The main points of the Treaty of Versailles [BRAT]

The first 26 Articles of the Treaty set out the Covenant of the League of Nations; the rest of the 440 Articles detailed Germany's punishment:

1. Germany had to accept the Blame for starting the war (Clause 231). This was vital because it provided the justification for...
2. Germany had to pay £6,600 million (called Reparations) for the damage done during the war.
3. Germany was forbidden to have submarines or an air force. She could have a navy of only six battleships, and an Army of just 100,000 men. In addition, Germany was not allowed to place any troops in the Rhineland, the strip of land, 50 miles wide, next to France.
4. Germany lost Territory (land) in Europe (see map, below). Germany's colonies were given to Britain and France.

(Also, Germany was forbidden to join the League of Nations, or unite with Austria.)

THE FOURTEEN POINTS

Wilson announced his Fourteen Points in a speech to Congress on 8 January 1918.

Initially, the Germans rejected the Fourteen Points as the basis for peace but - after they were forced to end the war, and after the much harsher terms of the Armistice - they started to assert that they had ended the war on the understanding that it would be in the basis of the Fourteen Points. This helped to build up German resentment against the Armistice and the Treaty of Versailles.

Here is a summary of the Fourteen Points:

1. No more secret treaties.
2. Freedom of the seas.
3. An end to customs duties.
4. All countries to reduce armaments.
5. Freedom for colonies.
6. The German Army must leave Russia.
7. Belgium must be independent.
8. France should be fully liberated and should get back Alsace-Lorraine
10. Self-determination for all peoples in the Austro-Hungarian Empire.
11. Self-determination and independence for the Balkan nations.
12. Self-determination for Turkey, and for all peoples in the Turkish Empire.
13. An independent Poland with access to the sea.