**The Treaty of Versailles – June 1919**

**French President, Georges Clemenceau**

Most of the fighting took place on French soil. The French people lost 750,000 homes and more than 1,500,000 (one and a half million) men. **The French wanted to punish Germany** and make sure that Germany was too weak to fight another war. **They also wanted to get the land back** that Germany had taken from France 50 years earlier.

Germany took a place called ‘Alsace-Lorraine’ from France in 1871. **Should it be returned to France, or should Germany keep it?**

The Rhineland is an area from which Germany can easily attack France. You are worried that if Germany is allowed to keep it as before, France will be in danger in the future. **Should you try and stop Germany keeping an army there?**

**American President, Woodrow Wilson**

The Americans did not suffer as much as Britain or France from the War.

You have a plan to form a **‘League of Nations’**, which will help countries to solve problems by encouraging them to talk together. Hopefully this will stop any future wars. **Should all countries be allowed to join, or should those at fault for WWI be stopped from joining?**

You are worried that a German army may be the biggest danger to future world peace. You don’t want the treaty to be too harsh to them in case they are very angry, and seek revenge. **Should you allow Germany to keep a full army, or order Germany to cut down drastically on all her armed forces?**

You guess that Germany and Austria may want to join to become one country. They share the same language and culture. **Do you allow them to join as one country or not?**

**British Prime Minister, David Lloyd George**

**You want Germany to be punished but you also want Germany to remain quite strong.** This is because you are worried that if Germany is too weak then communism (which you see as an enemy) might spread from Russia across the whole of Europe. This could lead to another terrible war. You also want to set up a group of countries who will work together to prevent any future wars.

Britain had a very large empire and navy. You think that **Germany’s empire and navy should be broken up** as they might be a threat to your own.

The war had brought massive destruction, especially to buildings and farmland in France. **How could all this damage be repaired?**

**German observers**

You are invited to observe the proceedings, and must sign the eventual Treaty on behalf of your country, but cannot take part in the decision-making. While you are observing, you are left to **consider what the German people will think of the decisions being made**.

During the war, **Germany’s borders were never crossed**, and you made many advances into France and Allied Territory. Because of this, many German people think you did not lose the war, but just agreed to stop fighting. They think that you should not agree to anything that punishes you when you fought so well.

However, by the end of the war, the German Army Chief decided that the German army could not fight any more. If the war had gone on, then **the German army would have collapsed** as they were unhappy and running out of supplies. This is why you signed the armistice agreement.

**Points for all:**

WW1 had cost 20 million lives. The world had never seen a war like it. **How could future wars be prevented?**

Remember how the First World War started – you learnt the MAIN reasons (Militarism, Alliances, Imperialism, Nationalism), and the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand. Those people who have lost so much during the war are angry and want to blame and punish someone for the war. **Do you think your country is to blame? Who do you think should be punished and how?**