Failed Diplomacy: The Zimmermann Telegram
Seventh Grade Worksheet

1) What do the cartoons in slides 1 & 2 indicate about America’s attitude about the “war in Europe?”

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2) If you were the President of the United States, what would be your reaction to the Zimmermann Telegram?

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3) What country did Germany want Mexico to convince to abandon the Allies?

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4) What was Germany’s first intention toward America?

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5) What did Germany hope to accomplish by having Mexico attack the United States?

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6) Why was the government reluctant to share its information with the Senate?

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7) Would you believe the telegram was genuine when it was first revealed?

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8) What was America’s first response to the Zimmermann telegram?

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9) How do you interpret the Dallas Morning News cartoon entitled “The Temptation?”

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10) How long was the Zimmermann Telegram in the hands of U.S. President Woodrow Wilson?

11) What was Chancellor Bethmann-Hollweg’s reaction to America’s severing of diplomatic relations with Germany?

12) Who was Baron von Schoen?

13) What is the reaction of the British populace in the article entitled, “German Plot Proves Sensation in London?”
14) Based on the aforementioned article, what was the reaction in the U.S.?

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15) Based on your reading of the Dallas Morning News article in slide 12, what was Texas’s reaction toward Carranza and the Mexican government?

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16) What does the cartoon “Another Plan Gone Wrong” imply about German foreign policy?

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17) What do the political cartoons on slide 9 state about the U.S. attitude toward WWI?

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18) Had Japan received any “propositions” from Germany or Mexico?

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19) What did Japan think about the idea that she would abandon her allies?

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20) What does the cartoon entitled the “First Casualties” imply about the government’s reaction to the Zimmermann Telegram?

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21) What do you think that cartoon suggests about the newspaper’s position on going to war?

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22) Based on the article entitled “In Safe Hands,” did most people trust President Wilson to make the “right” decisions regarding U.S. entry into World War I?

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23) Based on the cartoon “Johnny Yank,” what was the Allies’ reaction to America’s entry into the war?

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24) Why did the Allies want/need the United States?

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25) How many loans had Britain received from U.S. bankers since the outbreak of the war?

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26) Who guaranteed the loan to Britain?

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27) Were these loans important to Britain’s war effort? Explain.

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28) Why was food conservation important during the war?

29) How do the posters and cartoons portray German? Why do they do this?