

Building Peace After War

How world leaders responded to the destruction of two global wars.

10.5c "The devastation of the world wars and use of total war led people to explore ways to prevent future world wars."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline a civilian cost of total war. Circle a proposed peace measure and mark L beside a limit on international cooperation.

Lessons from Global War

- ① World War I mobilized whole societies: governments drafted soldiers, directed factories, rationed food, and used propaganda. Civilians suffered hunger, displacement, and bombardment. In January 1918, before the fighting ended, Woodrow Wilson proposed his Fourteen Points. They included open diplomacy, reduced armaments, territorial proposals, and an association of nations. His program sought international cooperation, though self-determination was applied unevenly.
- ② The 1919 Treaty of Versailles included the League of Nations but did not adopt all Wilson's proposals. It imposed reparations, territorial losses, and military limits on Germany. The League sought collective security: members acting together against aggression. The United States never joined. Enforcement depended on member governments, which often would not risk costs or war. The League failed to stop Japanese aggression in Manchuria or Italy's invasion of Ethiopia. Its existence alone could not guarantee peace.
- ③ World War II's destruction strengthened efforts already underway to build a new organization. The UN Charter was signed in June 1945, before the atomic bombings, and took effect in October. The UN had 51 original members, including the United States. Its Security Council could make binding decisions and authorize collective action. However, permanent members could veto substantive decisions. Like the League, the UN had no standing army and relied on member cooperation. Diplomacy and wider international cooperation offered tools for peace, not an automatic end to conflict.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 How did total war affect people beyond the battlefield during World War I?

2 How did the Treaty of Versailles differ from Wilson's Fourteen Points in its approach to creating peace?

3 Why did the League struggle to stop aggression? Give two reasons.

4 Identify one UN power and one limit on its use.

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

In four or five sentences, propose a postwar organization. Identify a civilian problem, two peace measures, and how one decision could be enforced despite a likely obstacle.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline a civilian cost of total war. Circle a proposed peace measure and mark L beside a limit on international cooperation. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did total war affect people beyond the battlefield during World War I?	Governments directed civilian life through drafting, factory production, rationing, and propaganda. Civilians also experienced hunger, displacement, and bombing.
2	How did the Treaty of Versailles differ from Wilson's Fourteen Points in its approach to creating peace?	Wilson emphasized international cooperation, open diplomacy, and an association of nations. The Treaty of Versailles imposed heavy reparations, territorial losses, and military limits on Germany, although it also created the League of Nations.
3	Why did the League struggle to stop aggression? Give two reasons.	The United States did not join, and enforcement depended on member governments often unwilling to accept costs or risk war.
4	Identify one UN power and one limit on its use.	The Security Council could make binding decisions or authorize collective action. Permanent-member vetoes and dependence on member cooperation limited action; the UN had no standing army.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

War has destroyed food supplies and displaced families. A new organization would mediate disputes and coordinate food relief. Members would agree to sanctions against aggression. Enforcement could fail if important members refused to cooperate. A monitoring body would publish violations and seek broad support for agreed measures.

Accept proposals with a civilian problem, two peace measures, an enforcement mechanism and a plausible obstacle. Distinguish the UN's formal powers from guaranteed action; it has no standing army.