

# Warm-Up: Treaty of Versailles



In the USA reactions to the Treaty were generally negative. Many Americans felt that the Treaty was unfair on Germany. More importantly, they felt that Britain and France were making themselves rich at Germany's expense and that the USA should not be helping them to do this. This was not really the case, but many Americans believed it.

This was partly because American politics were deeply divided at the time.

President Wilson led the Democratic Party. However, his rivals in the Republican Party dominated the US Congress. They used the Treaty as an opportunity to criticize Wilson. Wilson has to take some of the blame for this as he made little effort to consult the Republicans about the Treaty. Americans were also uneasy about Wilson's scheme for a League of Nations. They were concerned that belonging to the League would drag the USA into international disputes that were not their concern. In the end, the Congress rejected the Treaty of Versailles and the League of Nations.

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1. According to the cartoon, what did American believe the League of Nations would do to the United States?
2. According to the passage, what are **two** reasons Americans reacted negatively to the Treaty of Versailles?
3. In the end, did Congress approve the Treaty of Versailles and join the League of Nations? Why?