

WRITING DEVELOPMENT

Making notes is a skilled task, develops over years, and everyone has their own variant! Exs 5, 8, 12 & 13 in this unit are a brief intro. The best way to learn this skill, however, is to do it; every page you study should be read with a pencil and notebook by your side. PS research has shown the hand-WRITING the notes 'fixes' the information in your brain better than typing or highlighting.

Post-War Treaties: Achievements & Defects

8. Making Notes II -- Abbreviations

On the right, you can see a list of common historian's abbreviations. As time goes on, you will change some and add your own, but go with these for the moment.

The [pdf notes](#) on the webpage on Post-War Treaties: Achievements & Defects use many these abbreviations.

- Go through the pdf notes, identifying all the occasions they have used an abbreviation from the list. See how the notes have used it, comparing the notes to the full-out text on the [webpage](#). Notice how the notes also miss out unnecessary words (eg 'The Treaty of Versailles' becomes: ToV).
- Re-write the following paragraph in note form, making as much use as possible of the abbreviations on the right:

"The fact that the Treaty of Versailles was a *diktat* reduced its legitimacy. For example, in Germany, hatred rose to fever-pitch, especially because of the reparations sum of £6.6 billions (even though, as regards repayments, this was less per annum than Britain had to repay to the USA).

"This, along with fury that they had lost land; that they had been left without an army against enemy aggression; the 'war guilt' clause and other grievances, led to the growth of fascism and arguably, therefore, the Second World War."

Possible solution at bottom of page.

- Practise making abbreviated notes on relevant passages in your textbook.
- Start making use of the abbreviations in your own note-taking.

NOTE: when you start doing this, you may find it very difficult and time-consuming. PERSEVERE ... as you get better, it will save you loads of time.

eg	for example
ie	that is
esp.	especially
w.	with
w/o	without
vs	versus/ against
etc	and more
et al	and others
re	regarding/about
m	million (or miles)
bn	billion
km	kilometres
yrs	years
%	per cent
pa	per annum (each year)
&	and
✍	and (hand-written)
=	means
≠	does not mean
→	led to, resulted in
↑	increase/ rose
↓	decrease/ fell
↗	rising to
↘	falling to
<	smaller than
>	larger than
∴	therefore
∵	because
Ger	Germany
Br	Britain
Fr	France
A-H	Austria-Hungary
parl	parliament
govt	government
ToV	Treaty of Versailles

∴ ToV = *diktat* ∴ legitimacy: eg, in Ger, hatred ↓ fever-pitch, esp, ∴ ∴ £6.6 bn reparations (even though, re repayments, < pa than Br had to repay to the USA).
 "This, + fury at ↑ land; left w/o an army vs enemy aggression; the 'war guilt' clause et al, → ↗ ↘ fascism & arguably, ∴, WWII.