

NAME _____

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PERIOD _____

Chapter 24

The World War II Era (1935-1945)

- World War I 1914-1918
- Great Depression 1929-1941
- World War II 1939-1945

Key Events

1939 Germany invades Poland; World War II begins.

1941 United States enters war after Japan attacks Pearl Harbor.

1945 U.S. plane drops atomic bomb on Hiroshima. World War II ends.

Italy — Mussolini

Germany — Hitler

Soviet Union — Stalin

✓ Checkpoint

Name the dictator in each country.

Soviet Union: _____

Germany: _____

Italy: _____

What You Will Learn

World War II was the bloodiest conflict in history, with fighting in Europe and the Pacific. Both U.S. soldiers and civilians made major contributions to winning the war.

Chapter 24 Focus Question

As you read this chapter, keep this question in mind: **What were the causes and effects of World War II?**

Section 1

Aggression Leads to War

Section 1 Focus Question

What events led to the outbreak of World War II? To begin answering this question,

- Learn why dictators gained power after World War I.
- Find out how Germany, Italy, and Japan went on a path of military conquest.
- Read how the United States tried to remain neutral.
- Understand how World War II began in Europe.

Section 1 Summary

- * The Great Depression led to dictatorships in Germany, Italy, and Japan. Those dictators took military actions against other countries. American policy aimed to remain neutral.

The Rise of Dictators

After World War I, many nations thought democracy was too weak to solve their hardships. In the Soviet Union, Italy, Germany, and Japan, the citizens turned to dictators to rule their countries. In the Soviet Union, Josef Stalin held total control of the country. In Italy, Benito Mussolini used fascism—a form of rule based on militarism, radical nationalism, and blind loyalty—to take power. In Germany, Adolf Hitler and his Nazi Party rose to power. Nazism was a form of fascism. Hitler argued that Germans were a “master race.” He preached anti-Semitism, or hatred of Jews. In Japan, military leaders also used racism to justify the invasion of nearby countries.

Japan — 1931
Italy — 1935
Germany — 1936

Military Aggression

The League of Nations was founded after World War I to stop aggression, or warlike actions against another country without cause. But the League failed to act when Japan, Italy, and Germany showed aggression. In (1931) Japan took over Manchuria in China. In late 1937, Japanese troops invaded China, killing about 250,000 people in the city of Nanjing alone. In (1935) Italy invaded Ethiopia in Africa. Hitler invaded the Rhineland in (1936) and Austria in 1938. When he threatened Czechoslovakia, Britain and France finally stepped in. To avoid war, they tried to appease Hitler by signing the Munich Pact. This gave him a German-speaking area of Czechoslovakia. Soon, however, Hitler took all of the country. ✓

American Neutrality

The United States declared itself neutral in order to stay out of the growing conflicts. The Neutrality Act of 1935 forbade the United States from providing loans, arms, or other assistance to any nation at war. The United States also took steps to improve relations with Latin America. FDR started the Good Neighbor Policy which withdrew U.S. troops from Nicaragua and Haiti. ✓

U.S. trying to improve relations with Latin American nations

War Begins in Europe

As Hitler eyed Poland, France and Britain realized that their policy of appeasement, or agreeing to tolerate aggression to avoid war, had failed. Germany and the Soviet Union, former enemies, pledged not to attack each other. On September 1, 1939, German troops attacked Poland. Britain and France declared war on Germany. Hitler's army soon crushed Poland and much of western Europe. France fell in June 1940. Only Britain remained unconquered. Led by Prime Minister Winston Churchill, the British withstood German bombing. Hitler gave up his invasion plans. In June 1941, he attacked the Soviet Union, which soon allied with Britain. ✓

Check Your Progress

1. How did the rise of dictators lead to World War II?

2. Why was appeasement a failure in preventing war?

✓ Checkpoint

Name the country that invaded each nation.

Austria: _____

Manchuria: _____

Czechoslovakia: _____

China: _____

Ethiopia: _____

✓ Checkpoint

Explain what the Neutrality Act of 1935 did not allow.

Vocabulary Builder

Tolerate means "to allow something to exist." What did France and Britain tolerate, and why?

✓ Checkpoint

Name the British leader who withstood Germany.

NAME _____

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Section 2

The United States at War

Section 2 Focus Question

How did the United States move from neutrality to full involvement in the war? To begin answering this question,

- Understand how the United States prepared for war.
- Discover why the United States finally entered World War II.
- Learn how the Allies turned the tide of battle.

Key Events

1939

START

Germany invades Poland; World War II begins.

1941

U.S. ENTERS

United States enters war after Japan attacks Pearl Harbor.

1945

END

U.S. plane drops atomic bomb on Hiroshima. World War II ends.

Section 2 Summary

U.S. enters WW II (1941)

The United States stayed out of World War II until it was attacked by Japan in 1941. Soon the United States was fighting with the Allies against Germany in Europe and against Japan in the Pacific. The Allies were losing until key victories came in 1942 and 1943.

The Allies were in
TROUBLE

Moving Toward War

In 1940, Franklin Roosevelt became the first American President to run for and win a third term in office. He promised that the United States would remain neutral. However, when Britain stood alone against Germany, the United States allowed the British to buy war goods. Then the Lend-Lease Act of 1941 allowed Britain to "borrow" them. America also stepped up its own war readiness by creating the first peacetime draft in 1940. At the same time, the Tuskegee Airmen were organized as the first African American combat unit under the command of black officers.

In August 1941, Roosevelt and Britain's Prime Minister Winston Churchill issued the Atlantic Charter which set postwar goals. Both countries agreed that they would not seek territory after the war. They called for an international organization to replace the League of Nations. ✓

The United States Enters the War

Japanese aggression forced the United States to enter World War II. The Japanese invaded Indochina in July 1941. In turn, President Roosevelt limited U.S. oil sold to Japan and stopped the sale of scrap metals. The loss of these materials propelled Japan to set a course for war with the United States. On December 7, 1941, Japanese planes attacked the American naval fleet at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

✓ Checkpoint

List two "firsts" that occurred in 1940 that showed the United States was moving toward war.

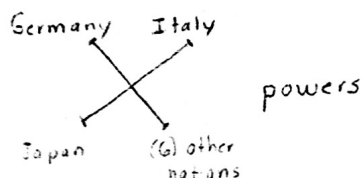
Vocabulary Builder

Which of the following words is the best synonym for the word propelled as used in the underlined sentence?

- a. forced
- b. steered

✓ Checkpoint

Name the location where the United States was first attacked in World War II.



✓ Checkpoint

Name two battles that helped turn the tide of war against Germany.

1. _____
2. _____

Reading Strategy

Underline the main idea of the bracketed paragraph.



✓ Checkpoint

Name the general who vowed to return to the Philippines.

Soon the United States was in a global fight. Germany, Italy, Japan, and six other nations made up the Axis powers. America joined some 50 countries that made up the Allies. Together, all were involved in total war, as not only armies, but as civilians, too, were caught up in the conflict. ✓

Europe and North Africa

In Europe, Germany's early victories and large gains of territory made the war a hard and bloody struggle. However, the Allies made some advances. In late 1941, Soviet fighters and the fierce Russian winter halted the Germans outside of Moscow. After a second major defeat at Stalingrad in 1942, Hitler's army began to be pushed back.

In October 1942, the British defeated the German forces at the Battle of El Alamein in Egypt. The German tank commander Erwin Rommel was pushed westward. General Dwight D. Eisenhower arrived with fresh American troops in November. Trapped by both the Americans and the British, Rommel's army surrendered in May 1943. ✓

Japan Sweeps Through the Pacific

After Pearl Harbor, Japan attacked other Pacific islands. The Japanese invaded the U.S.-governed Philippine Islands. A Filipino-American force under General Douglas MacArthur resisted bravely. MacArthur was ordered to leave the Philippines but vowed to return. Some 70,000 soldiers and civilians surrendered. Their forced 65-mile march to a Japanese prison camp became the "Bataan Death March."

In 1942, naval battles helped turn the tide. In May, the Battle of the Coral Sea became the first battle fought by planes launched from aircraft carriers. At the Battle of Midway Island in June, U.S. forces sank four Japanese carriers and shot down 322 planes. Japan's navy suffered a severe blow. ✓

TURNING POINT

Check Your Progress

MIDWAY

1. How did the Lend-Lease Act show U.S. support of one side of the war in Europe?

2. Why did the United States end its neutrality and enter the war?

Section 3**The War at Home****Key Events****1939**Germany invades Poland; World War II begins.**1941**United States enters war after Japan attacks Pearl Harbor.**1945**U.S. plane drops atomic bomb on Hiroshima. World War II ends.

1939 — 1945

WORLD WAR II

✓ Checkpoint

Name three ways that Americans on the home front contributed to the fight.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

✓ Checkpoint

Identify two benefits women gained as a result of their wartime work.

1. _____
2. _____

Section 3 Focus Question

How did the home front respond to American participation in the war? To begin answering this question,

- Find out how the United States built its military and changed its economy to meet wartime needs.
- Learn how American women contributed to the war effort.
- Discover how World War II affected Japanese Americans and other groups of people at home.

Section 3 Summary

Daily life in the United States changed dramatically after war was declared in 1941. Millions of men joined the service, while women filled jobs producing war goods. For some, the war brought serious restrictions and new tensions at home.

Organizing for War

Americans quickly realized that all of the country's resources had to be committed to supporting the armed forces. Volunteers and draftees of all ethnic and religious backgrounds swelled the ranks of the military. Some 15 million men fought. Hundreds of thousands of women filled noncombat roles. They served as nurses and also as pilots who ferried bombers, towed targets, and taught men to fly.

The War Production Board directed the change as factories began producing war goods. Millions of new jobs ended the unemployment of the Depression. Americans accepted rationing, or limits on the purchase of specific items, such as certain foods, rubber, and gasoline that were needed for the war effort. Planting victory gardens and buying war bonds were other ways people helped. ✓

Women in Industry "WE CAN DO IT" Rosie the Riveter

Minorities and women took over traditionally male jobs in factories and shipyards, such as welders and riveters. Women also became bus drivers, police officers, and other key workers in their communities. As a result, women gained better working conditions and generally received the same pay as men for the same work. ✓

★ German-Americans were also placed in internment camps

Ordeal for Japanese Americans

For Japanese Americans, World War II created a painful situation. Erroneous fears that they would spy for Japan led to prejudice. Anti-Japanese feelings were widespread. In February 1942, President Roosevelt issued an order to intern, or temporarily imprison, Japanese Americans in the United States. About 110,000 were forced to sell most of their possessions and live in internment camps until the end of the war. Barbed wire and guards made the camps seem very much like prison camps. No evidence of Japanese American disloyalty was ever found. On the contrary, the 17,000 Japanese Americans who fought in Europe were among the most honored for bravery. Both at the time and later, there was criticism of the internment. In 1990, the government formally apologized to Japanese Americans. Surviving internees were each given a \$20,000 payment. ✓

Tensions at Home

German Americans and Italian Americans also faced some restrictions. Several thousand who were not U.S. citizens were held in camps as "enemy aliens." Despite job gains, African Americans still experienced discrimination in employment. Some African American leaders demanded change. They pointed to the irony of the United States fighting for democracy while allowing injustice at home. President Roosevelt set up the Fair Employment Practices Committee to enforce racial equality in hiring.

Young Mexican Americans also served in the armed forces. In the United States, Mexican Americans, as well as braceros or Mexican laborers, supported the war effort. Yet their language, culture, and flashy "zoot suits" set them apart. Riots occurred after some Mexican Americans were attacked by sailors on leave in Los Angeles. Eleanor Roosevelt blamed these "Zoot Suit Riots" on longstanding discrimination against Mexican Americans. ✓

Check Your Progress

1. Give examples of American unity on the home front.

2. Give examples of prejudice on the American home front.

Vocabulary Builder

Erroneous describes something that is based on an incorrect idea. Circle two sentences in the bracketed paragraph that explain why fears of Japanese Americans acting as spies were erroneous.

✓ Checkpoint

Explain why Japanese Americans were interned.

Reading Strategy

Reread the bracketed paragraph. Underline the cause of African American leaders demanding change. Circle the result of their demand.



✓ Checkpoint

Name the committee that President Roosevelt set up to combat racial discrimination in hiring.

Section 4**Toward Victory****Section 4 Focus Question**

How did the Allies win World War II and what were the results? To begin answering this question,

- Learn how the Allies were finally able to defeat Germany.
- Discover how a powerful new weapon brought the war in the Pacific to a close.
- Explore the horrors of the Holocaust.
- Understand the immediate effects of World War II.

Section 4 Summary

The battles that stopped the Axis powers in 1942 turned the tide of the war. With determination and sacrifice, the Allies achieved victory in 1945. The war's unspeakable acts of brutality led to the first trials for war crimes.

Victory in Europe

In 1942, German movements into the Soviet Union and North Africa had been stopped. Russia was still facing heavy fighting from Germany, however. Stalin urged the Americans and the British to invade France to bring German troops west. Instead, the United States and Britain invaded Italy in July 1943. They knocked Mussolini from power. German troops in Italy continued to fight there, however.

On June 6, 1944—D-Day—the long-awaited campaign to retake France began. Under Allied commander Dwight Eisenhower, American, British, and Canadian troops landed at Normandy, in western France. Some 2,500 American soldiers were killed that day on Omaha Beach. By August, the Allies were able to free Paris from the Germans.

The German army regrouped for a last offensive at the Battle of the Bulge in December. By then, however, the Germans were short of supplies and soldiers. In January 1945, Allied troops invaded Germany from the west. The Soviets closed in from the east. By April 1945, both Berlin and victory were in sight. Tragically, President Roosevelt died of a stroke on April 12. On April 30, Hitler committed suicide, freeing his generals to make an unconditional surrender. V-E Day, May 8, 1945, celebrated the end of war in Europe. ✓

Key Events

1939

Germany invades Poland; World War II begins.

1941

United States enters war after Japan attacks Pearl Harbor.

1945

U.S. plane drops an atomic bomb on Hiroshima. World War II ends.

WORLD WAR II
1939-1945

Reading Strategy

Ask and answer a question about the bracketed paragraph.

Question:

Answer:

RIP—Roosevelt

✓ Checkpoint

List three major events that led to Allied victory in Europe.

1.

2.

3.

What is a turning point?



Vocabulary Builder

- ★ The word *kamikaze* means "divine wind" in Japanese.

✓ Checkpoint

Explain the term "island hopping."

FINAL SOLUTION ???

V-E - Victory in Europe

V-J - Victory in Japan

✓ Checkpoint

Identify the goal of Hitler's "final solution."

6 Million JEWS
were murdered in the
HOLOCAUST

Victory in the Pacific

The Japanese offensive was halted at the Battle of Midway in 1942. Japan had conquered many islands in the Pacific. The Allies used a strategy of island hopping, targeting islands to capture that would create a path for an invasion of Japan. MacArthur returned to the Philippines in January 1945. Famous battles in the Pacific included Iwo Jima and Okinawa, islands closest to Japan. Still, the Japanese were fierce fighters. Japanese kamikaze pilots committed suicide by crashing into Allied ships. There was great fear that invading Japan would bring high American casualties. This worry convinced the new President, Harry Truman, to drop the atomic bomb on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The two blasts instantly killed an estimated 165,000 people. Five days after the second bomb was dropped, the Japanese surrendered. August 14, 1945, is known as V-J Day. World War II finally ended with Japan's official surrender to General MacArthur on September 2, 1945. ✓

The Holocaust

World War II took the lives of up to 60 million people, including 400,000 Americans. After the Germans were defeated, the Allied armies came upon "death camps" in Poland. Hitler had planned to kill all of Europe's Jews. His "final solution" was genocide, or the deliberate attempt to wipe out an entire nation or group of people. Railway cars carried men, women, and children to the death camps. Most were killed in gas chambers. Others were tortured. Some six million Jews were murdered in the Holocaust.

The Allies charged the German and Japanese leaders with war crimes. These are wartime acts of cruelty and brutality that are judged to be beyond the accepted rules of war and human behavior. Nuremberg, Germany, saw the first trials for war crimes. Trials were also held in Tokyo and Manila. Several Axis leaders were sentenced to death. ✓

Check Your Progress

1. How did the Allies win the war in Europe?

2. How did the Allies win the war in the Pacific?
