

## Treaty of Versailles CLOZE Notes 3

### Punishment

- The Treaty of Versailles was mainly negotiated and written by the **leaders of the Allies**, with little input from Germany.
- France's Prime Minister, Georges Clemenceau, pushed for **harsh punishment** for Germany.
- France had been devastated when Germany had invaded, and Clemenceau didn't want Germany to ever be strong enough to **start another war**.
- US President Woodrow Wilson and UK Prime Minister David Lloyd George were concerned a severe punishment would start another war, but the **concerns were ignored**.

### Land

- In signing the treaty, Germany had to give up one million square **miles of land**, some of which had been seized by Germany prior to WWI.
- The majority of the land that was lost was **rich in natural resources** and could have been used to boost Germany's poor economy.
- Germany also lost all of **its colonies**.

### Reparations

- In addition to accepting the blame for starting the war, Germany had to **pay reparations** to other countries for the damages they had suffered as a result of the war.
- Germany owed **\$33 billion** in reparations.
- This was difficult for Germany to pay because it also had to **rebuild its own economy** and infrastructure.

### Military

- In order to keep Germany weak, the treaty forced Germany to **limit its military** and stop production of nearly all war materials.
- Germany was also prohibited from **joining with Austria**.

### Resentment

- The majority of Germans **strongly resented** the harsh restrictions put in place by the Treaty of Versailles.
- As economic conditions throughout the country worsened, many Germans **began protesting**.
- Germany had **become isolated** and was distrusted by other countries.
- Even though the Treaty of Versailles ended World War I, the severe consequences given to Germany set events in motion that would eventually lead to **World War II**.