**Calvin**

**US History**

**United States: Franklin Delano Roosevelt:**

**Background:**

FDR’s health was in sharp decline by 1945. He attended Yalta against the wished of his doctors, realizing the importance of the conference for the post war world and a sustained peace. In most cases, FDR was on board with Churchill. However, he was in opposition of imperialism and believed that the citizens of a nation should choose their government through the process of democracy. Unlike Churchill, FDR believed that compromise with Stalin was possible. FDR realized the importance of a good relationship with the Soviet Union.

**Agenda:**

* Germany:
  + Accept only unconditional surrender
  + Temporary occupation
  + Rebuild and reunite Germany
  + Demilitarize Germany
* Europe:
  + Free democratic elections in occupied Easter European countries
  + Allow exiled Poles to return to Poland and receive positions in government
* Asia:
  + Persuade Stalin and the Soviet Union to enter the Pacific War in Japan
* United Nations
  + Creation of a new international organization to sustain peace in Europe and throughout the world.
  + The United States, Great Britain, and the Soviet Union would hold the positions of dominance in the organization.

**Soviet Union: Joseph Stalin**

**Background:**

By 1945, Stalin’s Red Army had pushed the German forces west of Berlin. In the process, Stalin already had occupancy of Eastern Europe and Poland. Effectively, this put him in a position of power at the bargaining table during the conference. Stalin held a mistrust of Churchill and Great Britain and was fearful of being ganged up on by the Americans and British. His main concern was ensuring a position of power and security for the Soviet Union. Finally, Stalin was critical of the Free French, believing that they had contributed little to the war effort and were not entitled to any position of power in the post war world.

**Agenda:**

* Germany:
  + Accept only unconditional surrender, demilitarization
  + Break apart Germany into zones of occupation
  + Claim Berlin for Germany
  + Make Germany pay for the war, reparations (money) and forced labor
* Europe:
  + The pro-communist Poles should retain power in Poland
  + The Soviets will keep the piece of Poland they annexed at the beginning of the war.
* Asia:
  + Expand Soviet interests in Asia, (territory in Japan, access to railways in China)
* United Nations**:**
  + Undecided on involvement in an international organization

**Great Britain: Winston Churchill**

**Background:**

Churchill was the outspoken and passionate leader of Great Britain. He held a deep mistrust of Stalin, considering him to be “devil-like tyrant leading a vile system.” His relationship with Roosevelt was generally good. In theory, Churchill was a supporter of free democratic systems, yet he wished to retain Great Britain’s territorial possessions (India, Egypt). In addition to retaining British prestige and power, Churchill also had loyalties to the Free French and Free Pole party in exile. He believed France should retain a position of power in the post war world

**Agenda:**

* Germany:
  + Accept only unconditional surrender
  + Break apart Germany into zones of occupation
  + Give France a zone of occupation.
  + Claim Berlin for Great Britain
  + Demilitarization
  + Make Germany pay for the war, reparations (money)
* Europe:
  + Free democratic elections in occupied Eastern Europe
  + Allow exiled Poles to return to Poland and receive positions in government
  + In compensation for Polish territory annexed by Soviets, give Poles additional territory in Western Germany.
* Asia:
* United Nations**:**
  + Creation of a new international organization to sustain peace in Europe and throughout the world.
  + The United States, Great Britain, **France** and the Soviet Union would hold the positions of dominance in the organization.

Assignment:

small groups of students will read through each country, and then hypothesize about compromises that will need to be made regarding each bullet point.

Groups of 4 – students will take on the identity of one of the big three, and try to negotiate with the other two members. Fourth member will be the scribe and mediator.