

Name: Georges Clemenceau  
Position: Prime Minister of France  
Details: He was nicknamed "The Tiger". He wanted to make Germany pay for all of the damage that France had suffered during the four years of fighting. He also wanted to make sure that a war like this would never happen again. He had three main demands:

- Germany must return Alsace-Lorraine to France; this had been taken by Germany in 1871.
- Germany must pay Reparations to France to cover the cost of rebuilding the parts of France that had been destroyed during the war (750,000 houses and 23,000 factories had been destroyed).
- France should be allowed to take possession of the Rhineland (the area near the River Rhine); this was to stop Germany attacking France in the future.



Name: Vittorio Orlando  
Position: Prime Minister of Italy  
Details: Italy had declared war on Germany in 1915 after the Secret Treaty of London. In the treaty France and Britain had agreed that Italy would be given the Adriatic coast at the end of the war.

- When Orlando arrived at Versailles he expected France and Britain to keep their promise.
- Orlando wanted his fair share of the spoils of war for changing sides during the war.



Name: Woodrow Wilson  
Position: President of the USA  
Details: The USA had only declared war on Germany in April 1917 and it had suffered no damage whatsoever. Wilson arrived in Europe with the "Fourteen Points", which he hoped would help prevent wars in the future.

The most important of these were:

- The peoples of Europe should be allowed to decide their own future; he called this "Self-determination" and he wanted an end to the empires which European countries had built up. He was not prepared to allow Italy to take the Adriatic coast.
- A League of Nations should be set up to settle disputes between countries in the future.



Name: David Lloyd George  
Position: Prime Minister of Great Britain  
Details: In Britain most people wanted Germany to be punished: "Make Germany Pay" and "Squeeze them until the pips squeak" were popular slogans, but Lloyd George believed that:

- Germany should not be treated too harshly; it would only lead to more trouble in the future.
- Germany should be allowed to recover.
- France should not be allowed to take the Rhineland. Lloyd George was only prepared to make the Rhineland "demilitarised".



# The Treaty of Versailles

June 1919

Task: In groups of 4, each person is to represent a particular viewpoint of one of the countries involved (Great Britain, France, Italy, USA).

YOU ARE TO GOING TO IMPROVISE A CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE FOUR LEADERS WHILE TRYING TO DECIDE THE TERMS OF THE PEACE AT VERSAILLES.

Using your reference card, you need to try to get the best agreement possible concerning the following issues:

- Should Germany be made guilty for starting the war? If so, why?
- What should be done with the Kaiser (currently in exile in Holland)?
- Should Germany's armed forces be limited? If so, how? (think of men and equipment)
- Should Germany be forced to pay reparations (payments for the cost of war)  
[Britain put in a demand for \$120 billion, France think Germany should pay \$200 billion]
- Austria is now a small country with German speaking people. They may wish to join Germany – can you stop this from happening?

THESE ARE THE SAME DIFFICULTIES & PROBLEMS FACED BY THE FOUR INDIVIDUALS AT THE PEACE CONFERENCE  
REMEMBER AGREEMENT IS NEEDED, SO WHILE PUSHING YOUR DEMANDS, YOU MAY HAVE TO COMPROMISE!