### Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Points Speech

### Summary of the Fourteen Points

1. There should be no secret alliances between countries
2. Freedom of the seas in peace and war
3. The reduction of trade barriers among nations
4. The general reduction of armaments
5. Adjustment of colonial claims in the interests of inhabitants as well as colonial powers
6. Evacuation of Russian territory and a welcome for its government to the society of nations
7. The restoration of Belgian territories in Germany
8. The evacuation of all French territory, including Alsace-Lorraine
9. The readjustment of Italian boundaries along clearly recognizable lines of nationality
10. Independence for various national groups in Austria-Hungary
11. The restoration of the Balkan nations and free access to the sea for Serbia
12. Protection of former Ottomans, the chance to create their own autonomous nations and the free passage of the ships of all nations through the Dardanelles
13. Independence for Poland, including access to the sea
14. A “League of Nations” to protect "mutual guarantees of political independence and territorial integrity to great and small nations alike."

“In regard to these essential rectifications of wrong and assertions of right, we feel ourselves to be intimate partners of all the governments and peoples associated together against the imperialists. We cannot be separated in interest or divided in purpose. We stand together until the end.

For such arrangements and covenants we are willing to fight and to continue to fight until they are achieved; but only because we wish the right to prevail and desire a just and stable peace such as can be secured only by removing the chief provocations to war, which this program does remove.

We have spoken now, surely, in terms too concrete to admit of any further doubt or question. An evident principle runs through the whole program I have outlined. It is the principle of justice to all peoples and nationalities, and their right to live on equal terms of liberty and safety with one another, whether they be strong or weak.

Unless this principle be made its foundation, no part of the structure of international justice can stand. The people of the United States could act upon no other principle, and to the vindication of this principle they are ready to devote their lives, their honor, and everything that they possess. The moral climax of this, the culminating and final war for human liberty has come, and they are ready to put their own strength, their own highest purpose, their own integrity and devotion to the test.”

Remember the main points of Wilson's ideas are:

* Pro-democracy
* Pro-capitalism
* Pro-ethnic state creation
* Pro-intervention (to sustain peace)
* Anti-isolationism
* Anti-imperialist

Formative: Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Points Letter

Now that we have considered Woodrow Wilson's *Fourteen Points* speech, your job is to write a letter to Woodrow Wilson agreeing or disagreeing with his theory that America should become involved internationally in order to fight for democracy and ensure world peace. Your letter should be one page, typed, and double-spaced. Feel free to quote Wilson and his ideas, give your own opinions and use modern or historical examples of why it does or does not work.

Make sure to start a new paragraph when discussing a new idea, and give specific ideas why you think it is or isn't a good idea. Only argue one side. Also, make sure to consider at least two of Wilson's main points listed above.

Letters will be marked based on the following criteria:

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|  | Level One | Level Two | Level Three | Level Four |
| Knowledge: Are the details of the letter historically accurate? | The details of the letter are not historically accurate | The details of the letter are somewhat historically accurate | The details of the letter are historically accurate | The details of the letter are very historically accurate |
| Application: Does the letter offer sound conclusions and connections? | The letter does not offer sound conclusions and connections | The letter offers some sound conclusions and connections | The letter offers sound conclusions and connections | The letter offers very sound conclusions and connections |
| Application: Does the letter demonstrate understanding of Wilson’s life and times?  | The letter does not demonstrate understanding of Wilson’s life and times | The letter demonstrates some understanding of Wilson’s life and times | The letter demonstrates understanding of Wilson’s life and times | The letter demonstrates strong understanding of Wilson’s life and times |