

**Hey, Lets Go To France**  
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Suggested Grade Level: High School; American History/Government

**General Directions:**

The following question is based on the accompanying documents. Some of these documents have been edited for the purpose of this exercise. Study each document and answer the question(s) attached to the document. You will be using these documents and your answers to respond to an essay relating to the topic.

**Assignment:**

You are required to compose a four to five paragraph essay that incorporates facts from the documents in addition to your knowledge of the primary historical periods in American History: 1783 through 1973.

**Question: How did the Paris Peace Accords of 1973 significantly differ from previous American peace treaties?**

**Historical Overview:**

Although the United States has only declared war five times in its history (War of 1812, War with Mexico, Spanish-American War, World War I and World War II) it has, nonetheless, been involved in numerous conflicts with foreign countries that have also required peace negotiations to end hostilities. The Treaty of Paris, 1783 ended the conflict between Great Britain and the United States, the San Francisco Peace Treaty ended the United State's involvement in World War II and the Paris Peace Accords ended the American presence in Vietnam in 1973. In the majority of these peace negotiations, the United States has been an, if not the primary, entity that determined the negotiating points chiefly because of its identification as a victor. This was not necessarily the case of the negotiations that concluded the American involvement in Vietnam in 1973.

**Document 1: Treaty of Paris, 1783 (excerpt)**

It having pleased the Divine Providence to dispose the hearts of the most serene and most potent Prince George the Third, by the grace of God, king of Great Britain , ... and of the United States of America, to forget all past misunderstandings and differences that have unhappily interrupted the good correspondence and friendship which they mutually wish to restore, and to establish such a beneficial and satisfactory intercourse , between the two countries upon the ground of reciprocal advantages and mutual convenience as may promote and secure to both perpetual peace and harmony...;

**Question 1:** What two parties/countries are negotiating peace?

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**Document 2: Treaty of Paris, 1783 (excerpt)**

a...His Britannic Majesty acknowledges the said United States... to be free sovereign and independent states...

b...It is agreed that the people of the United States shall continue to enjoy unmolested the right to take fish of every kind on the Grand Bank and on all the other banks of Newfoundland, also in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence and at all other places in the sea, where the inhabitants of both countries used at any time heretofore to fish...

c...It is agreed that Congress shall earnestly recommend it to the legislatures of the respective states to provide for the restitution of all estates, rights, and properties, which have been confiscated belonging to real British subjects...

d...There shall be a firm and perpetual peace between his Britannic Majesty and the said states...

e ...The navigation of the river Mississippi, from its source to the ocean, shall forever remain free and open to the subjects of Great Britain and the citizens of the United States...

**Question 2:** For each of the five paragraphs above (a through e), what are the agreements and which country appears to *yield* to the other?

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

d. \_\_\_\_\_

e. \_\_\_\_\_

**Document 3: Treaty of Paris, 1783 (excerpt)**

WHEREAS the Allied Powers and Japan are resolved that henceforth their relations shall be those of nations which, as sovereign equals, cooperate in friendly association to promote their common welfare and to maintain international peace and security, and are therefore desirous of concluding a Treaty of Peace which will settle questions still outstanding as a result of the existence of a state of war between them

**Question 3:** What parties/countries are negotiating peace?

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## Document 4: San Francisco Peace Treaty, 1951 (excerpt)

### PEACE

#### Article 1

(a) The state of war between Japan and each of the Allied Powers is terminated as from the date on which the present Treaty comes into force between Japan and the Allied Power concerned as provided for in Article 23.

(b) The Allied Powers recognize the full sovereignty of the Japanese people over Japan and its territorial waters. ...

(a) Japan recognizing the independence of Korea, renounces all right, title and claim to Korea, including the islands of Quelpart, Port Hamilton and Dagelet.

(b) Japan renounces all right, title and claim to Formosa and the Pescadores.

(c) Japan renounces all right, title and claim to the Kurile Islands, and to that portion of Sakhalin and the islands adjacent to it over which Japan acquired sovereignty as a consequence of the Treaty of Portsmouth of 5 September 1905.

(d) Japan renounces all right, title and claim in connection with the League of Nations Mandate System, and accepts the action of the United Nations Security Council of 2 April 1947, extending the trusteeship system to the Pacific Islands formerly under mandate to Japan.

(e) Japan renounces all claim to any right or title to or interest in connection with any part of the Antarctic area, whether deriving from the activities of Japanese nationals or otherwise.

(f) Japan renounces all right, title and claim to the Spratly Islands and to the Paracel Islands.

#### Article 3

Japan will concur in any proposal of the United States to the United Nations to place under its trusteeship system, with the United States as the sole administering authority,

a) It is recognized that Japan should pay reparations to the Allied Powers for the damage and suffering caused by it during the war. Nevertheless it is also recognized that the resources of Japan are not presently sufficient, if it is to maintain a viable economy, to make complete reparation for all such damage and suffering and at the same time meet its other obligations.

**Question 4: List all requirements of Japan as part of the peace treaty and then list all requirements of the Allied nations under this treaty.**

Japan	Allied Powers
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**Document 5: Paris Peace Accords, 1973 (excerpts)**

Article 1

.... The United States and all other countries respect the independence, sovereignty, unity, and territorial integrity of Viet-Nam as recognized by the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet-Nam . . .

Article 2

...A cease fire shall be observed throughout South Viet-Nam as of 2400 hours G.M.T., on January 27, 1973. At the same hour, the United States will stop all its military activities against the territory of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam ...

Article 4

...The United States will not continue its military involvement or intervene in the internal affairs of South Viet-Nam.

Article 5

...Within sixty days of the signing of this Agreement, there will be a total withdrawal from South Viet-Nam of troops, military advisers, and military ...

Article 8

(a) The return of captured military personnel and foreign civilians of the parties shall be carried out simultaneously with and completed not later than the same day as the troop withdrawal mentioned in Article 5. The parties shall exchange complete lists of the above-mentioned captured military personnel and foreign civilians on the day of the signing of this Agreement.

