Lesson Plan

Unit: 19th Century/ World War I

Designer: Hampton Roads Naval Museum

Lesson _3__ of ___3___

Topic: US Involvement in WWI, Effects of the War

Teaching Date:

Subject/ Course: US II: 1865 to Present

Grade Level: Middle School

Time Frame: Approx. 90 mins

Context: This is the final of a 3-lesson mini-unit covering America’s involvement in WWI. Previous lessons focused on the reasons the US became involved in the war and the effects that had on the course of the war. This lesson looks at the United States’ leadership at the end of the war. Using President Wilson’s 14 points as a starting point, students analyze several primary and secondary documents (Treaty of Versailles, Wilson’s speech in favor of the League of Nations) to determine how effective a leader the US was at the end of the war. The lesson ends with a short SOL-formatted quiz that incorporates both content and skill-based questions.

SOL/ NCSS Objectives
- USII.5c: Evaluating and explaining the reasons for the United States’ involvement in World War I and its international leadership role at the conclusion of the war.
- USII.1a: Analyzing and interpreting artifacts and primary and secondary sources to understand events in United States history
- USII.1f: Determining relationships with multiple causes or effects in United States history

Objectives
- Given an SOL formatted, quiz, students will correctly answer 7 of 10 questions explaining the causes and effects of the US’ involvement in World War I.

Materials and Resources
- Warm-up cartoon
- A-set/ hook cartoons
- Documents: 14 points (excerpt), Treaty of Versailles (excerpt and secondary sources), Speech in favor of League of Nations (excerpt and secondary sources)
- Notes sheet
- SOL Quiz

Essential Question(s)
- The United States’ involvement in World War I set the stage for it to emerge as a global superpower later in the twentieth century.
- Was the US an effective leader at the end of World War I?

Time Breakdown:
- Warm-up: 5-10 min
- A-set/ hook: 5-7 min
- Model/ whole-group document analysis: 10-15 min
- Group/ independent document analysis: 25-30 min
Instructional Procedures:

**Warm-up:** Students will analyze cartoon for causes and effects of American involvement in WWI (previous 2 lessons). Teacher may collect the warm up or debrief as a class.

**A-set/ hook:** Students will analyze and discuss cartoons showing different interpretations of the League of Nations.

**Document analysis- Model:** Teacher will guide students through reading and interpreting excerpt from Wilson’s Fourteen Points speech. If desired, you may use any primary source/ document analysis tool to supplement the question-based analysis given here.

**Group/ independent document analysis:** Students will work in pairs, groups, or individually to read, analyze, and answer guided questions on excerpts and secondary source documents related to the Treaty of Versailles and Wilson’s final speech in support of the League of Nations. Students may be in groups and/or documents divided as needed, though it is recommended that each group of students have some exposure to the primary source excerpts.

**Notes sheet/ questions:** Students should complete the notes sheet after reading the excerpts and answering the guiding questions, so they will be required to go back to the texts to find specific examples for the notes sheet and questions. Teacher should discuss/ debrief the activity as a class or with each group.

**SOL Quiz:** This 10-question quiz covers all three days of this mini-unit, and includes content as well as skill-based questions. The quiz is broken down as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Content only</th>
<th>“Determining relationships with multiple causes or effects in United States history”</th>
<th>“Analyzing and interpreting artifacts and primary and secondary sources to understand events in United States history”</th>
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<td>#4, #5 (TEI)</td>
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<td>#6, #8</td>
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<td>#7, #10 (TEI)</td>
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<td>Major powers involved in the war</td>
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<td>Assessment</td>
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<td>• Warm-up (previous learning)</td>
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<td>• Document analysis (group/ independent)</td>
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<td>• Notes sheet &amp; questions</td>
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<td><strong>Summative</strong></td>
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<td>• SOL-format quiz</td>
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Attachments:
- Warm-up
- Hook/ a-set cartoons (2)
- Document excerpts, secondary sources, & guided questions (Fourteen Points, the League of Nations, Treaty of Versailles)
- Leadership notes sheet & cumulative questions
- League of Nations membership map
- SOL quiz
Warm-up:

1. Who do the three men in the picture represent?

2. According to this cartoon, how did American soldiers help win WWI?

3. Why would the sailor say that you “shouldn’t take a pleasure trip on the North Sea”?

4. How does this cartoon show the United States reacting to an event that caused them to join in the war? Explain your answer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Who do the three men in the picture represent?</td>
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<td>2. According to this cartoon, how did American soldiers help win WWI?</td>
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<td>3. Why would the sailor say that you “shouldn’t take a pleasure trip on the North Sea”?</td>
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<td>4. How does this cartoon show the United States reacting to an event that caused them to join in the war? Explain your answer.</td>
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Hook/ A-set:
The war is over and America is set to take a leadership role in the postwar peace. Based on these two cartoons, what are the two different points of view of what would happen if the United States stayed involved in world affairs?

Image source: http://hti.osu.edu/opper/lesson-plans/wilsons-14-points/images/can-he-produce-the-harmony
What is the argument for being involved in world affairs?

What is the argument being made to stay out of world affairs?

What do you think the US will do?
Woodrow Wilson’s 14 Points

8 January, 1918:
We entered this war because violations of right had occurred ... What we demand in this war, therefore, ... is that the world be made fit and safe ... for every peace-loving nation which, like our own, wishes to live its own life, determine its own institutions, be assured of justice and fair dealing by the other peoples of the world as against force and selfish aggression. All the peoples of the world are in effect partners in this interest, and for our own part we see very clearly that unless justice be done to others it will not be done to us. ...

I. Open covenants of peace, openly arrived at, after which there shall be no private international understandings of any kind but diplomacy shall proceed always frankly and in the public view.

II. Absolute freedom of navigation upon the seas, outside territorial waters, alike in peace and in war...

III. The removal, so far as possible, of all economic barriers and the establishment of an equality of trade conditions among all the nations...

IV. Adequate guarantees given and taken that national armaments will be reduced to the lowest point consistent with domestic safety.

VII. Belgium ... must be evacuated and restored [to complete]...sovereignty.

VIII. All French territory should be freed and the invaded portions restored, and the wrong done to France by Prussia in 1871 in the matter of Alsace-Lorraine... should be righted...

XI. Romania, Serbia, and Montenegro should be evacuated; occupied territories restored; Serbia accorded ... territorial integrity....

XIII. An independent Polish state should be erected ...

XIV. A general association of nations must be formed under specific covenants for the purpose of affording mutual guarantees of political independence and territorial integrity to great and small states alike.

...We cannot be separated in interest or divided in purpose. We stand together until the end.

...We do not wish to injure [Germany] or to block in any way her legitimate influence or power.
League of Nations
Woodrow Wilson, Final Speech in Support of the League of Nations

...Unless you get the united, concerted purpose and power of the great Governments of the world behind this settlement (Treaty of Versailles), it will fall down like a house of cards. There is only one power to put behind the liberation of mankind, and that is the power of mankind. It is the power of the united moral forces of the world, and in the Covenant of the League of Nations the moral forces of the world are mobilized.

For what purpose? Reflect, my fellow citizens, that the membership of this great League is going to include all the great fighting nations of the world, as well as the weak ones. It is not for the present going to include Germany, but for the time being Germany is not a great fighting country. All the nations that have power that can be mobilized are going to be members of this League, including the United States.

And what do they unite for? They enter into a solemn promise to one another they will never use their power against one another for aggression; that they never will interfere with the political independence of a neighbor; and that no matter what differences arise amongst them they will never resort to war without first having done one or other of two things -- either submitted the matter of controversy to arbitration, or submitted it to the consideration of the council of the League of Nations.

In other words, they consent, no matter what happens, to submit every matter of difference between them to the judgment of mankind, and just so certainly as they do that, my fellow citizens, war will be in the far background, war will be pushed out of that foreground of terror in which it has kept the world for generation after generation, and men will know that there will be a calm time of deliberate counsel.
League of Nations

The League of Nations came into being after the end of World War One. The League of Nation’s task was simple - to ensure that war never broke out again. The only way to avoid a repeat of such a disaster was to create an international body whose purpose was to maintain world peace and which would sort out international disputes when they occurred. This would be the task of the League of Nations.

If a dispute did occur, the League, under its Covenant, could do three things - these were known as its sanctions:

It could call on the states in dispute to sit down and discuss the problem in an orderly and peaceful manner.

If one nation was seen to be the offender, the League could introduce verbal sanctions - warning an aggressor nation that she would need to leave another nation’s territory or face the consequences.

If the states in dispute failed to listen to the Assembly’s decision, the League could introduce economic sanctions. The League could order League members not to do any trade with an aggressor nation in an effort to bring that aggressor nation to heel.

If this failed, the League could introduce physical sanctions. This meant that military force would be used to put into place the League’s decision. However, the League did not have a military force. Therefore, it could not carry out any threats.

Also, three of the world’s most powerful nations (America, Russia, and Germany) played no part in supporting the League. The two most powerful members were Britain and France - both had suffered financially and militarily during the war - and neither was enthusiastic to get involved in disputes that did not affect Western Europe.

What was the goal of the League of Nations? Why was it formed?

Do you think this is an effective way to solve problems? Why or why not?

What were the three things that the League could do to solve arguments?

What do you think a sanction is?

Why might the League of Nations have not been successful in preventing wars?
During its entire existence the League of Nations could not agree on one single symbol, but there were ideas for it. In 1929 there was an international contest for a design.

The fear that an organization might become more powerful than the member countries lay at the bottom of this disagreement.

In 1939, a semi-official emblem emerged: two five-pointed stars within a blue pentagon. The pentagon and the five-pointed stars were supposed to symbolize the five continents and the 'five races' of mankind.

In a bow on top and at the bottom the flag got the names in English and French for the League of Nations.
Treaty of Versailles

ARTICLE 42

Germany is forbidden to maintain or construct any fortifications either on the left bank of the Rhine or on the right bank to the west of a line drawn 50 kilometres to the East of the Rhine.

ARTICLE 43

In the area defined above the maintenance and the assembly of armed forces, either permanently or temporarily, and military maneuvers of any kind, as well as the upkeep of all permanent works for mobilization, are in the same way forbidden.

ARTICLE 44

In case Germany violates in any manner whatever the provisions of Articles 42 and 43, she shall be regarded as committing a hostile act against the Powers signatory of the present Treaty and as calculated to disturb the peace of the world.

ARTICLE 50 SECTION V: ALSACE-LORRAINE

The HIGH CONTRACTING PARTIES, recognizing the moral obligation to redress the wrong done by Germany in 1871 both to the rights of France and to the wishes of the population of Alsace-Lorraine, restored this territory to French sovereignty as from the date of the Armistice of November 11, 1918.

ARTICLE 231

The Allied and Associated Governments affirm and Germany accepts the responsibility of Germany and her allies for causing all the loss and damage to which the Allied and Associated Governments and their nationals have been subjected as a consequence of the war imposed upon them by the aggression of Germany and her allies.
Treaty of Versailles

Signed on June 28th 1919 as an end to the First World War, The Treaty of Versailles was supposed to ensure a lasting peace by punishing Germany and setting up a League of Nations to solve diplomatic problems.

The First World War has been fought for four years when Germany and the Allies signed an armistice. The Allies soon gathered to discuss the peace treaty they would sign, but Germany and Austria-Hungary weren't invited. Instead, terms were drawn up mainly by the 'Big Three': Great Britain, France, and the United States. Each had different desires:

- US: Wanted a 'fair and lasting peace'
- France and Great Britain: Wanted Germany to pay dearly for the war.

Selected Terms of the Treaty of Versailles:

**Territory:**
- Alsace Lorraine, on the French-German border, was returned to France.
- The Saar, an important German coalfield, was to be given to France for 15 years
- Poland became an independent country
- Austria-Hungary was split up and Yugoslavia was created.

**Arms:**
- The left bank of the Rhine was to be occupied by Allied forces and the right bank demilitarized.
- The German army and navy were cut
- Germany was banned from having an Air Force

**Reparations and Guilt:**
- In the 'war guilt' clause Germany has to accept total blame for the war.
- Germany had to pay millions in compensation.

**Reactions:**
Germany lost 13% of its land, 12% of its people, 48% of its iron resources, 15% of its agricultural production and 10% of its coal. Britain and France felt the treaty was fair – they actually wanted harsher terms – but the Germans felt it was unfair. The United States refused to ratify it because they didn't want to be part of the League of Nations.
Treaty of Versailles

What does this map show?

What happened to Germany because of the Treaty of Versailles?

Do you think Germany was treated unfairly? Why or why not? (Use the map to explain your answer!)

What ideas from Wilson's 14 points were kept or actually implemented after World War I?

What ideas from Wilson's 14 points were either left out or negated (the opposite of what Wilson wanted)?

According to the map (below), did the United States join the League of Nations?

Do you think the US was an effective leader at the end of World War I? Did the United States' leaders accomplish what they wanted to? Explain your answer.
1. Which of the following countries best completes the diagram above?
   a. Austro-Hungarian Empire
   b. Bulgaria
   c. Ottoman Empire
   d. United States

2. Which of the following events best completes the timeline above?
   a. Fourteen Points Plan
   b. North Sea Mine Barrage
   c. Treaty of Versailles
   d. Zimmermann Telegram

3. Which reason that the US became involved in WWI is best shown by the map above?
   a. The assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand
   b. The sinking of the Lusitania
   c. US’ economic and political ties to Great Britain
   d. The Zimmermann Telegram

4. According to the cartoon above, what is a major cause of the failure of the League of Nations?
   a. America is lazy and unhealthy
   b. Countries cannot work together
   c. France and England don’t get along
   d. The US refused to join the League
5. Would the author of this cartoon agree or disagree with the statement, “The US’ leadership at the end of World War I was highly effective.”? Why or why not?

a. The author would agree because President Wilson shown as a teacher represents the US getting the allies to do what he wanted
b. The author would agree because the cartoon shows President Wilson making the world safe for democracies, including Germany’s colonies
c. The author would disagree because President Wilson is shown trying to force the allies to do things they don’t agree with because he has more power
d. The author would disagree because the allies are shown pretending to do what President Wilson wants but planning on doing the opposite

Use the quotes below to answer question 6.
A: “The effect of the war upon the United States will depend upon what American citizens say and do. Every man who really loves America will act and speak in the true spirit of neutrality…”
B: “In view of recent acts of the German authorities in violation of American rights on the high seas… the US and German government should come to a clear and full understanding…”
C: “We shall give general financial support, and it is understood that Mexico is to reconquer the lost territory in New Mexico, Texas, and Arizona. The details are left for your settlement.”
D: “Neutrality is no longer feasible or desirable where the peace of the world is involved… and the menace to that peace and freedom lies in existence autocratic governments backed by force.”

6. Which quote above best reflects the perspective of Americans in 1917 who wished the US to become involved in the war?
   a. Quotation A
   b. Quotation B
   c. Quotation C
   d. Quotation D
7. Select the documents from the section below that best belong in the graphic organizer.

The United States does not join the League of Nations

“You may call me selfish if you will, conservative or reactionary, or use any other harsh adjective you see fit to apply, but an American I was born, an American I have remained all my life. I can never be anything else but an American, and I must think of the United States first, and when I think of the United States first in an arrangement like this I am thinking of what is best for the world, for if the United States fails, the best hopes of mankind fail with it.” –Henry Cabot Lodge

“That there should be a league of nations to steady the counsels and maintain the peaceful understandings of the world, to make, not treaties alone, but the accepted principles of international law as well, the actual rule of conduct among the governments of the world, had been one of the agreements accepted from the first as the basis of peace with the central powers. The statesmen of all the belligerent countries were agreed that such a league must be created to sustain the settlements that were to be effected.” –Woodrow Wilson
8. Which set of WWI songs would best fit on the timeline above to explain the changes that caused the US to enter WWI?

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<tr>
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<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td><img src="image1.jpg" alt="A Image" /></td>
<td><img src="image2.jpg" alt="B Image" /></td>
<td><img src="image3.jpg" alt="C Image" /></td>
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<td>B</td>
<td><img src="image1.jpg" alt="A Image" /></td>
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<td>C</td>
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9. According to this document, why did the US enter World War I?
   a. The US’ economic ties to Great Britain (UK) meant they were already helping the allies
   b. The US stopped trading with Germany after Germany encouraged Mexico to invade
   c. The US was losing trade revenue (money) because of ships sunk by submarines
   d. The US liked Great Britain (UK) better than Germany and Austria-Hungary

10. Place the events in the timeline above. All the events below should be used on the timeline.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Causes</th>
<th>Effects</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States plays important role in peace process</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treaty of Versailles signed</td>
<td>US joins fighting in WWI</td>
<td>Thousands of Americans die</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treaty of Versailles signed</td>
<td>US joins fighting in WWI</td>
<td>League of Nations formed</td>
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<tr>
<td>League of Nations formed</td>
<td>US participates in World War I</td>
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<tr>
<td>Return to isolationism</td>
<td>US sends war supplies to allies</td>
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