



## AP United States History 2000 Student Samples

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For the most part, the US did not achieve the objectives that led it to enter World War I. President Wilson, who eventually led the country into war, claimed to have in sight a world free for democracy and peace, which was not achieved. Another objective in the US entering the war was its economic involvement with the Allied forces, and the capitalist necessity to win the war to ~~gain~~ benefit from its investments with Britain and France.

Though Wilson ~~originally~~ was elected President with the slogan "He kept us out of war" he ultimately submitted to the forces driving him towards war. Ideologically, these forces involved ~~the~~ the violation of the US's neutrality rights on the high seas, as well as protecting the world from the tyranny of dictators such as that of Austro-Hungary and Germany. He used these bases to enter the war, hoping ~~that~~ this would be the "war to end all wars" as it was reputed to be afterwards, and to establish an international system

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of democracy and peace afterwards. The US had waited a long time before entering the war, which had started in 1914, only after the Lusitania incident triggered ~~the~~ anger at the violation of neutrality rights. German submarines attacked and sank this ship, and 128 Americans were killed. Many Americans saw this as a threat to their neutrality. ~~After~~ After the war, neutrality ~~was~~ was barely an issue any longer. ~~The~~

Wilson's motive of establishing a world free for democracy wasn't realized either. ~~At~~ At the Treaty of Versailles, he proposed the 14 points, readjusting the boundaries of many East European countries in what he believed to be a fair way, and establishing ~~new~~ rules for international commerce and rights on the high seas. These changes were greatly ignored, so that his ideal for ~~fair~~ fairness and neutrality failed to become a reality. Another obstacle to his goals were the demands of British Prime Minister Lloyd George and French ruler Clemenceau for retaliation and

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reparations from Germany. They demanded billions of dollars worth of payment from Germany, causing a greatly depressed German economy, ~~an~~ immense frustration, and sowing the seeds for World War II. This caused Wilson's hope for no more warfare to be a little one. The only clause that was paid attention to of his 14 points, was the 14th point, advocating a League of Nations, which would regulate these international peace agreements. However, the League didn't materialize effectively for many years, and the US didn't even join due to ~~isolationist~~ isolationist sentiment. However, the US did ~~rescue~~ rescue its economy from a terrible fate. ~~what~~ Despite a recession of economy following the war, and due to economic problems in Europe, the US economy would have been much worse off had it allowed the war to continue without it but continued to invest in England and France. ~~It~~ Though it wasn't completely repaid immediately, the US paid back some of the investments.

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This wasn't an enormous achievement, but eventually the US economy picked up on its own, and capital interest continued to reign.

The US gained slightly from entering World War I the objectives it had begun with, but for the most part it ~~wasn't~~ didn't achieve these goals. In terms of establishing everlasting international peace, as well as democracy and an end to tyranny, the ideals Wilson dreamed of, it didn't achieve any. It received slight economic benefits, ~~but~~ ~~wasn't~~ ~~not~~ not growing but receiving capital interest from losing ~~the~~ ~~money~~ everything, however not stopping a post-war recession. The US achieved very few objectives that led it to enter ~~the~~ World War One.

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America had no business in World War I. That was belief of many Americans at the time, and even some historians today. To justify entering the war, President Wilson outlined his goals of Making the World safe for democracy and ending all wars. Besides those utopian goals, there was added goal of protecting America's foreign economic interests. Immediately after WWI all of those goals were met, however poor execution of the peace process erased the ~~good~~ success that had been achieved.

Our economic interests were most responsible for getting us into the war, as they were responsible for the shipping conflicts that gradually ~~sparked~~ pulled us into the conflict. By the end of the war we had established ourselves as a world power, ~~and this success was evident~~ this success was evident throughout the boom of the Roaring '20s. However this goal was lost by the huge reparations put on Germany and war debts held by other countries. In the end, we ended paying ourselves through loans to European countries. This illustrates how, despite our clear goals and clear success early on, we ended up losing money over WWI.

President Wilson brushily claimed that we must enter the war to "make the world safe for democracy". This boast also seemed realized after the war. The Hun was defeated, and people all over the world got their first drink at the fountain of liberty. That fountain turned out, however, to be a fountain poisoned with government instability and economic ruin. In no fewer than 3 new democracies ~~the~~ dictators grab power.

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In Europe, democracy was not a prize that America had gallantly won. ~~In reality, World War I was just a battle America won for democracy, the war for democracy was not over until~~ The failure of the League of Nations was very much responsible for the collapse of democracies. America did not enter the League of Nations, dooming it to failure. ~~As a result~~ America was therefore responsible for not protecting the democracy it had won for Europe by not joining the most important part of the peace treaty.

World War I was ~~also~~ seen in America as the "War to End all Wars." ~~It was~~ Even isolationists agreed that if America must enter the war, at least it would be the last one. However, just 20 years after Versailles, America was at war again. Why? Again, America's failure to join the League of Nations is to blame. With no one to ~~check~~ check their rearmament, Germany became an aggressor nation again. A strong League of Nations could have prevented that, and a strong League of Nations needed American support. Again, America's plundering of the peace of World War I led to World War II.

Although America seemed to achieve their goals when the Treaty of Versailles was signed, they had not. When America refused to ~~ratify~~ ratify the Treaty, they erased any success they had ~~achieved~~ achieved. The limitedness and naïveté of America's thinking drew us into believing we had achieved our goals. That same narrow-minded thinking opened the door for mishandling in the peace process. Mishandling the peace process led to problems in Europe. Problems in Europe led to World War II.

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All of America's WWI ~~and~~ goals have the hidden ~~agenda~~ agenda of proving America as a world power. Our success in France proved we were a military power. It was, however, our failure in the peace process and the resulting chaos of the '20s, '30s, and World War II that showed that we could affect the world. ~~from~~ America became a world power, but only after making key mistakes that affected millions across the globe.



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The United States prior to the more advanced stages of the First World War declared itself neutral. Before entering the war, America had a few reasons to declare war. These reasons or objectives were: unrestricted submarine warfare; obligation to allies for aid; and suppression of Germany's imperialistic lust. Overall, the United States' success rate for their objectives in the First World War ~~was~~ average about 50%.

One of the most hated acts in the eyes of Americans of the time—unrestricted submarine warfare—was most fought against during and after WWI. Although Germany signed a treaty ending the use of unrestricted submarine warfare, it was still used—only in more moderated increments. The whole idea of an Ally system is to "get your buddies' backs" in case war being declared. America had a few allies and felt obligated to defend them. Unlike submarine warfare, America was successful in aiding its allies. The main cause for America's allies to get involved in the war was the spread of the status of Germany.