

Remote Learning Guide

Being a High Performing 'Remote' Learner

How to make the most out of your online lessons:

- **P**repare – camera off, on mute, have equipment ready.
- **R**espect – behave appropriately.
- **E**ngage – do your best.
- **S**elf-help – persevere and use self-help strategies.
- **S**eek help – ask another student or the teacher for help if you are stuck.



Warning:

Inappropriate, disrespectful or disruptive behaviour during a live lesson could result in you being removed from the lesson and your parents informed.

The lesson will be recorded for the purpose of sharing with absent students. Do not allow yourself to be recorded doing/saying something inappropriate.





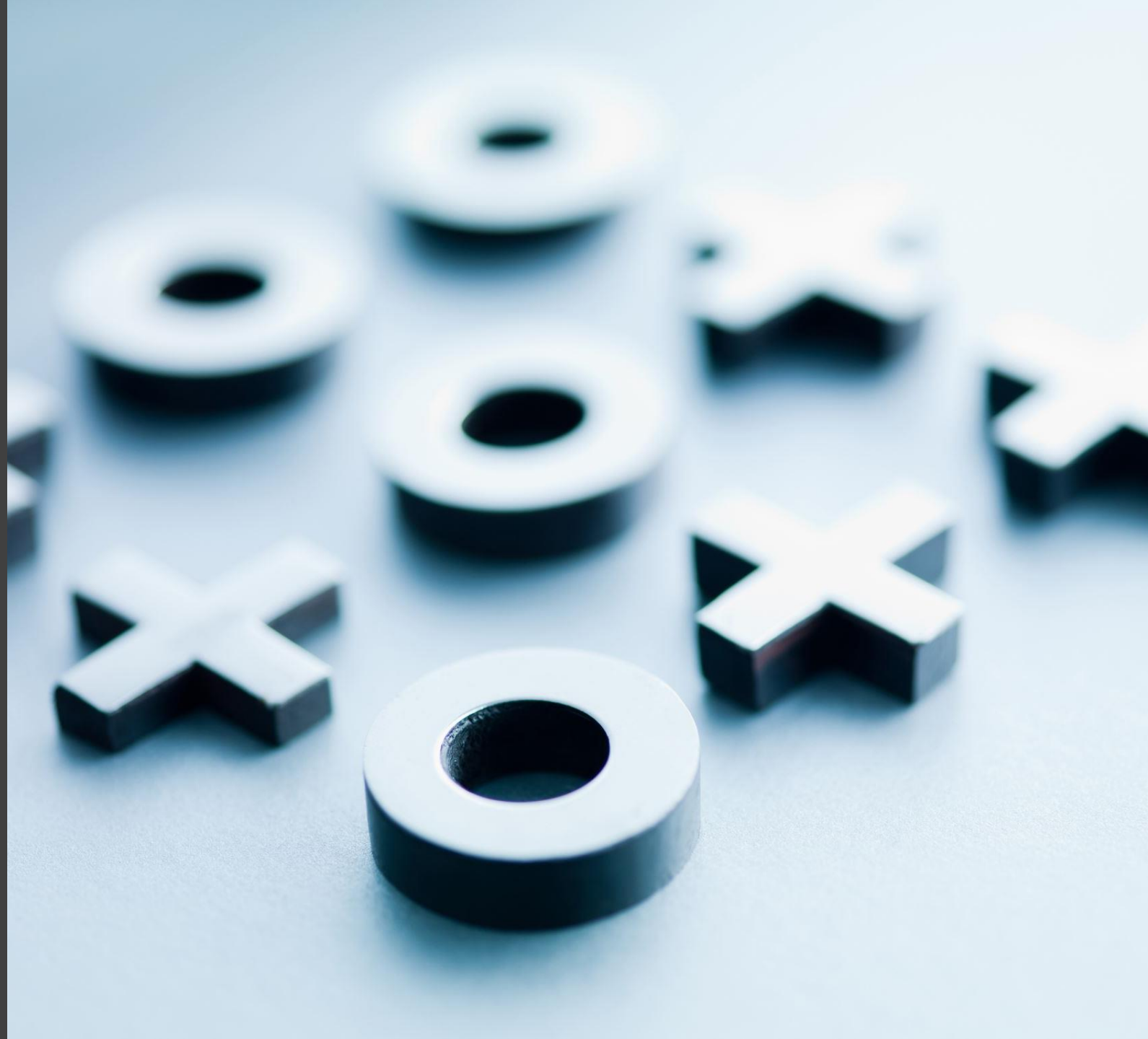
STRATEGY-PLANNING

Meta-Thinking

**‘the ability to approach
new learning experiences
by actively attempting
to connect it to existing
knowledge or concepts
and hence determine an
appropriate way to think
about the work’**

High Performance Learning – Focus for the Week

Revision Session
2
Conflict and
Tension
1919-1939



PART 2 –
CONTENT –
LEAGUE OF
NATIONS



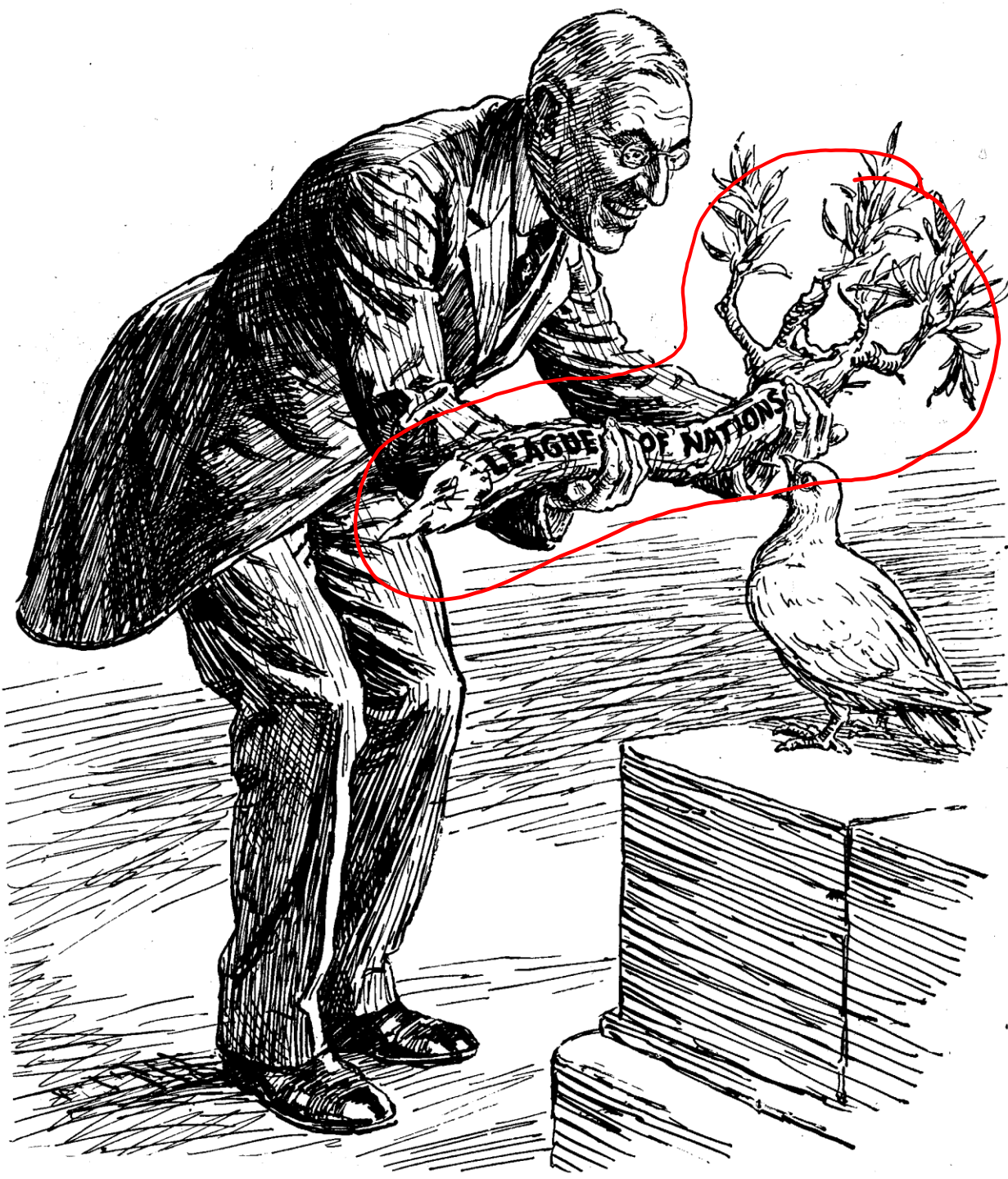
- The League of Nations (LON) was included in Wilson's Fourteen Points.
 - Its aims were **to maintain peace and encourage cooperation to solve economic and social problems**
 - It would use the following methods to achieve its key goal of maintaining peace:
 - i) **Disarmament**- help countries to reduce the number of weapons they had
 - ii) **Arbitration**- help countries to talk through their problems rather than using armed conflict
 - iii) **Collective Security**- League members would act together to help each other and stop the aggressor
- All the members of the League agreed to follow a set of 26 rules called the **Covenant**

FORMING THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

What was the League of Nations?

The League of Nations was a vision for bringing the world together in peace.

It was to be a group of countries that would work together and solve problems, like a world Parliament



OVERWEIGHTED.

President Wilson. "HERE'S YOUR OLIVE BRANCH.
NOW GET BUSY."

Dove of Peace. "OF COURSE I WANT TO PLEASE
EVERYBODY; BUT ISN'T THIS A BIT THICK?"

Punch magazine: March 1919

Who joined?

When the League was founded there were 42 members and this rose to 58 by 1934.

There were four permanent members who made the big decisions:

- Britain
- France
- Italy
- Japan

USA

Germany

USSR

Austria

Why was it formed?

Countries would work together to achieve four aims:

1. To stop war from breaking out again
2. To encourage disarmament
3. To improve working conditions
4. To tackle deadly diseases

Where was it based?

Geneva – Switzerland.

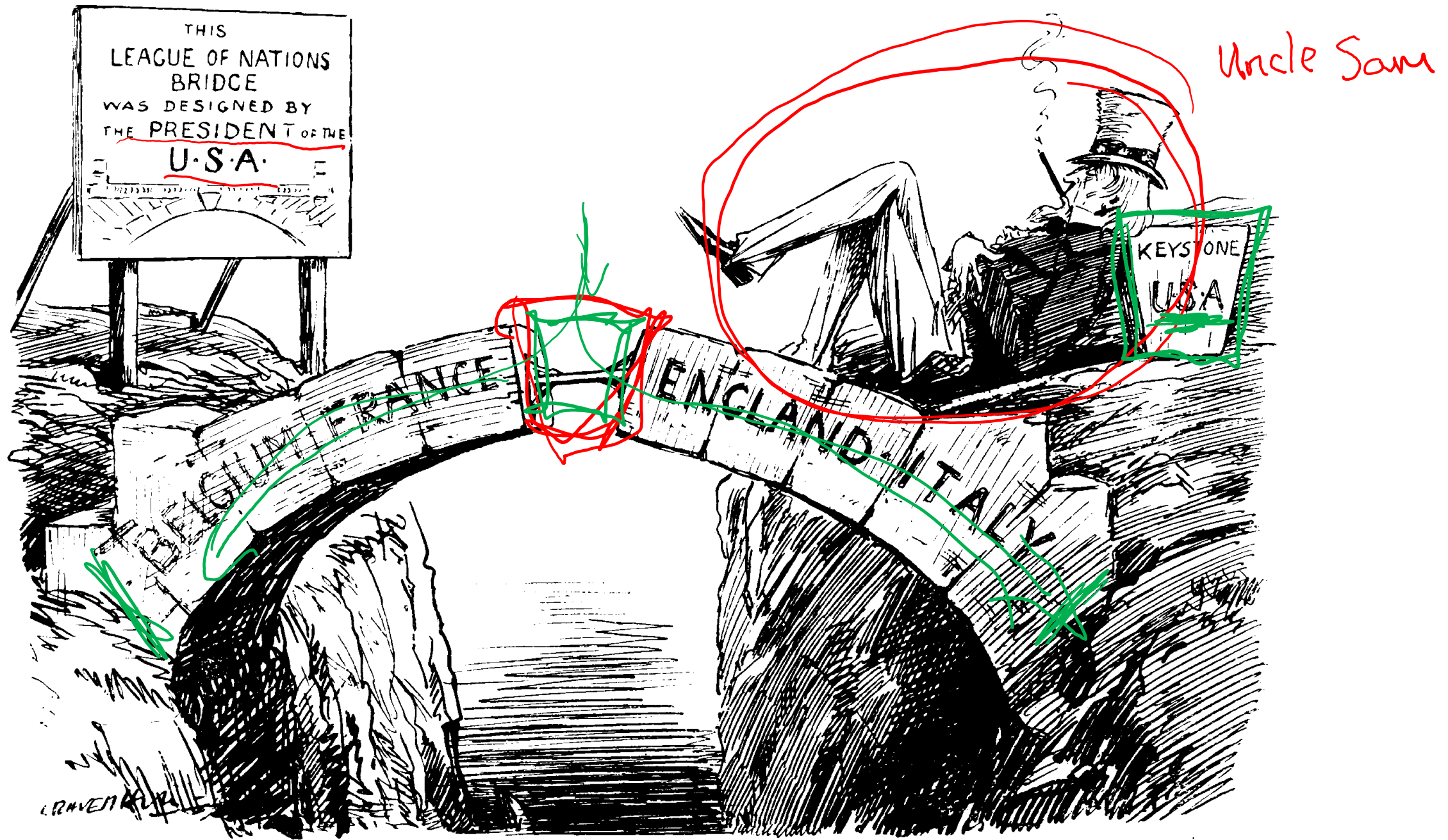
Switzerland had not been involved in the war so it was seen as a peaceful country.

The Red Cross was also based there, so it seemed like a sensible place for the HQ

Was the USA an important member?

No – the senate refused to agree to it and as much as Wilson tried to convince people that it was a good idea, they had seen many young Americans die in WW1 and wanted to isolate themselves from Europe.

Wilson was devastated.



THE GAP IN THE BRIDGE.



THE GAP IN THE BRIDGE.

This cartoon implies that without America the bridge would collapse. The bridge represents the League of Nations, and Uncle Sam, the personification of America is reluctant to place the keystone in the bridge to complete it. This is odd because in the Treaty of Versailles, it was Woodrow Wilson the president of America that suggested that the League of Nations as part of his fourteen points. The missing keystone demonstrates how difficult it will be for the League to function without having the United States as a member. But it was a Republican majority in Congress that blocked the USA's entry into the League, not the President. It is now known that Wilson was very, very ill during vital periods at Versailles and afterwards and probably lacked the will to win Congress around.

Did all powerful countries join?

No – Britain and France were suspicious of the new communist government in Russia, so Russia was not allowed to join.

Countries that lost the war could not join – so no Germany at first

This changed in 1926, when the Locarno Treaty was signed and Germany was allowed to join the League.

But once Hitler came to power he took Germany out of the League.

Japan and Italy both left after they invaded countries in the 1930s

What did Britain and France think?

At the Paris peace talks Lloyd George had been critical of the idea but then on 25th March 1919 he issued the **Fontainebleau Memorandum** in which he said he completely supported the League.

It helped that in the final peace treaties colonies belonging to Germany were given to the League of Nations to run – the idea being they would run them until they could become independent, but some have said that Britain saw this as an opportunity to add to their vast empire.

France were glad of anything that might help protect it from another German invasion!

Keeping peace

It was thought that the League would work through **collective security** – the idea that if all countries worked together they could make sure that peace was kept and the interests of every nation were looked after.

In 1920 the League also set up an international court that would establish international laws – **Permanent Court of Justice**

They claimed that if every country was following the same laws there would be less chance of them disagreeing.

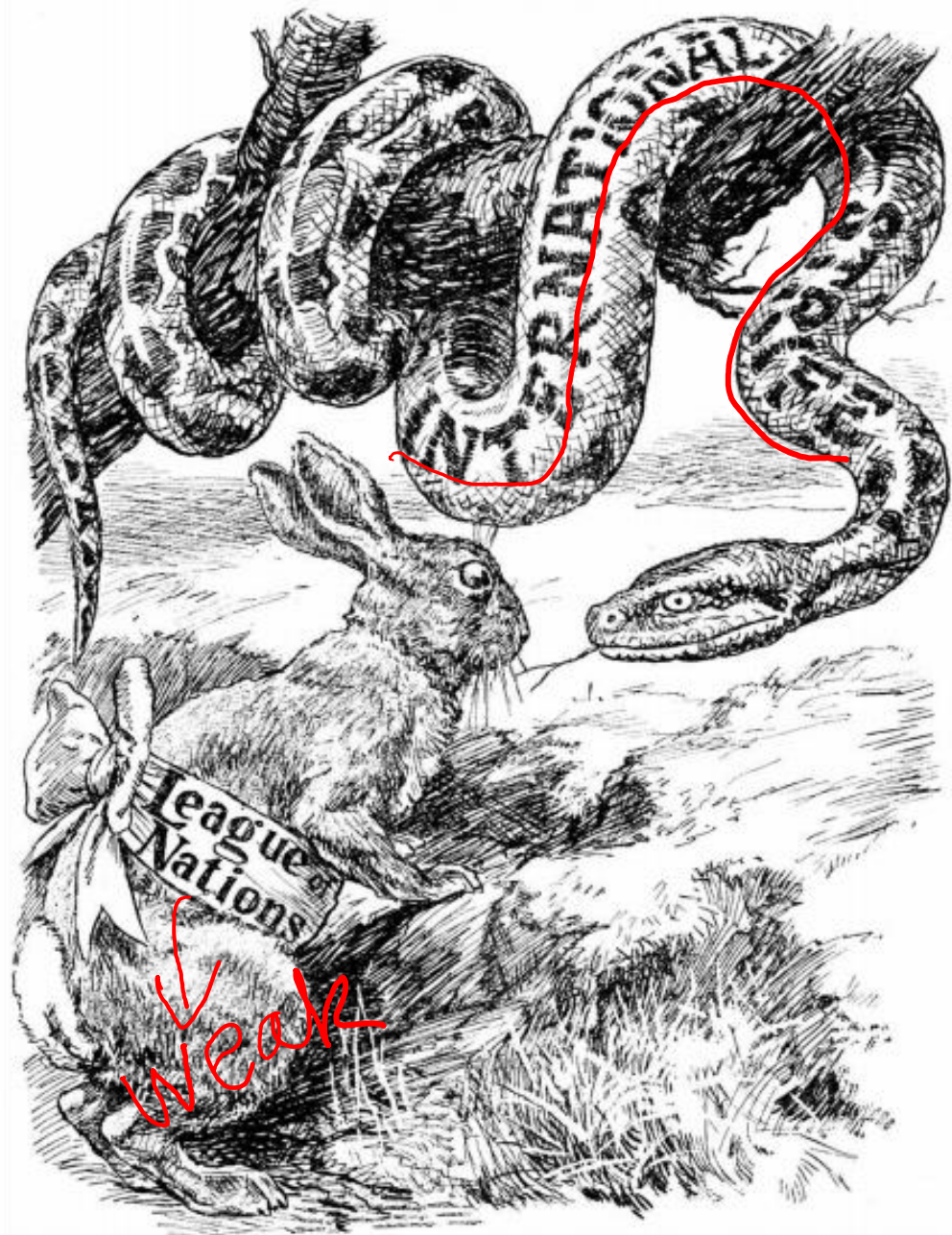
Disputes

The **Covenant** set out how the League would deal with aggression.

1. **Mediation** – getting countries to talk through problems together
2. **Moral Condemnation** – a good telling off!
3. **Economic Sanctions** – where members of the League would not trade with the warring countries

The League didn't have its own army as it was a peaceful organisation.

If an army was absolutely necessary the League was to ask its members to lend their armed forces



What is the message of this cartoon?

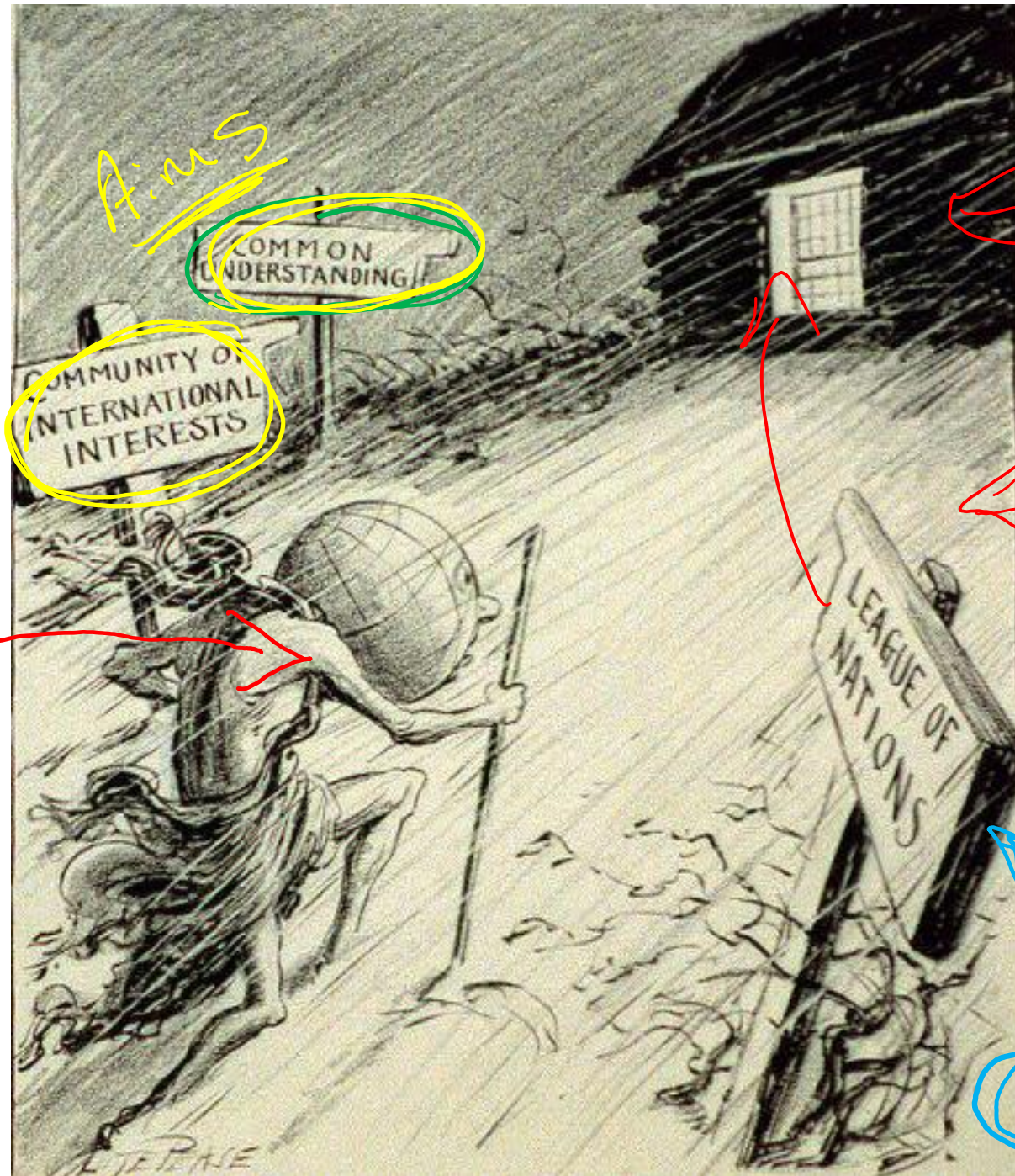
How useful is this source as evidence of the weakness of the League of Nations?
8 marks

This cartoon – entitled 'Moral Persuasion' appeared in the British satirical magazine *Punch* in July 1920.

The rabbit says: "My offensive equipment being practically nil, it remains for me to fascinate him with the power of my eye."

→ No army

What is the message of this source and why is it surprising?



Aims

COMMON UNDERSTANDING

COMMUNITY OF INTERNATIONAL INTERESTS

LoN

snowy / stormy war

World

An American cartoon from 1919

The Structure of the League of Nations





The Assembly

The Assembly was the League's Parliament. Every country in the League sent a representative to the Assembly. The assembly could recommend action to the council and could vote on:

- Admitting new members
- Appointing temporary members
- The budget of the League
- Other ideas put forward by the council

The assembly only met once a year. Decisions made by the assembly had to be unanimous

The Council

The council was a smaller group which met more often, usually about 5 times a year and in case of emergency. It included:

- Permanent members
- Temporary members – they were elected by the assembly for 3 year periods. The number varied between 3-9

Each of the permanent members of the council had a veto. This meant that one member could stop the Council acting even if all other members agreed. The main idea behind the Council was that if any disputes arose between members, the members brought the problem to the council and it was sorted out through discussion before it got out of hand. If that didn't work then the council could use: Moral condemnation, economic sanctions or military force

The League of Nations Commissions

As well as dealing with disputes between members, the League attempted to tackle other major problems. This was done through commissions or committees:

The Secretariat

The secretariat was a sort of civil service. It kept records of League meetings and prepared reports for different agencies. It had specialist sections covering areas such as health, economic matters and disarmament

The Mandates Commission

WW1 had led to many former colonies of Germany ending up as League of Nations mandates ruled by Britain and France on behalf of the League. The Mandates commission made sure that Britain or France acted in the interests of the people of that territory

The Refugees Committee

This helped to return refugees to their original homes after WW1

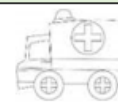


The Slavery Commission

This worked to abolish slavery around the world

The Health Committee

This attempted to deal with the problem of dangerous diseases and to educate people about help and sanitation



The Permanent Court of International Justice

This was meant to be a key part of the League's job of settling disputes between countries peacefully. The Court was based at The Hague in the Netherlands and was made up of judges from the member countries. If it was asked, the court would give a decision on a border dispute between two countries. It also gave legal advice to the Assembly or Council. However, the court was not like other courts which carried out the law within member countries. It had no way of making sure countries followed its rulings

The International Labour Organisation (ILO)

The ILO brought together employers, governments and workers' representatives once a year. Its aim was to improve the conditions of working people throughout the world. It collected statistics and information about working people and tried to persuade member countries to adopt its suggestions

'The organization and structure of the League meant that it was always going to fail.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer.

16 Marks

Strengths and weaknesses of the League of Nations

Strengths:	Weaknesses:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It was written into all of the peace treaties at the end of the First World War, so all nations involved had signed an agreement that recognised the organisation.• It had a vast membership.• As there were so many members, economic sanctions and moral condemnation were daunting punishments for many countries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Many important countries did not, or would not, join the League. The USA, for example, never joined. This undermined the League as a 'global' organisation and meant that if a country faced economic sanctions it could still trade with some of the most powerful and richest countries.• The League had no army, which meant that it could not force people to obey it.• The structure was very complicated. It confused people and slowed action.• Decisions had to be unanimous, which meant that decision-making was slow.

‘The League of Nations failed more often than it succeeded in the 1920s’ How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [16 marks]

TIP: Use your contextual knowledge (from the links you have been given) to explain both the failures and the successes that the League had in the 1920s. Remember, you can refer to both the League’s humanitarian work and the border disputes it faced.

Keeping the Peace a=complete success b=partial success c=slight failure d=complete failure

Humanitarian aims a=complete success b=partial success c=slight failure d=complete failure

Overall a=complete success b=partial success c=slight failure d=complete failure



BALKANDUM AND BALKANDEE.

"JUST THEN CAME DOWN A MONSTROUS DOVE
WHOSE FORCE WAS PURELY MORAL,
WHICH TURNED THE HEROES' HEARTS TO LOVE
AND MADE THEM DROP THEIR QUARREL."—LEWIS CARROLL (adapted).





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SO WHAT QUESTION MIGHT THE EXAMINER SET USING THIS SOURCE?



BALKANDUM AND BALKANDEE.

"JUST THEN CAME DOWN A MONSTROUS DOVE
WHOSE FORCE WAS PURELY MORAL,
WHICH TURNED THE HEROES' HEARTS TO LOVE
AND MADE THEM FORGIVE EACH OTHER."

League successes in the 1920s

- **Upper Silesia (1921)**- on the border between Germany and Poland and both wanted to claim it as it was valuable in iron and steel. A plebiscite (a nationwide vote) was held to decide but when the result was too close to call, the LON suggested that Upper Silesia be split between them.
- **The Aaland Islands (1921)** belonged to Finland but most people there wanted to be ruled by Sweden. The LON ruled that the islands should remain with Finland but they could not build forts on the islands so they could not attack Sweden. Both sides accepted.
- **Bulgaria (1925)** was invaded by Greece when some Greek soldiers were killed. Bulgaria asked for the League's help who ordered the Greeks to remove their troops and pay compensation.

League failures in the 1920s

- **Corfu (1923)**, a Greek island, was occupied by Italy in 1923 after an Italian diplomat was shot dead. Italy's leader, Mussolini also demanded that Greece pay compensation. At first the League demanded that Italy leave and fined the Greeks, but Mussolini appealed to the other powerful permanent members, including, Britain and France, who undermined the League and forced Greece to apologise and pay compensation.
- **Vilna (1920)** was chosen as the capital of the newly formed Lithuania, however most of the population were Polish. Poland seized Vilna and refused to give it up when told so by the League. France refused to act against Poland as she valued her as an ally and Britain would not act without help from France

Both these crises showed that the league was powerless to act against powerful countries and that the self-interest of some its members prevented them from backing up the League's decision.

SUCCESS OR FAILURE

Many historians are critical of the League of Nations, saying that the League had little impact on the world. These historians claim that the League was a failure in the 1920s. An example of this is the Corfu crisis. In 1923 a group of Italian surveyors working in Corfu were murdered. Mussolini blamed Greece and demanded compensation and when Greece did not pay he attacked the island. Greece turned to the League of Nations for support. It told Mussolini to remove his troops from Corfu but he demanded that another international body, the Conference of Ambassadors, deal with the incident. Greece was forced to pay compensation and apologise to Italy. This event is an example of the League of Nations failing in the 1920s because the League could not force an aggressive country to do anything, which undermined their power considerably.

However, other historians argue that the League had many successes in the 1920s. There were half a million prisoners of war who were stranded across Europe after the First World War. Many were living in terrible conditions. The League's Refugee Commission worked to free around 427,000 prisoners of war and send them back to their homes, which was a great humanitarian success. In 1921 the leader of the Refugee Commission, Fridtjof Nansen was awarded a Nobel Prize for his work, which demonstrates that these acts were considered a great success of the League in the 1920s.

Overall I do not agree with the statement. The League tackled many difficult issues during the 1920s and was highly likely to get things wrong because the problems it was dealing with were new. When dealing with aggression, such as the Corfu crisis, the League was indeed a failure. However, one should not ignore the humanitarian successes of the League at this time. Maybe politically the League was a failure, but to the individuals whom it helped, the League was a great help and a great success.

Other International Agreements

- In the 1920s, countries began making treaties between themselves, **bypassing the League** altogether. This either showed that they were learning to get on peacefully or they had no confidence in the League to keep peace!
- **Washington Conference 1921:** USA, Britain, France and Japan agreed to reduce the size of their navies.
- **Locarno Treaty 1925-** in a bid to improve relations between France and Germany, the German Foreign Minister, Gustav Stresemann, proposed meeting with France. They agreed that Germany would accept the borders that the TOV had defined and would give up any claims on land such as Alsace-Lorraine. They also promised that they would try to solve disputes peacefully.
- **Kellogg-Briand Pact 1928-** 65 nations agreed not to use aggression to settle arguments.

Great Depression

- In 1929, the American Stock Market crashed (the **Wall Street Crash**) which triggered a worldwide economic depression
- As US businesses started to collapse and banks close, America stopped lending money abroad and asked for its loans to be paid back.
- Countries which relied on US money, including Germany, were heavily affected. German unemployment rose to 6 million by 1932.
- The Great Depression had a serious impact on the ability of the League to maintain peace:
- The Depression caused widespread poverty and unemployment which made people turn to right-wing, extremist parties who promised to solve their problems. Such parties, included the Nazis, had aggressive foreign policies which undermined the work of the League
- Countries like Britain and France were much less willing to help the League solve disputes as they wanted to concentrate on dealing with their own domestic problems caused by the Depression
- The only real weapon the League had was economic sanctions (stopping trading with a country as a punishment). However, during an economic crisis, countries would be much more reluctant to stop trading with another country as this would affect their own economies.

Japan and Manchuria

1931

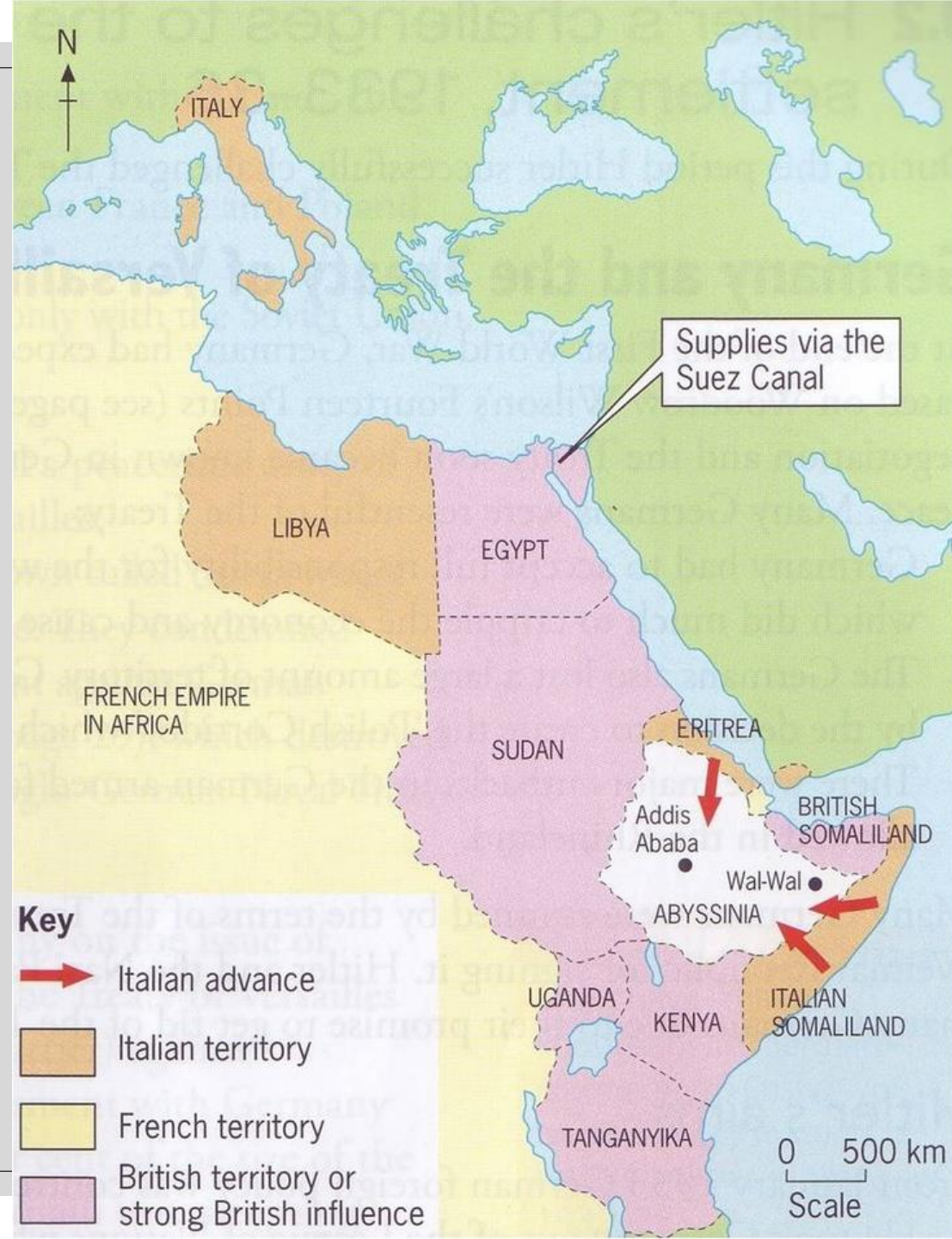


Manchuria 1931

- The League faced its first major crisis in 1931 when Japan invaded Manchuria, a province of China
- **Causes**
- Japan had been heavily affected by the Great Depression as its main export, silk (a luxury item) was no longer in demand. This caused high unemployment. In addition, Japan lacked space and natural resources and therefore, started to look elsewhere to expand
- Manchuria was ideal for Japanese expansion for a number of reasons:
- Rich in fertile farming land
- Japan already had a 'foothold' there including the South Manchurian Railway
- It would be an opportunity to settle old scores with countries such as Russia and China who had both sought Manchuria in the past.
- Taking Manchuria would divert people's attention from their problems at home
- **Events**
- In September 1931, Japan used an explosion on the South Manchuria railway as an excuse to attack, claiming that Chinese guards committed the explosion. The Kwantung army took over Manchuria and renamed it Manchuko. They put in place a 'puppet ruler' to keep control

Manchuria 1931

- **League's actions**
- The League sent Lord Lytton to assess the situation. He produced a report that said the Japanese had been wrong but Japan refused to accept the report and withdrew from the League in 1933. They went on to invade the Chinese Province of Jehol.
- The League was reluctant to take further action because of many reasons:
- Japan was an important trading partner for many countries in the League
- Many felt that Japan had previous claims to Manchuria and were within their rights to take it
- European members felt that it was too far away from home to be of any real concern to them
- Countries such as the League could not afford to send troops because they were still battling the Depression at home
- **Consequences for the League**
- The Manchurian Crisis clearly showed that the League had failed as one of its own permanent members had ignored the Covenant and acted with aggression. It also showed that if a country refused to following the orders of the League, there was little it could do. Some would also argue that powerful leaders such as Hitler and Mussolini were encouraged by the lack of action taken by the League. However, many argue that the crisis was not the final death blow to the League as many were convinced that if a similar act of aggression happened on European soil, the League would act more assertively.



Abyssinia 1935

- Many argue that the final deathblow for the League came after its failure to deal effectively with Italy's invasion of Abyssinia in 1935. Abyssinia, now called Ethiopia, was an independent country in north-west Africa
- **Causes**
- Mussolini, Italy's dictator, wanted Abyssinia for a number of reasons:
- Abyssinia had defeated Italy in 1896 and the Italians wanted revenge
- Success would divert people's attention from the Depression & increase Mussolini's image
- Mussolini dreamed of making Italy a great empire again and was impressed by Japan's success in Manchuria
- Abyssinia was rich in natural resources and had fertile soil
- Mussolini was confident that the League would not take action (as proved when it failed to stop him over the Corfu incident) and he was also confident that Britain and France would not stop him as they needed Italy as an ally against Hitler (in 1935 they had signed the **Stresa Front**, agreeing that they would unite against Hitler)

Abyssinia 1935

- **Events**

- In October 1935, Mussolini sent troops with heavy artillery into Abyssinia following a clash between Italian soldiers and Abyssinians at Wal Wal in December 1934
- The Abyssinia leader, Haile Selassie, appealed directly to the League of Nations who morally condemned the invasion
- In December 1935, Britain and France sent their foreign ministers, Hoare and Laval to negotiate with Italy separately from the League. They agreed that Italy should be given parts of Abyssinia
- By May 1936, Italy had conquered all of Abyssinia

- **League's actions**

- The League did impose economic sanctions but these did not include oil, steel, iron or coal because Britain was worried that banning coal would further unemployment in her mining industries. The USA will still supply Mussolini with oil as she was outside of the League and therefore, sanctions didn't apply
- The League failed to close the Suez Canal to Italian ships so they could still get supplies through

Abyssinia 1935

- **Consequences for the League**
- In May 1936, Italy left the League. The failure of the LON to take action against a clear act of aggression proved to many that the members of the League were more interested in their own welfare rather than upholding the Covenant of the League. The fact that Britain and France had made the Hoare-Laval Pact outside of the League showed that one of the core principles of the League, collective security, had failed. Finally, powerful and aggressive dictators such as Mussolini and Hitler knew that without an army and ineffective economic sanctions, the League was powerless to stop them. The LON had lost most of its influence after the Abyssinia Crisis and had become largely irrelevant by the outbreak of WW2

Why did the League fail?

- There were many reasons why the League failed. These include:
- The League had no way to enforce its decisions as it had no army and their economic sanctions were ineffective as shown by those taken against Italy over her invasion of Abyssinia
- The structure of the League had weaknesses. For example, a unanimous decision was needed in the Assembly which made it difficult to take swift action in an emergency. Also, the permanent members of the Council could veto (stop) important decisions if their own self-interest could be damaged
- The League did not have the strongest country, America, as a member who had the financial and military strength to support the League. Also, when it was first formed, Germany and Russia were not allowed to be members which excluded two potentially powerful contributors to the League. Finally, other powerful countries such as Japan and Italy left the League
- The Great Depression meant that countries such as Britain and France were more concerned in dealing with their own domestic problems and didn't want to risk their own economies by committing troops or resources to help the League. It also led to the rise in support of aggressive dictators such as Hitler
- The big, powerful countries did not uphold the Covenant of the League which promised that countries would work together

PART 2 –
EXAM
PRACTICE

Source A is critical of the **League of Nations**. How do you know? Explain your answer using Source A and your contextual knowledge

Source A

A cartoon drawn by Viktor Deni in 1919 and published in Soviet newspapers.

Deni was an important Communist and the words in Russian say, 'The League of Nations: Capitalists of all countries unite!' The three seated figures represent France, the US and Great Britain.



How useful are
Sources B and **C** to an
historian studying the
League of Nations?
Explain your answer
using **Sources B** and **C**
and your contextual
knowledge.

Source B

Adapted from a recruitment pamphlet published by the League of Nations Union in 1925.

The League of Nations Union was a British organisation formed in October 1918 which promoted the ideals of the League of Nations. By the mid-1920s, it had over 250,000 supporters.

The League has achieved so much in the last four years; it has prevented war between Sweden and Finland; settled the disagreement over Upper Silesia, and created an International Health Office.

The League has not achieved more because it does not have, as yet, the support of the whole world. So this means there is a need to tell people about the League.

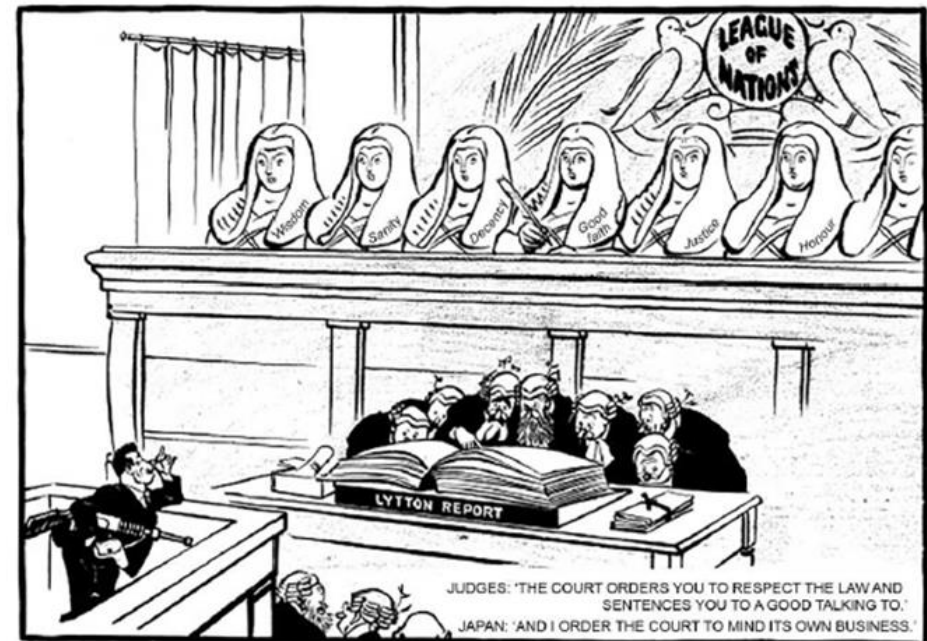
Taxpayers, businessmen, ex-soldiers, and women should all join our Union to demand the prevention of future wars.

5

Source C

A cartoon published in Britain in 1932.

The figure holding the gun is Japan who is on trial in front of the League of Nations, in Geneva.



‘The main reason why the **League of Nations** could not stop aggression in the 1930s was because the USA was not a member.’

How far do you agree with this statement?

Explain your answer.

Lets plan this answer together: