

# Borders of the Middle East



# Directions for Creating a Map of the Middle East

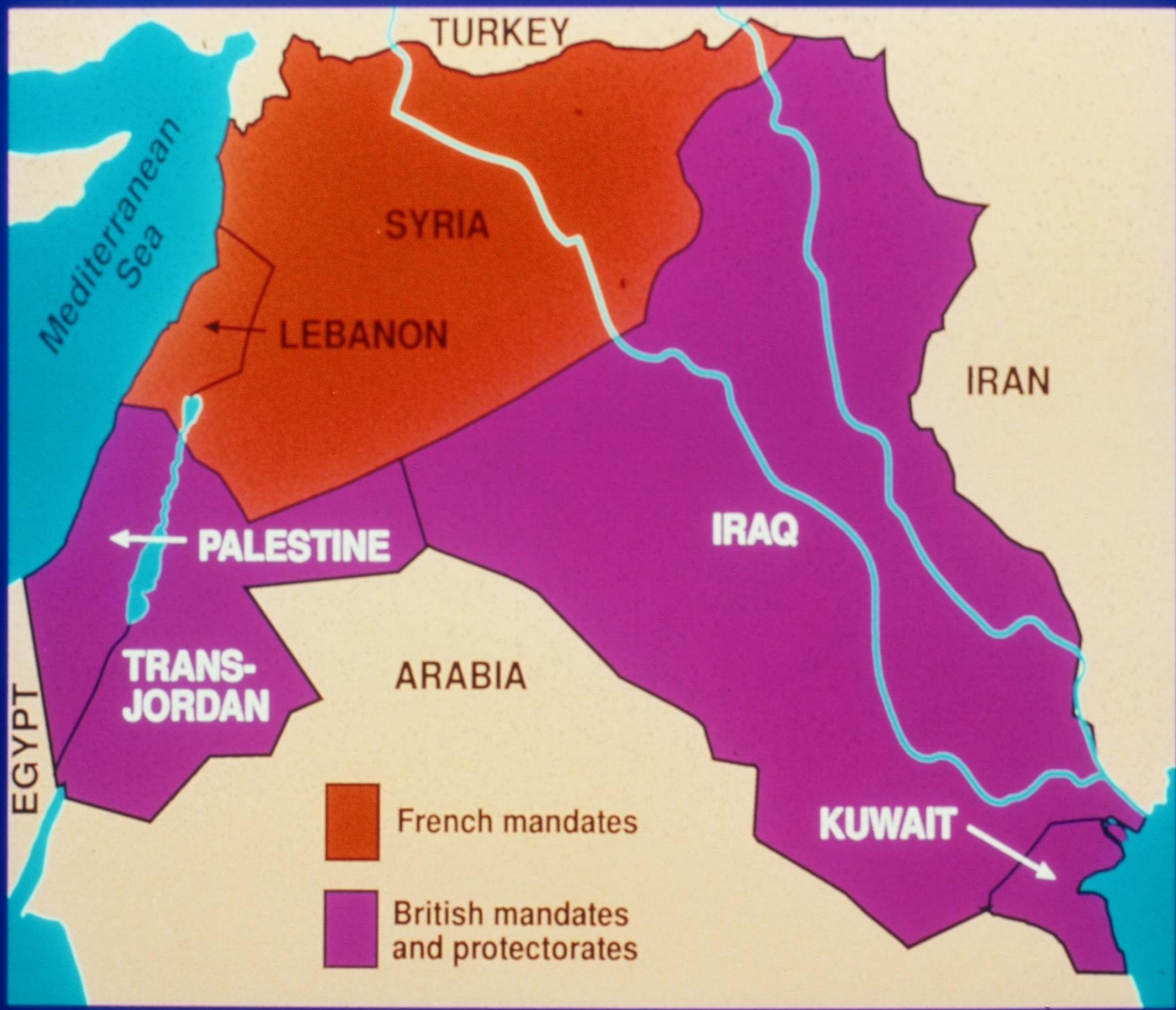
## **Your map must include the following**

- 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

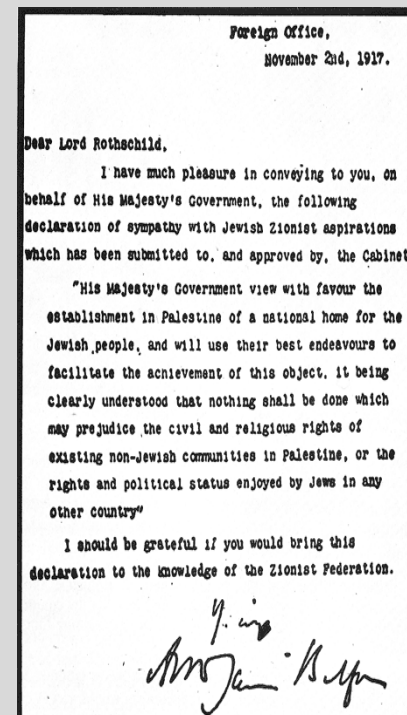


- During World War I, Britain had supported Husayn ibn Ali, Shaykh of Makkah, and his followers in their revolt against the Ottoman Empire. Husayn believed that after World War I Britain planned to make him the ruler of an Arab nation encompassing most of the Middle East.





- 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.





- 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.

