

Unit 9.2: Global Depression & World War II Review KEY

1. What were the causes of the global economic depression?

Huge war debts from WWI, overdependence on American loans for rebuilding Europe, US Stock Market Crash (1929), bank failures

2. Explain how the US responded to the Great Depression.

New Deal- Government took a more active role in the economy and massive gov. effort to create jobs through public works projects

Turned to strong leadership - elected Franklin D. Roosevelt 4 times

3. How did the American Great Depression impact European nations?

American bankers demanded European countries repay their loans

4. How did Germany respond to the economic depression?

Turned to strong leadership in Hitler and the Nazi party (blamed Weimar Republic)

Hyperinflation

Nazis rebuilt military, providing employment for those out of work & promoting nationalism

Rejected communism

5. How did the Soviet Union respond to the depression?

Relatively unaffected due to lack of industrialization

Saw the depression as the failure of capitalism (success for communism).

6. How did the Treaty of Versailles contribute to Germany's economic depression?

Germany owed millions in reparations, loss of jobs, loss of armed forces

7. How did the Germans violate the Treaty of Versailles?

Germany rearmed, invaded Austria, and took back neighboring land

8. Define totalitarianism.

Form of gov. based on an ideology of total control of public and private life by the ruler or ruling party.

9. List the characteristics of totalitarianism.

Freedom limited, secret police, censorship, and propaganda.

10. Define Fascism and provide two examples of where it took hold in the 1930s.

A political movement that promotes an extreme form of nationalism, a denial of individual rights, and a dictatorial one-party rule

Examples- Mussolini in Italy, Hitler in Germany

11. What factors allowed Mussolini and the fascists to gain power in Italy?

Fear of communism, depression, nationalism

12. How did the Nazis gain support through the 1920s and 1930s?

Economic depression, lack of jobs, nationalism, effective propaganda, scapegoating Jews and Communists

13. Explain appeasement.

A policy of making concessions or giving into an aggressor in order to avoid war

14. How was appeasement used in the 1930s?

The Allies allowed Hitler to rearm Germany, take over neighboring territories like the Rhineland and Sudetenland, and annex Austria

15. Define Anti-Semitism.

Prejudice against Jews

16. List the causes of WWII.

Rise of Dictators

Growing Militarism & invasions – Germany, Japan, and Italy grew their militaries to reverse economic hardship

Failure of the League of Nations/appeasement

Japanese invasions of China & nearby islands

17. Why did Japan invade China & nearby regions?

For natural resources

18. List the major countries on the Axis and Allies sides of the war.

Allies: Great Britain, Soviet Union, United States

Axis: Germany, Japan, Italy

19. What event marks the start (spark) of the Second World War?

1939 German invasion of Poland

20. Explain what blitzkrieg was.

German strategy of a fast military attack with huge numbers of soldiers & artillery

21. What event caused the US to join World War II?

Japan attacked the US naval base at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941

22. Why was D-Day an important event in World War II? Explain what happened at D-Day.

Turning point of the war in Europe, Allies invaded Normandy beaches, liberated France, divided Germans on 2 fronts

23. Describe the impact of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

First/only use of Atomic weapons in history, hundreds of thousands of deaths, cancer, sickness, destruction, end of war

24. What was island-hopping & in which region of the war was it used?

US strategy of conquering Pacific island by Pacific island until reaching Japan

25. What typically happened when Jews and other prisoners arrived at Nazi concentration camps & death camps?

Sorted by age and health; either sent to work as slaves in terrible conditions or to be killed immediately

26. What was the name for the Nazi plan to exterminate the Jews in the Holocaust?

The "Final Solution"

27. How did some people in Europe resist the Nazis?

Non-Jews hid Jews in their homes, sabotaged Nazi operations, ran partisan groups, forged paperwork for those at risk

28. Explain what Total War is.

Whole country focused on war – civilians rationed goods, worked in factories, and bought war bonds to support the war effort

29. How did the use of radar technology impact WWII?

Radar – gave British advantage because it was used to detect German planes

30. What were airplanes used for during WWII?

To drop bombs and transport supplies

31. How did penicillin impact the war?

Antibiotic that allowed soldiers to survive life threatening wounds

32. What were the Nuremberg Trials?

Trials for important captured Nazis for their crimes against humanity

33. What two countries became superpowers after World War II?

US & Soviet Union

34. Describe the impact of Franklin Roosevelt, Winston Churchill, Joseph Stalin, and Hideki Tojo.

Franklin Roosevelt – Led US through the Great Depression and WWII. He died just before the end of WWII

Winston Churchill – Led Great Britain in WWII and raised morale during bombing of London

Joseph Stalin – Communist dictator who led USSR during WWII

Hideki Tojo – Prime Minister of the Japanese during WWII.