

NAME: _____ DATE: _____ PERIOD: _____

WORLD WAR II STUDY GUIDE

Causes of World War II

1. World War II was caused by resentment of the _____. Germany thought it was too _____ because it could not afford to pay reparations. This resulted in severe depression.
2. Another cause was the failure of _____. This is a policy of granting concessions to an enemy with a goal of maintaining _____. Hitler took advantage of lack of unity among the _____.
3. Another cause was the failure of the League of _____. Not all countries joined the league, including the _____. The League had no power, no _____, and was unable to act quickly.
4. Finally, a rise of _____ & _____ states led to World War II. Adolf Hitler invaded _____ on September 1, 1939.

Axis Aggression

5. Germany attacked Poland using a new tactic called _____. This included air attack to damage defenses, fast-moving _____ & _____. Foot soldiers cleared out the rest.
6. As a result, the _____ air force was destroyed. Polish soldiers were no match for Germans. The Polish landscape had no natural _____ to slow the blitzkrieg. Poland did have support from Great Britain & France and on September 3, 1939 Great Britain & France declared war on _____.
7. Great Britain & France didn't give much help to Poland and it _____ fast. Little could be done to stop German invasion. German troops moved to the western border and leaders made plans for _____.
8. In spring 1940, Germans invaded _____ & _____ (lightly defended). In northern France, the Germans went through _____ & _____. The Germans then moved northwest to the coast.
9. In _____, a coastal town (northwest France, near English Channel), German troops trapped hundreds of thousands of Allied troops. Allied military & civilian _____ saved over 300,000 and retreated to Great Britain. Unfortunately, the remaining Allied troops couldn't stop Germans from taking _____. On June 22, 1940, _____ surrendered to Germany.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____ PERIOD: _____

Battle of Britain

10. Winston Churchill was the _____ of Great Britain. Between August-October 1940, _____ sent thousands of aircraft to attack British targets. Hitler's plan was to destroy the _____ to make it possible to invade.

11. The Germans failed because the British had new technology called _____. British air defenses were more effective than other countries'. By September 1940, German planes began bombing British _____ & _____, including London. Hitler attacked civilians and tried to break the _____; demoralize. The _____ were often worse than bombs.

12. The London Blitz lasted for _____ straight nights. People took shelter underground and _____ were evacuated to the countryside/north. The bombing continued, but British refused to give in. By early 1941, _____ called off his plans to invade Britain.

Neutrality Acts

13. The _____ Acts prohibited export of "arms, ammunition, & implements of war" to foreign, warring nations. Warring nations could get any item except _____. In 1939, the arms embargo was lifted, putting all trade with warring nations under terms of "_____-&-_____." This meant any item could be sold as long as it was immediately paid for.

14. The United States would provide a country with supplies needed to fight _____. The country would NOT have to pay the United States back _____. This program was designed to allow _____ to indirectly help defeat Germany.

15. On December 7, 1941, hundreds of _____ bombers & fighters attacked the naval base Pearl Harbor. This attack resulted in _____ Americans dead, nearly _____ aircraft destroyed, and all but _____ battleships were sunk/damaged. On December 8, the US declares war on _____. On December 11, Germany & Italy declare war on the _____.

Japanese Internment

16. As a result of the Pearl Harbor attack, on February 19, 1942, President Roosevelt signs _____. This allowed military authorities to exclude "any and all persons" from designated areas of the country as necessary for _____.

17. In Hawaii, _____ were the majority of the population. The government didn't force them to relocate. On the West Coast (California, Oregon, Washington), Japanese-Americans & Japanese immigrants forced to _____, but no other states wanted to take them.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____ PERIOD: _____

German Invasion of Soviet Union

18. In June 1941, _____ broke the non-aggression pact with Stalin as 3 million German soldiers invaded the Soviet Union. Germans used _____ tactic (again). It was effective at first, but the _____ was no match for overwhelming German forces.

19. The _____ did NOT collapse. The Germans failed to reach their goals (Moscow, Leningrad) and were unprepared for Soviet _____. During the Siege of _____, Soviets starved to death at rate of 3,000-4,000 people a _____. In Spring 1942, Hitler ordered new attack with soldiers from Germany, Italy, Romania, & Hungary.

20. In the _____, the city was bombed heavily (air, artillery attacks). Civilians in Stalingrad were NOT evacuated. It was a _____ in the war because it destroyed Germany's hope for European domination.

21. By Fall 1942, Soviets regrouped for a _____. Soviets broke through Axis defenses and Hitler did not allow Axis troops to retreat. By January 1943, the Germans had no _____, _____, or medicine. _____ "half-dead" Axis soldiers were captured. Hitler was defeated and Axis forces were losing in _____ & _____ also.

Fighting in the Pacific

22. The attack on Pearl Harbor was a huge success for _____. The damage to the US Navy's Pacific Fleet took time to overcome. The Americans had limited ability to _____. The Japanese advantages included the navy _____ after Pearl Harbor, better _____, and fighting _____.

23. Japan conquered many strategic islands and territories in the _____. General _____ surrendered the Philippines (American territory) to the Japanese. During the _____, 70,000 prisoners (American & Filipino soldiers) were forced to march to a prison camp. _____ Americans & _____ Filipino prisoners died.

24. _____ was an island in middle of Pacific and a key American military _____. The Japanese had more ships and aircraft carriers, but the _____ were able to break the secret Japanese _____. The Americans won and destroyed Japan's hopes of Pacific domination.

25. Island hopping is a strategy of _____ over Japanese strongholds & capturing weaker targets. _____ were Japanese pilots who loaded planes with explosives & deliberately crashed into Allied ships.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____ PERIOD: _____

War Ends in Europe & Japan

26. The _____ invasion required two things: _____ and attack directly against strong _____. On June 6, 1944, Allied forces invaded France at _____ & triumphed. The Allies quickly re-conquered _____.

27. The Battle of the _____ was a massive German counterattack. By January 1945, the Allies crushed the _____. The Allies closed in on Germans from east & west. By late April 1945, _____ surrounded Berlin. On May 2, 1945, _____ was found dead in his bunker. Finally, on May 7, 1945, Germany _____.

28. American forces regularly bombed Japanese cities. _____ had to travel long distances to targets, which was _____. Iwo Jima was a Japanese island conquered by _____ forces. Okinawa was another _____ island conquered by American forces.

29. Japanese soldiers would fight to the death. An American invasion of _____ would be too costly. In May 1945, Harry Truman became President. He made decision to use the _____ bomb. The Allies demanded surrender from _____. Atomic bombs dropped on _____ & _____ on August 6th & August 9th.

Post War World

30. Millions of people died, with the heaviest losses in _____ Europe. This caused physical devastation and destroyed _____, _____, and _____. Economies were near collapse and millions of people without _____.

31. The Atlantic _____ was issued by Churchill & Roosevelt in July 1941. It declared neither wanted more _____ and declared both wanted a world of _____. At Tehran in November 1943, _____, _____, & _____ agreed on plans for the D-Day invasion and to work together in peace after war.

32. In February 1945, Roosevelt, Churchill, & Stalin met again at _____. Their goal was to make an agreement on postwar _____. Stalin wanted to keep territory in Eastern Europe & promised to respect _____ in those countries. Roosevelt wanted Stalin to join a new world organization called the _____.

33. The United Nations was similar to the _____ (post-WWI). It encouraged international _____ & prevention of _____. A security council was made up of the United States, Great Britain, France, Soviet Union, & China. Those countries had more _____ than other member countries.

34. In July 1945, Truman, Churchill, & Stalin met again at _____. The Soviet Union & other Allies had been disagreeing. They discussed issues concerning postwar _____ but had difficulty reaching agreement. Roosevelt & Churchill worried about _____'s plans in Eastern Europe. They didn't want _____ or Soviet influence to spread.