The Thirty Years' War: The European World at War

Part A. Use your textbook and the chart below to answer the questions at the end.

TABLE 5 States involved in the Thirty Years' War

1. What states outside the Empire were involved in the Bohemian phase of the Thirty Years' War?
2. During the Swedish phase of the war, which states fought for the Emperor? Which states fought against the Emperor?
3. Which states switched sides during the course of the war, and when did each switch?
4. The Thirty Years' War has been considered an early model for a world war. What evidence from the chart leads to this conclusion?
Finally, that the Troops and Armies of all those who are making War in the Empire, shall be disbanded and discharg'd; only each Party shall send to and keep up as many Men in his own Dominion, as he shall judge necessary for his Security.

That nevertheless the concluded Peace shall remain in force, and all Partys in this Transaction shall be oblig'd to defend and protect all and every Article of this Peace against any one, without distinction of Religion; and if it happens any point shall be violat'd, the Offended shall before all things exhort the Offender not to come to any Hostility, submitting the Cause to a friendly Composition, or the ordinary Proceedings of Justice.

In Testimony of all and each of these things, and for their greater Validity, the Ambassadors of their Imperial and most Christian Majestys, and the Deputies, in the name of all the Electors, Princes, and States of the Empire, sent particularly for this end (by virtue of what has been concluded the 13th of October, in the Year hereafter mention'd, and has been deliver'd to the Ambassador of France the very day of signing under the Seal of the Chancellor of Mentz) viz. For the Elector of Mayence, Monsieur Nicolas George de Retgersberg, Knight and Chancellor; for the Elector of Bavarta, Monsieur John Adolph Krebs, Privy Counsellor; for the Elector of Brandenburg, Monsieur John Count of Sain and Witgenstein, Lord of Homburg and Vallendar, Privy Counsellor.

1. According to the Treaty, what nations participated in the war?
2. What caused the war?
3. How was the religious base of society recognized in the Treaty of Westphalia?
4. What rights were given to the states of the Holy Roman Empire in the treaty?
5. What provisions were made for the military in the treaty?


Part C. Listed below are fabricated monologues of three major characters who represent the varied interests of all the major combatants in the Thirty Years' War. You will be assigned to a group to research one of these roles in the war. In your group, answer the following four questions from the perspective of your character in preparation for presenting the man's views to the class.

Questions:
1. What were the objectives of the man?
2. During what years did the man's country participate in the war?
3. Why did the man's country participate in the war?
4. How does the Treaty of Westphalia measure the success or failure of the man in achieving his goals? Give specific examples.

Characters:

EMPEROR FERDINAND II (d. 1637): “My role as Holy Roman Emperor was quite clear—to eliminate the Protestant heresy in my own lands and restore the unity of the Empire. People claimed that I was not too clever; but that made little difference since God had spoken to me in a vision promising He would never abandon me. So I mounted my crusade, mortgaging the crown jewels and emptying the treasury. Of course, there was opposition, but I
Part B. Read the following excerpts from the Treaty of Westphalia (1648) and answer the questions at the end.

**TREATY OF WESTPHALIA**
Munster, October 24, 1648

_Peace Treaty between the Holy Roman Emperor and the King of France and their respective Allies_.

_In the name of the most holy and individual Trinity: Be it known to all, and every one whom it may concern, or to whom in any manner it may belong, That for many Years past, Discords and Civil Divisions being stir'd up in the Roman Empire, which increas'd to such a degree, that not only all Germany, but also the neighbouring Kingdoms, and France particularly, have been involv'd in the Disorders of a long and cruel War: And in the first place, between the most Serene and most Puissant Prince and Lord, Ferdinand the Second, of famous Memory, elected Roman Emperor, always August, King of Germany, Hungary, Bohemia, Dalmattia, Croatia, Slavonta, with his Allies and Adherents on one side; and the most Serene, and the most Puissant Prince, Lewis the Thirteenth, most Christian King of France and Navarre, with his Allies and Adherents on the other side. . . .

After having implor'd the Divine Assistance, and receiv'd a reciprocal Communication of Letters, Commissions, and full Powers, the Copy which are inserted at the end of this Treaty, in the presence and with the consent of the Electors of the Sacred Roman Empire, the other Princes and States, to the Glory of God, and the Benefit of the Christian World, the following Articles have been agreed on and consented to, and the same run thus._

_I._

That there shall be a Christian and Universal Peace, and a perpetual, true, and sincere Amity, between his Sacred Imperial Majesty, and his most Christian Majesty; as also, between all and each of the Allies, and Adherents of his said Imperial majesty, the House of Austria, and its Heirs, and Successors; but chiefly between the Electors, Princes, and States of the Empire on the one side; and all and each of the Allies of his said Christian Majesty, and all their Heirs and Successors, chiefly between the most serene Queen and Kingdom of Sweedeland, the Electors respectively, the Princes and States of the Empire, on the other part. That this Peace and Amity be observ'd and cultivated with such a Sincerity and Zeal, that each Party shall endeavour to procure the Benefit, Honour and Advantage of the other; that thus on all sides they may see this Peace and Friendship in the Roman Empire, and the Kingdom of France flourish, by entertaining a good and faithful Neighbourhood.

_II._

That there shall be on the one side and the other a perpetual Oblivion. Amnesty, or Pardon of all that has been committed since the beginning of these Troubles, in what place, or what manner soever the Hostilities have been practis'd, in such a manner, that no body, under any pretext whatsoever, shall practice any Acts of Hostility, entertain any Enmity, or cause any Trouble to each other. . . .

_LXIV._

And to prevent for the future any Differences arising in the Politick State, all and every one of the Electors, Princes and States of the Roman Empire, are so establish'd and confirm'd in their antient Rights, Prerogatives, Libertys, Privileges, free exercise of Territorial Right, as well Ecclesiastick, as Politick Lordships, Regales, by virtue of this present Transaction: that they never can or ought to be molested therein by an whomsoever upon any manner of pretence.
was clearly right. In 1629, my Edict of Restitution returned the world to the clear lines established in 1555 at Augsburg. But then I had to deal with that bizarre Swedish king and, worse yet, the Catholic Cardinal Richelieu allied with him. Nevertheless, I charged on with rampaging fury. After all, it was my duty.”

GUSTAV ADOLPHUS (d. 1632): “I hate the Catholics. You know I can smell a Catholic within gunshot, and when I have had to take one by the hand, I’ve felt as if I were taking hold of a snake. That’s why I didn’t need a declaration of war. A war to unite Lutherans and Calvinists, politically and militarily, to crush the foe in his own domain and emerge with a unified state for all Protestants was my goal. Perhaps, too, I could become Holy Roman Emperor myself.”

CARDINAL RICHELIEU (d. 1642): In the midst of a thunder storm, the voice of Richelieu came from beneath his bed, addressing his lord, Louis XIII: “There is, in diplomacy, a moment to act, my lord. We aided the Danes, the Swedes, and the German Protestant princes. The moment has come for France itself to enter the war against the Habsburgs whose pretext of religion, which they have always sought to use, now serves them only as a cloak to hide their illicit ambitions to unite the German states and encircle France and destroy her. The moment to act is now!”