



Why was it so hard to make peace?

When the terms of the Versailles Peace Treaty were announced and signed in May-June 1919, they inspired some very different reactions across Europe. They inspired outright rejection in the USA. How did the world's most important and powerful political leaders manage to spend six months coming up with a document that produced such bitterness? Was it simply impossible to get a peace that everyone could accept?

There were many different countries involved in the talks at Versailles. Your task is to write a report explaining the reactions of politicians and people to the Treaty of Versailles in just four countries:

- Britain
- France
- Germany
- USA

Using the information in the background and the case studies, you need to explain:

- Each country's attitude towards Germany in the peace conference which led up to the treaty terms being announced
- The points and issues which Britain, France, the USA and Germany agreed or disagreed on
- The views of people and politicians in each country on the final treaty

This table might help you to plan your report. Open the research table and print it out or save it to your computer. Then you can fill it in.