

Essential Question:

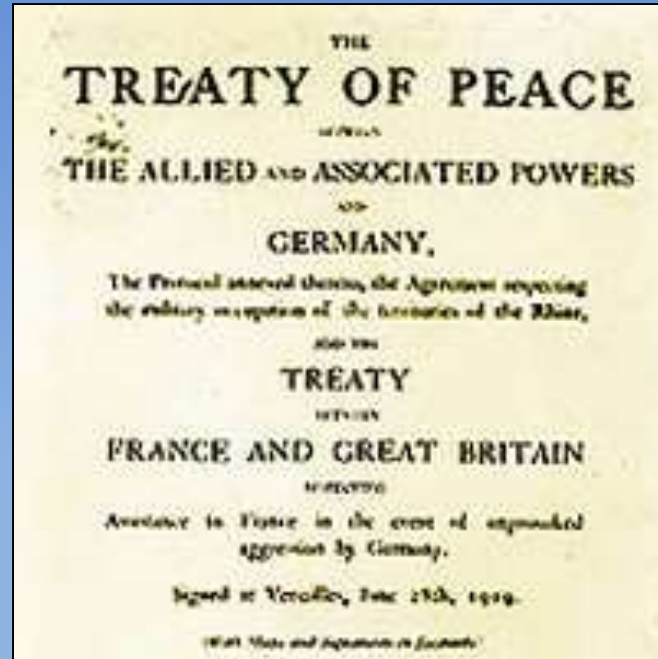
**How did World War I change
Europe and the world?**

Standards:

SS6H3 Explain conflict and change in Europe.

a. Describe the aftermath of World War I: the rise of communism, the Treaty of Versailles, the rise of Nazism, and worldwide depression.

The War is Over!



**The Treaty of Versailles
officially ended World War I.
What is a treaty?**

Treaty of Versailles Requirements

(add requirements of the treaty to the Major Developments sheet)

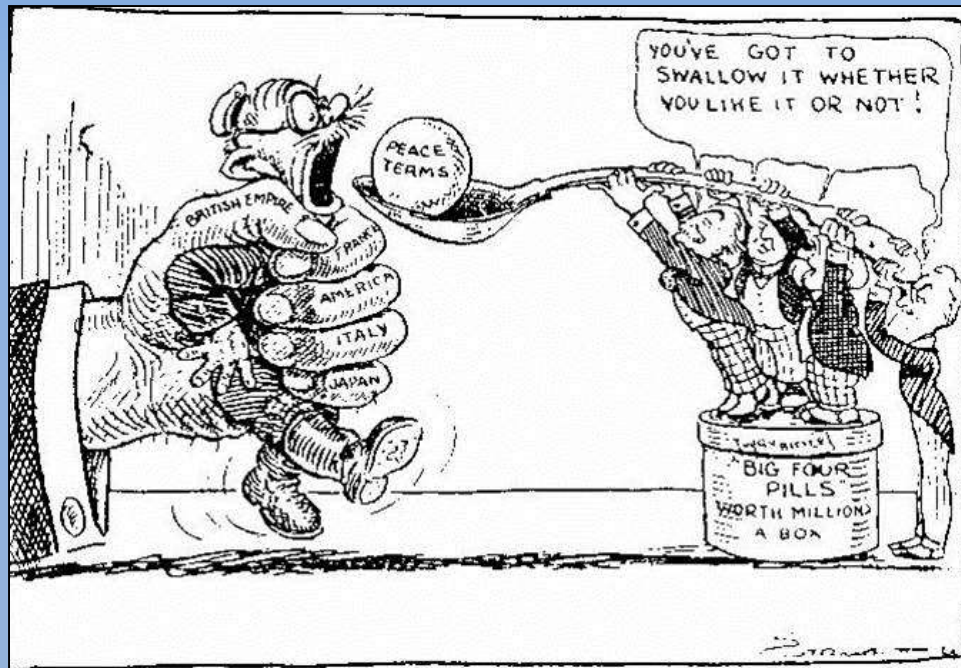
- It forced Germany to accept responsibility for causing the war
- It required Germany to pay reparations (payments) to other countries for their losses and damage
- It required Germany to give up 1 million square miles of land (size of Alaska and Texas combined) much of which was rich in natural resources (Why does this matter?)
- It required Germany to limit its armed forces

Treaty of Versailles Effects

(add requirements of the treaty to the Major Developments sheet)

- Germans greatly resented the restrictions put on it by the Treaty of Versailles.
- Germans began to rise up in protest
- economic conditions worsened.
- Germany also became isolated from and distrusted by other countries.

Look at the political cartoons below. With an elbow partner, discuss how these represent the Treaty of Versailles.



Indemnity means reparation or payment.

**The World
After World War I**

After World War I

- After World War I, the world economy slipped into a worldwide depression.
- A depression is a time where business is bad and people lose their jobs.
- Soldiers came home needing jobs, but there were not enough. Unemployment skyrocketed.
(Listen to [“Stony Broke in No Man’s Land”](#))

Worldwide depression

- European countries were in bad shape because they had suffered great loss of life and property damage.
- Additionally, European countries had borrowed money to pay for war costs and now had no money to repay their debts.
- Countries experienced Inflation where their money couldn't buy as much as it used to buy because it had lost value. How did that affect people?
- In 1929, the stock market crash in the United States crippled the already struggling economies.

After WWI and Worldwide Depression

- Industry, shipping, and trade between countries were affected
- Unrest and nationalism grew, people wanted strong leadership to make their countries rich and powerful again

Imagine you are living in Germany after World War I. The world is in the middle of a depression. You do not have enough food, you do not have a job, and you do not believe the leaders of your country can improve the situation. On top of that, your country, the place where you were born and have lived all of your life is being blamed and punished for World War I.

Now, read Adolf Hitler's speech on the Treaty of Versailles in 1923.

Watch a [video clip of Hitler](#) delivering a speech years later.

Why do you think the German people followed Hitler?

Rise of Nazism Background:

- The democratic government in Germany after World War I (Weimar Republic) faced major problems
- A political party called the Nazi Party attracted the attention of dissatisfied Germans
- The Nazi Party's leader, Adolf Hitler, described ideas to strengthen Germany
- Hitler also believed that Aryans (Germans) were the "master race"; he had racist feelings about Jews, Slavs, gypsies, and blacks
- The Nazi Party believed in a strong central government controlled by the military and run by a dictator

Why Nazism grew

- Nazis offered solutions for Germany's economic problems
- Nazis appealed to German nationalism by calling for a larger military and an increase in German territory (violation of Treaty of Versailles)
- Nazis united Germans against Jews by blaming them for the problems
- Nazis assured Germans they could protect them from enemies
- Nazis organized groups to threaten anyone who opposed them so few spoke out

Distributed Summarizing:

The political cartoon shows Adolf Hitler “climbing out” of the Treaty of Versailles.

Turn to a seat partner and discuss what is meant by the cartoon.

