treaty of St Germain (p.0) was signed in September 1919, and officially ended the war between the Allies and Austria.
- 🗹 The Treaty of Neuilly (p.0) was signed in November 1919, and officially ended the war between the Allies and Bulgaria.
- └── The Treaty of Trianon (p.0) was signed in June 1920, and officially ended the war between the Allies and Hungary.
- The Treaty of Sevres (p.0) was signed in August 1920, and officially ended the war between the Allies and Turkey.
- The Treaty of Lausanne (p.0) was a renegotiation of the Treaty of Sevres (p.0) and was signed in June 1923 between Turkey and representatives of Britain, France and several associated powers. It was the only post-war treaty (p.0) not to be decided at the Paris Peace Conference.

Who were the victors at the Paris Peace Conference?

Some nations arrived in Paris as the victors of the First World War, known collectively as 'the Allies'. The 5 main ones were:

- 🔽 Britain.
- France.
- 🔽 The USA.



- Italy.
- 🔽 Japan.
- 5.2

Who were the losers at the Paris Peace Conference?

The losing nations were given few powers of negotiation at the Paris Peace Conference. They included:

- 🔽 Germany.
- Austria-Hungary.
- 🔽 Bulgaria.
- 🗹 The Ottoman Empire (later Turkey).
- Russia had become a communist country and had surrendered to Germany in March 1918, so was not included in the peace talks.

Who attended the 1919 Paris Peace Conference?

Hundreds of important politicians travelled to Paris for the peace conference including:

- ☑ The conference was attended by representatives of 32 countries.
- Soviet Russia was excluded from the talks as it had left the war in March 1918 and already signed a peace treaty with Germany.
- The defeated nations were excluded from the talks and could not contribute to decisions.
- The most influential negotiators at the peace conference were the leaders of France, Britain and the USA. These became known as the 'Big Three (p.0)'.

When was the Paris Peace Conference?

The Paris Peace Conference began on 19th January, 1919, and ended on 21st January, 1920.

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GLOSSARY

Α

Agricultural - relating to agriculture.

Agriculture - an umbrella term to do with farming, growing crops or raising animals.

Allies - parties working together for a common objective, such as countries involved in a war. In both world wars, 'Allies' refers to those countries on the side of Great Britain.

Artillery - large guns used in warfare.

Assassinate - to murder someone, usually an important figure, often for religious or political reasons.

Autocrat - a ruler who has absolute power over their country.

В

Blockade - a way of blocking or sealing an area to prevent goods, supplies or people from entering or leaving. It often refers to blocking transport routes.

Buffer - a protective barrier.

С

Casualties - people who have been injured or killed, such as during a war, accident or catastrophe.

Chancellor - a senior state official who, in some countries, is the head of the government and responsible for the day-to-day running of the nation.

Civilian - a non-military person.

Claim - someone's assertion of their right to something - for example, a claim to the throne.

Colonies, Colony - a country or area controlled by another country and occupied by settlers.

Communism - the belief, based on the ideas of Karl Marx, that all people should be equal in society without government, money or private property. Everything is owned by by the people, and each person receives according to need.

Communist - a believer in communism.

Conference - a formal meeting to discuss common issues of interest or concern.

Congress - a national legislative body, most frequently used in relation to the USA.

Conscription - mandatory enlistment of people into a state service, usually the military.

Cooperate, Cooperation - to work together to achieve a common aim. Frequently used in relation to politics, economics or law.

Currency - an umbrella term for any form of legal tender, but most commonly referring to money.

D

Debt - when something, usually money, is owed by a person,

organisation or institution to another.

Demilitarised - to remove all military forces from an area and forbid them to be stationed there.

Democracy - a political system where a population votes for its government on a regular basis. The word is Greek for 'the rule of people' or 'people power'.

Diktat - a penalty or settlement imposed on a defeated party. The Germans called the Treaty of Versailles a 'diktat', or 'dictated peace'.

Disarm - to remove any land, sea and air weaponry.

Disarmament - the reduction or removal of weaponry.

Dispute - a disagreement or argument; often used to describe conflict between different countries.

Double standard - when a rule or principle is applied differently to different people or groups, making it unfair.

Е

Economic - relating to the economy; also used when justifying something in terms of profitability.

Economy – a country, state or region's position in terms of production and consumption of goods and services, and the supply of money.

Empire - a group of states or countries ruled over and controlled by a single monarch.

Hyperinflation - rapid acceleration of inflation which typically sees a currency lose its value and become worthless. As a result, the price of goods skyrockets for a short period of time.

Idealist - someone who believes in idealism and works towards the perfect world.

Independence, Independent - to be free of control, often meaning by another country, allowing the people of a nation the ability to govern themselves.

Industrial - related to industry, manufacturing and/or production.

Industry - the part of the economy concerned with turning raw materials into into manufactured goods, for example making furniture from wood.

Κ

Kaiser - the German word for a king or emperor.

L,

Left wing - used to describe political groups or individuals with beliefs that are usually centered around socialism and the idea of reform.

Μ

Malnutrition - lack of proper nutrition caused by not eating enough of the right things or not having enough to eat. It can also be caused by the body not being able to use the food that is eaten.

Mandate - authority to carry out a policy.

Merchant, Merchants - someone who sells goods or services.

Military force - the use of armed forces.

Mine - an explosive device usually hidden underground or underwater.

Minister - a senior member of government, usually responsible for a particular area such as education or finance.

Moderate - someone who is not extreme.

Morale - general mood of a group of people.

Ν

Nationalism, Nationalist, Nationalistic - identifying with your own nation and supporting its interests, often to the detriment or exclusion of other nations.

Naval supremacy - when a navy is that strong, enemies are unable to attack; sometimes referred to as command of the sea.

0

Occupation - the action, state or period when somewhere is taken over and occupied by a military force.

Ρ

Parliament - a group of politicians who make the laws of their country, usually elected by the population.

Persecution - hostility towards or harassment of someone, usually due to their race, religion or political beliefs.

Plebiscite - a vote or referendum on an important matter in an area or country.

Population - the number of people who live in a specified place.

President - the elected head of state of a republic.

Prevent, Preventative, Preventive - steps taken to stop something from happening.

Production - a term used to describe how much of something is made, for example saying a factory has a high production rate.

R

Radical, Radicalism - people who want complete or extensive change, usually politically or socially.

Rebellion - armed resistance against a government or leader, or resistance to other authority or control.

Relief - something that reduces pressure on people, often through financial or practical support.

Reparations - payments made by the defeated countries in a war to the victors to help pay for the cost of and damage from the fighting.

Republic - a state or country run by elected representatives and an elected/nominated president. There is no monarch.

Right wing - a political view with beliefs centred around nationalism and a desire for an authoritarian government opposed to communism.

Riots - violent disturbances involving a crowd of people.

S

Self-determination, Self-determined - in politics, the process where a nation decides its own statehood and whether it will rule itself rather than be part of a larger empire.

State, States - an area of land or a territory ruled by one government.

Strike - a refusal by employees to work as a form of protest, usually to bring about change in their working conditions. It puts pressure on their employer, who cannot run the business without workers.

Tariff, Trade tariff - a tax placed on imports, increasing their cost.

Territorial - relating to land or territory.

Territories, Territory - an area of land under the control of a ruler/ country.

Treaty - a formal agreement, signed and ratified by two or more parties.

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