

# diplomacy

Read the quotations and definitions below. Write one point about each quotation, explaining its connection with **diplomacy**.

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## Thoughts on Ending a War

“It must be a peace without victory ... Victory would mean peace forced upon the loser, a victor’s terms imposed upon **the vanquished**. It would be accepted in humiliation, under **duress**, at an intolerable sacrifice, and would leave a ... resentment, a bitter memory upon which terms of peace would rest, not permanently, but upon quicksand. Only a peace between equals can last.”

— Woodrow Wilson, January 1917

**the vanquished:** *the side that was defeated*

**duress:** *pressure, demand*

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“The deeper we penetrated into the spirit of this treaty, the more we became convinced of its **impracticability**. The demands raised go beyond the power of the German Nation ... We know the impact of the hate we are encountering here, and we have heard the demand of the victors, who require us, the defeated, to pay the bill and plan to punish us as the guilty party. We are asked to confess ourselves the sole culprits; in my view, such a confession would be a lie ...”

— Count Brockdorff-Rantzau, German foreign secretary and leader of the delegation to Versailles, May 1919

**impracticability:** *difficulty, unworkability*