

Treaty of Versailles and Wilson's 14 Points - Comparison

Directions: Read the following summaries and complete the related questions.



Treaty of Versailles

After being defeated in World War One, Germany was made to accept the terms of the Treaty of Versailles, which was the treaty that ended the First World War. The terms of the treaty included:

1. The "war guilt clause", which stated that Germany accepted sole responsibility for the war and was responsible for all damage caused by the war.
2. Germany was to make reparation payments to the amount of \$33 Billion.
3. Germany must demilitarize the Rhineland, which was the area of Germany that bordered France, Belgium, and the Netherlands.
4. Germany lost all of its overseas colonies.
5. Germany lost territory in Europe including Alsace-Lorraine to France and West Prussia to Poland, which allowed Poland a corridor to the sea.
6. Germany forbidden from uniting with Austria.
7. Germany forbidden from joining the League of Nations.
8. The German army was to be limited to no more than 100,000 troops.
9. The German navy was limited to no more than 15,000 men, with a limited number of vessels.
10. The manufacture, import and export of weapons including tanks, submarines, aircraft, and artillery were prohibited.



Wilson's 14 Points

Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Points became the basis for the end of WWI when Germany agreed to an armistice in November of 1918.

1. No secret agreements/treaties.
2. Free navigation of all seas.
3. An end to all economic barriers between countries.
4. Countries to reduce amount of weapons.
5. A free and impartial adjustment of decisions regarding the colonies.
6. The removal of the German Army from Russia. Russia should be left to develop her own political set-up.
7. Independence of Belgium like before WWI.
8. France should be fully liberated and allowed to recover Alsace-Lorraine from Germany.
9. Establishment of Italy's borders "along clearly recognisable lines of nationality."
10. Self-determination and independence for Austria-Hungary.
11. Self-determination and independence for the Balkan states.
12. Establishment of an independent Turkey.
13. An independent Poland should be created with should have access to the sea.
14. A League of Nations should be set up to guarantee the political and territorial independence of all states.

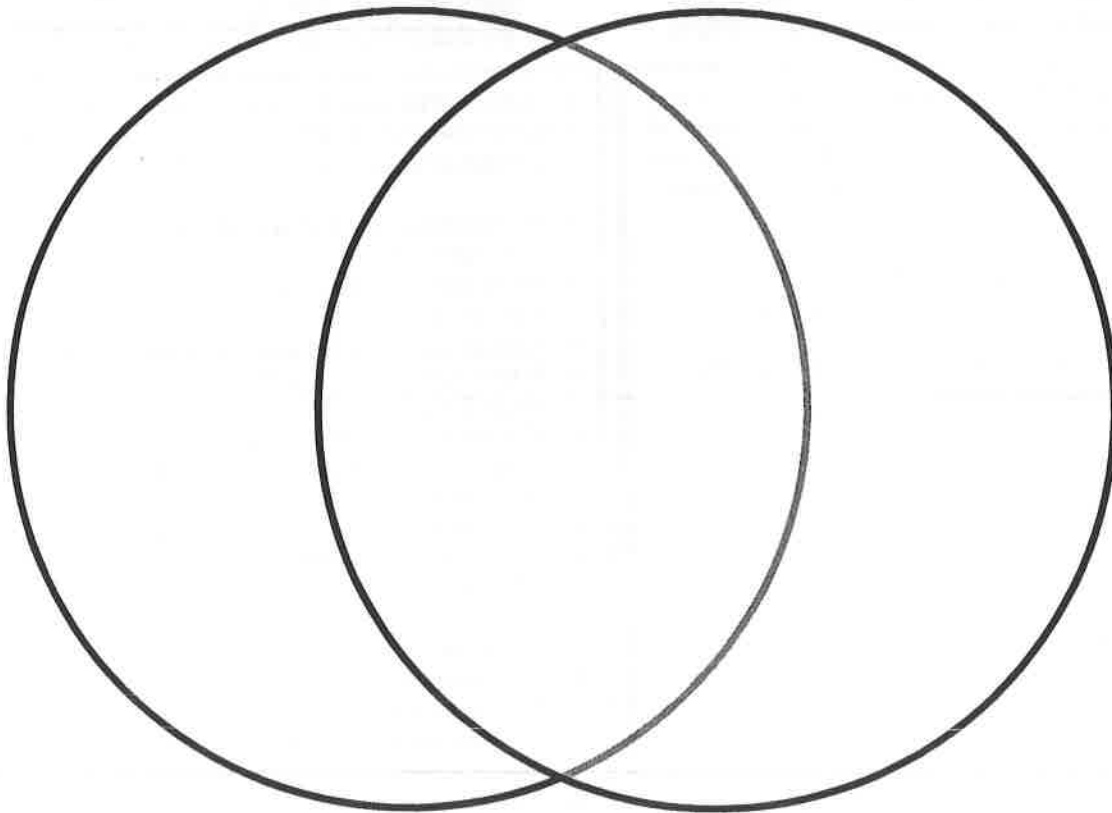
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Directions: Answer the following questions based on the summaries.

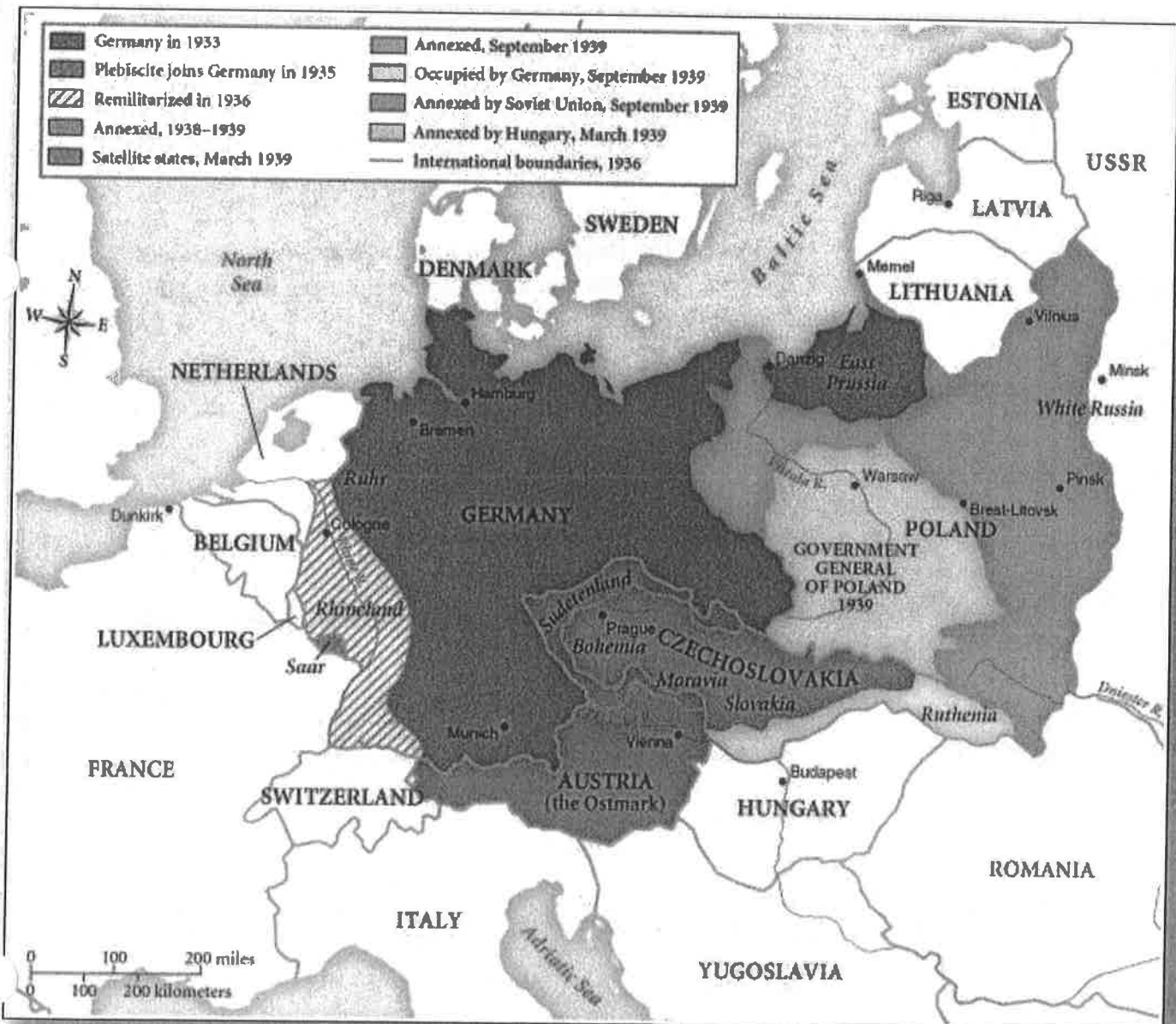
1. Using the Venn diagram below, compare and contrast the main points of both the Treaty of Versailles and Woodrow Wilson's 14 Points. Place similarities in the center and differences on the sides.

Treaty of Versailles

Wilson's 14 Points



2. The map below shows the location of the Rhineland. Why do you suppose the creators of the Treaty of Versailles wanted the Rhineland demilitarized by German forces?



3. Which other points in the Treaty of Versailles have a similar goal to the demilitarization of the Rhineland? Explain.

4. As part of the Treaty of Versailles, Germany was made to take blame for the war. This is often referred to as the “war guilt clause”. How do you think Germans would have felt about this? Explain.

5. Woodrow Wilson advocated for the independence and self-determination of many of the nations in Europe. Why do you suppose he thought this would assist in the peace process in Europe?

6. Why do you think Wilson argued against secret agreements and treaties as part of his fourteen points?