

The Most Hated Treaty in History

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Individual Website

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Process Paper

How did you choose your topic and how does it relate to the annual theme?

I chose my topic because I wanted to pick something that was hated. The theme covered debate and diplomacy in history, and my social studies teacher used treaties as example topics when we were choosing topics. I used the idea of treaties in order to start looking for a topic, and began looking for treaties that were hated, or treaties that caused war. I picked two treaties, the Treaty of Versailles, and the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty. I decided to choose the Treaty of Versailles because of its reputation for being the most hated treaty in history. It was a treaty, so it worked as a part of diplomacy between Germany and the Allied powers.

How did you conduct your research?

At first, I visited sites that the school recommended. This included sites like Britannica or World Book Online. Soon, I began visiting sites that some of my peers recommended, like History.com. When I began looking for primary sources, I looked for government websites and came across a site that held a pdf which contained all of the treaties and international agreements of the US. This document also held the Treaty of Versailles. After reading, paraphrasing, and thinking about the multiple articles and pages, I finished my research.

How did you create your project?

At first, I began filling out the project template that my teacher had given me. The template helped me plan what I was going to do when I actually began creating my website. When I began creating my website, I found it very difficult to work with the website builder, so I searched for tutorials on how to use it. After learning about flexboxes and formatting from peers and pdfs on the internet, I was able to start building my website without delays.

What is your historical argument?

The Treaty of Versailles was one of the most hated diplomatic failures in history due to the unequitable terms that angered German citizens, sparking World War 2. The unfair terms made the German citizens feel betrayed by their government, allowing the Nazi party to rise into power. The Nazi party promised to get revenge for their humiliations under the treaty. This promise, combined with other factors, started World War 2.

In what ways is your topic significant in history?

My topic was a huge treaty in the history of the world. The Treaty of Versailles was the treaty that decided the peace terms between Germany and the allied powers after World War 1. The terms were extremely unjust towards Germany as it restricted their military and forced them to pay immense reparations. These terms angered the citizens of Germany, allowing the Nazi party to rise into power within Germany, making World War 2 a possibility. The Treaty of Versailles was extremely significant to history because it held the peace terms for World War 1, and created the possibility of World War 2.