

Activity - The Fourteen Points

Name: _____

Directions: In this exercise you will create a poster-size concept map with your triad:

1. Read Wilson's 14 Points, then the list of four of Wilson's foreign policy goals (below).
2. Place the documents side-by-side so that you can consult them as you create your concept map.
3. In the center of your poster, write "Wilsonian Foreign Policy"; this is your main concept.
4. Write Wilson's four foreign policy goals around the main concept.
5. Connect each of the 14 Points to the goal you think that point is trying to fulfill. Show the connections by writing excerpts of a point or points around a goal. (You may connect some of the 14 Points to more than one goal.)

Example: Point III, "The removal, so far as possible, of all economic barriers," is a close fit with Wilson's goal of open markets.

6. You may decorate your poster using clip art that illustrates the four major goals.

Four major goals of Wilsonian Foreign Policy

1. **Spreading democracy:** the citizens of other nations should have the freedom to choose representative or democratic government. Wilson believed that the United States should help other nations create democratic governments for themselves, if they were not already democratic. **Which of the 14 Points show this goal? Place them on your concept map.**

2. **Open markets:** nations should work to lower barriers to free trade among themselves. By lowering or ending tariffs and duties on imported goods, nations could expect trading partners to do the same, thus benefiting all. Wilson regarded open markets as an essential part of capitalism and democracy. **Which of the 14 Points show this goal? Place them on your concept map.**

3. **International organization dedicated to keeping peace:** by joining together and promising to protect each other, democratic nations could deter wars of aggression and conquest. Ideally, a powerful nation would think twice about attacking a smaller nation if it was a member of this international organization. This concept is known as "international collective security" and served as the basis for the League of Nations. Wilson, who believed that democratic nations were inherently peaceful (meaning they did not start wars), also hoped the League of Nations could promote self-determination across the world. **Which of the 14 Points show this goal? Place them on your concept map.**

4. **Active global role for the United States:** in order to achieve his first three goals, Wilson recognized that his nation needed to act as a leader in world affairs and use its power and influence to persuade, even force, other nations to accept these goals and work with the U.S. to fulfill them. For this reason, Wilson had offered to mediate an end to the war in January 1917, in his "Peace without Victory" address (<http://www.lib.byu.edu/~rdh/wwi/1917/senate.html>). **Which of the 14 Points show this goal? Place them on your concept map.**

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- 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 consenting to the peace...
- IV.** Adequate guarantees given and taken that national armaments will be reduced to the lowest point consistent with domestic safety.
- V.** A free, open-minded, and absolutely impartial adjustment of all colonial claims, based upon a strict observance of the principle that in determining all such questions of sovereignty the interests of the populations concerned must have equal weight with the equitable claims of the government whose title is to be determined.
- VI.** The evacuation of all Russian territory and such a settlement of all questions affecting Russia as will secure the best and freest cooperation of the other nations of the world in obtaining for her an unhampered and unembarrassed opportunity for the independent determination of her own political development...
- VII.** Belgium, the whole world will agree, must be evacuated and restored, without any attempt to limit the sovereignty which she enjoys in common with all other free nations....
- 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, which has unsettled the peace of the world for nearly fifty years, should be righted, in order that peace may once more be made secure in the interest of all.
- IX.** A readjustment of the frontiers of Italy should be effected along clearly recognizable lines of nationality.
- X.** The peoples of Austria-Hungary, whose place among the nations we wish to see safeguarded and assured, should be accorded the freest opportunity to autonomous development.
- XI.** Rumania, Serbia, and Montenegro should be evacuated; occupied territories restored; Serbia accorded free and secure access to the sea; . . . and international guarantees of the political and economic independence and territorial integrity of the several Balkan states should be entered into.
- XII.** The Turkish portion of the present Ottoman Empire should be assured a secure sovereignty, but the other nationalities which are now under Turkish rule should be assured

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an undoubted security of life and an absolutely unmolested opportunity of autonomous development....

XIII. An independent Polish state should be erected which should include the territories inhabited by indisputably Polish populations, which should be assured a free and secure access to the sea, and whose political and economic independence and territorial integrity should be guaranteed by international covenant.

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.

In regard to these essential rectifications [corrections] of wrong and assertions of right we feel ourselves to be intimate partners of all the governments and peoples . . . We cannot be separated in interest or divided in purpose. We stand together until the end.

For such arrangements and covenants we are willing to fight and to continue to fight until they are achieved; but only because we wish the right to prevail and desire a just and stable peace such as can be secured only by removing the chief provocations to war, which this program does remove . . . We do not wish to injure [Germany] or to block in any way her legitimate influence or power. We do not wish to fight her either with arms or with hostile arrangements of trade if she is willing to associate herself with us and the other peace-loving nations of the world in covenants of justice and law and fair dealing. We wish her only to accept a place of equality among the peoples of the world—the new world in which we now live—instead of a place of mastery.