Borders of the Middle East



Directions for Creating a Map of the Middle East

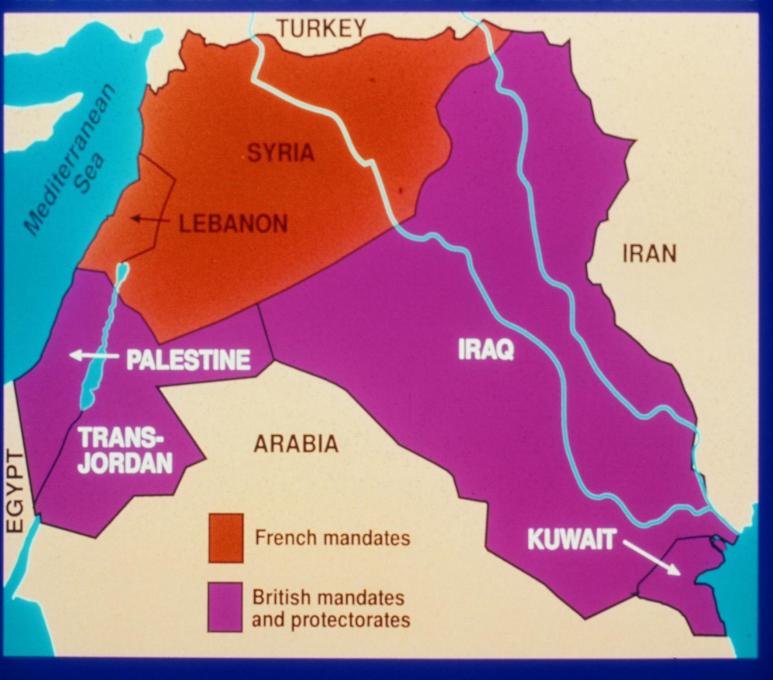
Your map must include the following

- A. The borders of six new nations in the Middle East
- B. Names of each of the six nations
- C. On the back, an explanation of why you placed the borders where you did
- D. On the back a list of two strengths and two weaknesses of your map based on the extent to which your map will reduce or increase conflict

Goals

- Design borders that will produce as little conflict as possible within each nation and throughout the region
- Consider physiographic features
- Ethnicities
- Religions
- Population Distribution

The Middle East After the World War I Peace Settlement



 During World War I, Britain had supported Husayn ibn Ali, Shaykh of Makkah, and his followers in their revolt against the Ottoman Empire. Husayn believed that after World War I Britain planned to make him the ruler of an Arab nation encompassing most of the Middle East.



 However, Britain never truly supported this. Instead, the British and French had signed a secret agreement, called the Sykes-Picot Agreement, in which they divided the land of the Middle East into

British and French mandates and protectorates, similar to colonies.

Foreign Office, November 2nd, 1917.

Ream Land Patheahild

I have much pleasure in conveying to you, on behalf of His Majesty's Government, the following declaration of sympathy with Jewish Zionist aspirations which has been submitted to, and approved by, the Cabinet

"His Majesty's Covernment view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object. It being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country"

I should be grateful if you would bring this declaration to the knowledge of the Zionist Federation.

Angen By

 The two European nations drew the borders of the six new nations-Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Palestine, and Syria-based on their own interests in the region, including access to potential oil resources, strategic military bases, and control of and security for trade routes.



 To maintain alliances in the region, the British installed two of Husayn's sons as kings of Iraq and Jordan. The majority of Arabs living in the European-carved mandates resented the intervention of Europeans. They felt thrust into new regional entities that did not reflect their identities and to which they had no allegiance. Middle Eastern borders have not changed significantly since the British and French divisions.