

Unit 4 - Cause/Effects of 2nd World War

General Resources

- Classzone: http://www.classzone.com/cz/books/wh_modern05/book_home.htm
- 10.7 State Standards - http://teacherweaver.com/wh/unit04/10_7_state_standards.html
- 10.8 State Standards - http://teacherweaver.com/wh/unit04/10_8_state_standards.html

15.3 Fascism Rises in Europe

- Trace the rise of fascism in Italy and Germany and describe its impact.
- Describe Mussolini's creation of a Fascist state in Italy.
- Discuss the rise of Hitler, the Nazis, and extension of Hitler's power.
- Trace the shift from democratic governments to dictatorships in Eastern Europe.

15.4 Aggressors Invade Nations

- Compare the attempts by fascist nations to gain power with the efforts of democratic nations to preserve peace.
- Describe Japan's attempts to build an empire.
- Trace the moves of European Fascists in seeking world power.
- Summarize why British and French appeasement and American isolationism failed to stop Fascist aggression.

Chapter 15 Vocabulary

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| • Fascism | • Mein Kampf | • Fransico Franco |
| • Benito Mussolini | • Lebensraum | • Isolationism |
| • Adolf Hitler | • Appeasement | • Third Reich |
| • Nazism | • Axis Powers | • Munich Conference |

Chapter 15 Short Answer Questions

- Drawing Conclusions: What conditions and situations helped Fascists come to power in Germany and Italy in the 1920s?
- What countries would have felt MOST threatened by the remilitarization of the Rhineland?
- In which direction did Nazi Germany have its GREATEST expansion?
- What did Germany gain by conquering Poland?
- What were two ways in which the effects of World War I continued to be felt in the decades that followed it? Explain your answers.
- Why were Great Britain and France so eager to appease Germany? Were the attitudes of the British and the French leaders reasonable? Explain your answer, citing evidence from the chapter.
- How were the effects of America's isolationism and Britain's policy of appeasement similar?

16.1 Hitler's Lightning War

- Describe how Germany overran much of Europe and North Africa.
- Summarize the events that led to war.
- Describe the fall of France and the Battle of Britain.
- Explain the conflicts in the Mediterranean and on the Eastern Front.
- Describe U.S. aid to the Allies.

16.2 Japan's Pacific Campaign

- Explain how the Japanese expanded their power in the Pacific.
- Explain how Japanese expansionism led to war with the Allies in Asia.

- Describe Japan's early battle successes.
- Explain how the Allies were able to stop Japanese expansion.
- Summarize Allied battle strategy.

16.3 The Holocaust

- Describe the results of the "Final Solution."
- Trace the course of the persecution of Jews by the Nazis.
- Describe the results of the "Final Solution."

16.4 The Allied Victory

- Summarize the Allied campaigns and the events that led to surrender.
- Describe the Allied strategy in Europe.
- List efforts made on the home front.
- Summarize events that led to the surrender of Germany and of Japan.

16.5 Europe and Japan in Ruins

- Compare postwar governments in Europe and Japan.
- Describe conditions in Europe in 1945.
- Identify the political consequences of the Allied victory in postwar Europe.
- Summarize how defeat and occupation affected political and civic life in Japan.
- Describe Japan's postwar constitution.

Chapter 16 Vocabulary

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|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| • Nonaggression pact | • Battle of Midway | • Dwight D. Eisenhower |
| • Blitzkrieg | • Douglas MacArthur | • Battle of Stalingrad |
| • Charles de Gaulle | • Battle of Guadalcanal | • D-Day |
| • Winston Churchill | • Aryan | • Battle of the Bulge |
| • Battle of Britain | • Holocaust | • Kamikaze |
| • Erwin Rommel | • Kristallnacht | • Nuremberg Trials |
| • Atlantic Charter | • Ghetto | • Demilitarization |
| • Isoroku Yamamoto | • "Final Solution" | • Democratization |
| • Pearl Harbor | • Genocide | • Enola Gay |

Chapter 16 Short Answer Questions

- Why was D-Day such an important historic event?
- How did World War II affect civilians around the world?
- What military strategies contributed to the Allied victory in World War II?
- What were the short and long-term effects of the invasion of Poland on Poland, Germany, the Soviet Union, Great Britain, and France?
- What was the difference between Allied and Axis civilian deaths?
- What percent of the civilians killed in Germany were Jews?
- After the war, which two Allies might have had conflicting points of view about who gave the most to the war effort, and why?
- What is one thing that Hitler or the Germans did that, in your opinion, was an important cause of Germany's defeat?
- Was the United States right not to join the fight against Germany when Great Britain and France did? Explain your answer.

- What were the military outcomes and important results of the German invasion of France, the Battle of Britain, and the German invasion of the Soviet Union in 1941?
- Why did Japan attack Pearl Harbor? What were some of the most important consequences of the attack?
- What did Hitler incorrectly call the Germanic people he considered the "master race"?
- What happened on Kristallnacht?
- What was the first "solution" to the "Jewish problem," and why wasn't Hitler satisfied?
- What is genocide?
- What was the main goal of the "Final Solution"?
- Identify two tools or tactics that were used to implement the "Final Solution."
- Identify two groups other than Jews who were singled out for the "Final Solution."
- What was Auschwitz?
- Why do you think that an event as horrifying as the Holocaust was able to occur?
- Explain why any three of the following battles were particularly significant: the Battle of El Alamein, the Battle of Stalingrad, the invasion of Normandy, the Battle of the Bulge, and the Battle of Leyte Gulf.
- What were the social and economic conditions in Europe in the years immediately following World War II?

AP World History WWII Outline

World War II (1939-1945)

1. Causes of World War II
 - i. Primarily a continuation of unresolved issues from World War I, World War II outdid its predecessor in duration, global scope, use of military technology, and death.
 - The Treaty of Versailles required Germany to accept full guilt for the war, reduce its military forces, hand over its colonies, and pay billions in war reparations to England and France. Germany, however, was rocked by overwhelming economic collapse. These humiliations left many Germans seeking vengeance.
 - One man in particular, Adolf Hitler, tapped into these emotions and exploited them as a means of gaining power.
 - ii. Starting in late 1929, the Great Depression shook the foundations of the global economy. However, western European nations had suffered all through the decade after the war.
 - The United States was the chief financier of England, France, and Germany's debts in the 1920s, and when those nations struggled to repay their loans, U.S. banks began to falter, setting off chain reactions that damaged global financial markets.
 - Another cause of the Great Depression was overproduction of goods in the United States, especially farm products. More produce meant lower prices to farmers; lower prices meant farmers defaulted on bank loans, banks closed, and money supplies dried up.
 - iii. The result in the industrialized nations was that, in the 1930s, they all reorganized their governments to be more active in financial matters, including government programs of social security, unemployment compensation, bank regulation, and many others.
 - Italy, Germany, and Japan were the most prominent nations that radically changed their governmental and financial systems. These systems were changed to *fascism* to address the economic crises in these three countries.
 - Russia-known as the Soviet Union after 1922 was isolated from the global economy. Europe and the United States wanted nothing to do with the new communist government.
 - iv. Italy introduced *fascism* in the 1920s as a political and social means to address its post-World War I economic woes.
 - Under fascism, the government attempted to control the economy—which was also the case in communism—but it allowed private ownership of businesses and other property—as was the case in capitalism. One catch-all decisions ultimately came from a single dictator with enormous power, and dissent was severely punished. Anyone considered "outside" the accepted fascist model faced unemployment, jail, or death.
 - Before the international meltdown of the Great Depression, Italy's fascist system-led by Benito Mussolini—appeared to be on an upswing in the 1920s.
 - Fascism appealed to many people around the world—Germany, Spain, and then Japan followed Italy's political model.
 - v. In Germany, *nazism* was Adolf Hitler's version of fascism. The National Socialist (abbreviated "Nazi") German Workers' Party was a fringe group in the early 1920s, at a time when the Weimar Republic was floundering. It claimed opposition to both democracy on one hand and communism on the other, and promoted past and future German glories.
 - After a failed coup in 1923 landed Hitler in jail, he decided to undermine the Weimar government from within the system. Impassioned speeches about German glory gained Hitler popular support, and the Nazis rose in power in the Weimar legislature. Careful cultivation of sympathetic government and business leaders helped Hitler's cause.
 - Using propaganda, lies, and murder, the Nazis and Hitler were in absolute control of Germany by 1934.
 - vi. Fascism requires conquest to obtain cheap labor and raw materials—and to unite its people against enemies, real or invented.
 - Except for Spain, the fascist nations of the twentieth century attacked their neighbors.
 - Italy invaded North Africa and Ethiopia in the 1930s.

- Germany invaded Czechoslovakia and Austria about the same time.
- vii. Japan began attacking its neighbors even before it officially turned to fascism. Some historians argue that World War II really started in 1931-eight years before the official date-when Japan invaded Manchuria, enslaved or killed its people, and occupied their coal mines and factories. Not satisfied with that conquest alone, Japan invaded China in 1937.
- viii. The well-intentioned but weak League of Nations did little to stop aggression by Italy, Germany, and Japan in the 1930s. European leaders hoped that fascists would be satisfied after limited conquests and seek no more territories.
- This policy of appeasement only seemed to encourage the attackers, who showed no respect for the League of Nations' pleas for peace.
 - The appeasement policy of the 1930s had longterm effects: After World War II, one of the biggest lessons the United States and the USSR took from the prewar era was to reject appeasement
 - in favor of "peace through strength" during the confrontational Cold War.

2. Features of World War II

- i. Like World War I, there were two sets of alliances in World War II: the Allies and the Axis Powers.
 - Germany, Italy, and Japan formed the Axis starting in the late 1930s.
 - England, France, Poland, and most of western Europe formed the Allies by 1940. The Allies grew in number as they were attacked by Axis nations.
 - A year later, the USSR and the United States joined the Allies.
- ii. Unlike World War I, which featured trench warfare and little movement of forces, World War II began with fast-moving fronts. This change occurred because technology improved the machines that were introduced in World War I.
 - Tanks and airplanes moved much faster by the 1930s, and defensive trenches were impractical.
 - Germany introduced the *blitzkrieg* ("lightning war"), which involved bombing from airplanes and swift advances by tanks and support vehicles. Only then did foot soldiers enter the battle-if there were still people left to fight back. This method of fighting stunned early victims of Nazi aggression.
- iii. In the European theater, the war started in 1939 when Germany invaded Poland. England had appeased the German fascist dictator Hitler in his conquest of central Europe, but it finally drew a line at Poland.
 - After war was declared, Germany swiftly conquered most of western Europe, including France, by 1940.
 - Russia and Germany had announced a peace treaty in 1939, so England faced Nazi aggression alone.
 - Two significant events in 1941 turned the tide against Nazi Germany: Hitler's surprise invasion of Russia went poorly, and the United States entered the war against the Axis Powers after Japan attacked Pearl Harbor.
 - Unlike its position in World War I, Russia stayed with the Allies to the end of the war, despite suffering more than 25 million deaths.
- iv. The first Allied offensive against the Axis powers was in North Africa. From there, the Allies invaded Italy but were still fighting there when the war in Europe ended.
 - The turning point of the war in Europe was the Allied invasion of Normandy (in France) in 1944. Steadily pushed back to their homeland on both the eastern and western fronts, the Germans surrendered in May 1945.
- v. World War II's battlefields were on a greater global scale than were those of World War I.
 - Campaigns throughout the Pacific were added to those in Europe and Africa.
 - Japan's attack on China from 1937 to 1945 was particularly brutal, causing approximately 20 million deaths.
 - In addition, in 1941, Japan attacked much of Southeast Asia and islands throughout the Pacific, including Hawaii's Pearl Harbor in 1941. The United States entered the Pacific war and, with Britain as its main ally, slowly pushed the Japanese empire's perimeter back toward its homeland.
 - Significant battles occurred in the Dutch East Indies (modern Indonesia) and in island chains in the Central and South Pacific.
 - Starting in 1945, U.S. planes repeatedly firebombed Japanese cities in an effort to force unconditional surrender from the government.

- In August 1945, the United States dropped two atomic bombs, first on Hiroshima and then on Nagasaki, and the war abruptly stopped.

3. Consequences of World War II

- The United Nations (UN) replaced the League of Nations after World War II.
 - Two key differences: the UN's headquarters was in the United States, not Europe-a sign of the United States' postwar influence-and, unlike the League, the United Nations Security Council had military authority that could be used to stop aggression by nations.
 - UN forces were employed in combat in the Korean War (1950-1953) and the Persian Gulf War (1990-1991).
- The use of atomic power was a major controversy after World War II.
 - Military and government supporters of its use on Japan claimed its overwhelming destruction saved lives that would have been lost in a conventional attack on Japan's homeland.
 - Critics questioned the morality of its use at all and raised concerns about the specter of a world armed with nuclear weapons.
 - Western Europe's reign as the world's strongest economic and political force ended with World War II.
 - Two devastating wars crippled Europe, while the United States emerged as the only major power whose economy and society was relatively unscathed.
 - Aided by the United Nations, Europe's colonies in Africa and Asia gained independence, one by one, starting soon after the war. These colonies included the Dutch East Indies, Indochina, India, and Ghana.
- The Holocaust was the worst fascist treatment of "outsiders." Hitler's "final solution" targeted Jews and other groups that did not fit into his perverted vision for Germany. Six million of the 10 million people killed in the Holocaust were Jews from central and eastern Europe.
 - After the war, the United States and Britain steered UN support for the establishment of a democratic Jewish homeland (Israel) in Palestine.
 - The Cold War started almost immediately after World War II. Global tensions arose between the victorious Allies, with the USSR leading one side and the United States leading the other.

Movies

These movies are not meant to be instruction aids. They are merely listed for entertainment purposes. They are often bias and not historically accurate (as are many movies), but they are fun and some of the best movies about WW2. As we learn about this time period, students will gain a greater historical understanding of the event and watching these movies will help solidify the information learned. Most of them are as family friendly as a “WAR” movie can be, but a quick online check would be a good idea if you have concerns about content. Enjoy

- The Longest Day (1962)
- Tora! Tora! Tora! (1970)
- Stalingrad (1993)
- Empire of the Sun (1987)
- The Great Escape (1963)
- The Boy in the Striped Pajamas (2008)
- Casablanca (1942)
- Kelly's Heroes (1970)
- Bridge on the River Kwai (1957)
- Hangmen Also Die! (1943)
- To Be or Not To Be (1942)
- Hell In The Pacific (1968)
- Graves of the Fireflies (1988)
- Patton (1970)
- Valkyrie (2008)
- God on Trial (2008)
- Saints and Soldiers (2003)
- Judgment at Nuremberg (1961)
- The Great Dictator (1940)
- Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo (1944)
- Stalag 17 (1953)
- The Tuskegee Airmen (1995)
- Lawrence of Arabia (1962)
- Life is Beautiful (1997)