

Unit 8: 20th Century Global Conflicts

Guided Notes ANSWERS

World War I

Question	Notes	Extra Information
<p>How did the rise of Militarism, the creation of Alliances, Imperialism and an increase in Nationalism alter the Balance of Power in Europe and lead to World War I?</p>	<p>Militarism - Naval Arms Race between Germany and Great Britain, as they built up their military might they not only magnified the tension between the two countries, but they were increasing their power and upsetting the balance in Europe.</p> <p>Alliances - the establishment of the Triple Alliance and the Triple Entente was intended to Balance the Power in Europe between the two sides, however as the tensions grew between them, this balance was constantly fluctuating.</p> <p>Imperialism - as the countries of Europe worked to increase their Empires they also increased their individual power upsetting the balance in Europe. This also led to various tensions between the already feuding European power, for example between Germany and France over the rightful control of Morocco. As most of Europe sided with France in the dispute, it left Germany feeling vulnerable - and showed an unbalance in Europe.</p> <p>Nationalism - the rising feelings of Nationalism, connected to Militarism and Imperialism, led directly to an unbalance of power in</p>	<p>Not often included in the M.A.I.N. causes of World War I, but the Industrialization of Europe also contributed to the tensions that led to World War I.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rivalry and Jealousy between Britain and German over Industrialization - New military technology that would increase tensions that already existed between the various countries. <p>Nationalism - also the provinces of Alsace and Lorraine which had been bounced back and forth between France and Germany for years. The debate over the rightful ownership of these states caused tension between Germany and France.</p>

	<p>Europe. As nations increased their strength and seemingly threatened the balance it inspired other nationalist movements, such as Pan-Slavism. Pan-Slavism, which was the belief that all slavic countries were one under Russia, explains why Russia ultimately mobilized its forces in 1914 leading to World War I.</p> <p>With the Balance of Power teetering in Europe it took just one instance to push the entire continent into War. The assassination of Archduke Ferdinand became the trigger.</p>	
<p>How did technological advancements influence the course of World War I?</p>	<p>Not long after World War I started the troops trenched in and the war remained in a stalemate for almost 4 years. This was not an illogical response to the new military technology that had been introduced. Machine Guns and chemical weapons made traditional warfare increasingly deadly, and the creation of trenches was a means of protection. However, this also led to other complications and an extremely drawn out war.</p> <p>Towards the end of the War with the arrival of fresh US troops and the invention of tanks, the stalemate was ended. The tanks were able to move over the trenches and with the help of airplanes they made trench warfare obsolete.</p>	<p>Trenches were designed to protect against the deadly machine guns, however they proved to create other deadly conditions for the soldiers. Trenchfoot was one of those very real dangers to the lives of the soldiers.</p>
<p>Explain how World War I influenced Nationalism?</p>	<p>Ireland - as the Irish sacrificed their men to fight the Central Powers in World</p>	<p>Since the war had also spread to other parts of the Empire, it sparked Nationalist</p>

	<p>War I under the British flag, the movement for Irish independence increased. This was not created by the war, in fact there had long been a movement in Ireland to gain independence from Britain, the war actually delayed the process as the Irish put aside their efforts in order to fight in World War I. However the Home Rule Movement increased and the Easter Rebellion took place on Easter Sunday in 1916. Their effort to gain independence failed but the incident reflected just how much the War itself was increasing Nationlist movements at home.</p>	<p>movements throughout the world as populations resented being pulled into a war they had no stake in.</p>
<p>What went into the creation of the Treaty of Versailles and was it an effective Peace Agreement?</p>	<p>The Allied powers, the victors of World War I, wanted to prevent another global war from happening by weakening Germany to the point where it couldn't rise up again.</p> <p>The problem with the Treaty is that it was too idealistic and did not consider the realistic response that Germany would have to the requirements of the Treaty.</p> <p>It demilitarized Germany - which essentially took from Germany its identity. Remember that Germany was unified by war through the leadership of Prussia, a state that itself was established around a military. It was not surprising that Germans would rally around someone who promised to rebuild the military power of the country.</p>	<p>Compare the Treaty of Versailles' treatment of Germany after World War I to the treatment of France after the defeat of Napoleon in the Congress of Vienna.</p> <p>Compare the Peace of Westphalia and its treatment of the Hapsburgs after the 30 Years War to the treatment of Germany after World War I in the Treaty of Versailles.</p>

The Allies punished Germany economically, requiring the payment of reparations to the Allies to rebuild after the War. However, since Germany was also demilitarized and had basically its entire industrial sector was shut down by the Allies it couldn't keep up with the payments. This ultimately led to hyperinflation in Germany and a massive depression, leaving the country vulnerable to groups like the Nazis who promised to rebuild and remilitarize.

The League of Nations - a part of Wilson's 14 Points it was a peace organization designed to prevent another World War I, however three of the most important global players did not join. Germany was not allowed in, Russia was involved in a Revolution, and the US congress refused to join. Without them it was difficult for the League to be effective, especially since it had no means of enforcement.

National Self-Determination was also included in the treaty, carving out several new democratic states. The problem with this was that it also entailed the reduction of Germany's borders, leaving German Nationals outside of the countries borders. This would ultimately cause problems as Germany attempted to use National Self-Determination as a justification to violate the treaty and expand its borders.

	<p>The treatment of the empirical holdings under the Mandate System allowed under the League of Nations was also a major cause for the failure of the Treaty. This allowed the European countries to control their new holdings in Asia with the justification that they were not “stable enough to rule themselves.” This violated the idea of National Self-determination, but it gave the European states access to the oil reserves that were abundant in the Middle East. This would impact the balance of power in Europe leading up to World War II.</p>	
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The Russian Revolution

Question	Notes	Extra Information
<p>What Revolutionary groups formed in Russia during the early 20th Century? And how did the formation of these groups combined with World War I lead to the Abdication of Tsar Nicholas?</p>	<p>After the February Revolution in 1905 at which the Russian Military stayed loyal to the Tsar, and kept him in power, various Marxist groups formed in Russia, the Mensheviks and the Bolsheviks. The Mensheviks were orthodox Marxists who believed in the evolutionary process that would lead to a communist utopia. The Bolsheviks on the other hand, didn't have the patience to wait, and believed that there needed to be a revolution to force the implementation of Communism in Russia.</p> <p>After the Tsar was overthrown when the military refused to protect him from</p>	<p>Make sure you understand the history that led up to this as well. In 1905 as a result of poor training the Russian peasants fighting in the Crimean War were slaughtered. This led to a peasant revolt against the Tsar, however the troops at the time remained loyal to the Tsar who tried to ease the tension with a series of reforms. He managed to keep his position until things went bad again during World War I. Once again the military was not well armed and faced massive losses, this time when the people revolted the military was no longer willing to defend the Tsar.</p>

	<p>the mob that stormed the Winter Palace demanding relief from famine, a Provisional Government was put in place. The provisional government proved ineffective and ultimately the Bolsheviks led by Lenin would take over the government of Russia and establish it as the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.</p>	<p>The 1917 March on the Winter Palace was on International Women's Day and was sparked by the famine that had spread through Russia in part as a result of World War I and the Tsar's decision to use farmers to replace the losses on the front lines of the war. The march was led by women and ultimately it was the women who forced the abdication of Tsar Nicholas. This is an excellent comparison to the Women's March during the French Revolution that led to the capture of Louis XVI.</p> <p>Interesting to note that Stalin was not present in Russia when the Bolsheviks ultimately took over, he had been exiled by his own party because they feared that he was too volatile.</p>
<p>How did Lenin's forms of Communism differ from Marxism and how could that lead to problems in the future?</p>	<p>Marxism is the belief that history is a series of class struggles that would inevitably lead to the establishment of a communist utopia and there would be no need for a government.</p> <p>Leninism was revolutionary Marxism, meaning that he wanted to skip steps and force the establishment of a communist government. In order to do this Lenin proposed partially implementing capitalism, a step that Marx believed was absolutely necessary in order for communism to work. Lenin's New Economic Policy which was implemented in 1921 was his attempt to</p>	

	bypass that step. By skipping that step Lenin was risking establishing a strong base on which to build the USSR.	
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Global Economic Crises

Question	Notes	Extra Information
<p>Explain how rather than alleviate the problems that faced Europe as a result of World War I, the Treaty of Versailles exacerbated them.</p>	<p>World War I was caused by tensions between the European states as a result of Militarism, Imperialism, Alliances, and Nationalism. The Treaty of Versailles did not ease the tensions and in many ways increased them. The War like any war devastated the countries involved economically and the Treaty relied on reparations from Germany to rebuild. This meant that a country that was also devastated economically by the war was supposed to pay to rebuild all of Europe. As the Nations of Europe struggled to recover the tensions that had existed prior to the war re-emerged and tensions continued to brew between Germany and the Allies. In addition to the reparations the other requirements of the treaty just made Germany resent the Allies even more and as it struggled to recover that anger just continued to rise.</p> <p>In an attempt to keep the Balance of Power in Europe and prevent the collapse of Germany as a result of the political, military and economic requirements placed on it by the treaty, the US banks established the</p>	<p>Because France was obviously suffering they were forcing Germany to pay the reparations but because the German economy was crippled and its industry essentially shut down it couldn't, so they resorted to printing unbacked German Marks, and the more they printed the less each one was worth, and this is what caused the hyperinflation.</p>

	<p>Dawes Plan, in which they loaned money to Germany so that it could continue to pay reparations. This plan created a system where the entirety of the German economy was held up by the strength of the US economy.</p> <p>Unfortunately on October 29, 1929 the US Stock Market collapsed and caused the Great Depression. Since Germany's economy was held up by the US economy when the US economy failed it took the German economy down with it. A weakened Germany became vulnerable to a party that would promise revenge and would promise to act on the tensions that were exacerbated by the requirements of the Treaty.</p>	
<p>Compare the policies of the Allies after World War I towards Germany to the policies of the alliance that defeated Napoleon in 1815 towards France. Why did the Treaty of Versailles fail where the Congress of Vienna was limitedly successful?</p>	<p>Treaty of Versailles' goal was to weaken Germany so that it could not rise up again.</p> <p>Congress of Vienna's goal was to weaken France so that it could not rise up again.</p> <p>Both treaties reduced the borders of the countries and took away colonial holdings. In both cases these requirements meant that people lived outside of their nation's borders. Alsace and Lorraine were taken from France at the end of Napoleonic Wars and given to Germany, and the reverse happened to these provinces at the end of World War I. Both of these became underlying causes of future wars.</p>	<p>The Weimar Republic was a democracy created and established by the Allies and forced on Germany. This was somewhat successful, but because it was not really something the German people asked for or created it. This was very similar to the reason why France ended up in the revolutions of 1830 and 1848 as France was forced to put a Bourbon back on the throne by the Congress of Vienna.</p>

Fascism and Totalitarianism

Question	Notes	Extra Information
<p>Explain how the devastation caused by World War I became a breeding ground for fascist movements in Italy, Germany and Spain.</p>	<p>The economic disaster in Europe caused by World War I and made worse by the Treaty of Versailles left countries wide open to fall under the control of totalitarian governments which could provide stability that the people craved.</p> <p>Italy was the first , and under the leadership of Benito Mussolini it became the first Fascist state. Mussolini used propaganda to not only convince the Italian population of the strength of facism but also to display a false front to the rest of the world the Italy under facism had successfully recovered from the devastating effects of World War I.</p> <p>Soon after, Adolph Hitler was able to follow suit and establish a Fascist government in Germany. He used terror and propaganda to gain and maintain power.</p> <p>Spain was the third of the states to establish a facist government. Behind the leadership of Francisco Franco, the facist faction entered into a Civil War for control of Spain. Both Mussolini and Hitler threw their support behind Franco and used the Civil War as a training ground for World War II. Unlike Germany and Italy, the Western Democracies provided very</p>	<p>You can compare Hitler’s rise to power to Mussolini’s rise, both men failed in their initial attempts to gain power. Hitler failed with the Beer Hall Putsch, and Mussolini failed with the March on Rome. However, both men were seen as formidable forces within their countries and in different ways they were both put into power as a means to keep an eye on them and control them. For Mussolini he was appointed Prime Minister so that King Victor Emmanuel could keep an eye on him. For Hitler, after failing to gain more than 50% of the initial election for President rather than risk a run-off election against war hero Hindenburg, Hitler and Hindenburg made an agreement where Hitler would pull out of the election and Hindenburg in exchange would appoint Hitler Chancellor of Germany. Hindenberg believed that he would be able to keep an eye on Hitler and keep him in check.</p>

	<p>little if any assistance to the Popular Front in Spain to help stave off Fascism.</p> <p>Ultimately the propaganda produced by these fascist regimes, portraying the strength and stability they provided their people, made facism attractive to the struggling new democracies in Eastern Europe.</p>	
<p>How did Stalin's Communism differ from Lenin's and from Marx's, and what were the consequences of his policies?</p>	<p>Stalin, like Lenin, believed in revolutionary Marxism. So similar to Lenin Stalin tried to implement bits of communism to help stabilize the government. Stalin's 5 Year Plan was part of that goal, as he attempted to rapidly industrialize the Soviet Union. Unfortunately this was done at a cost, and the Kulaks suffered at the hands of the government that wanted to rip their land away in Stalin's collectivization policy.</p>	<p>Stalin differed from Lenin, Lenin believed that the stability and security of the Soviet Union would only come with a worldwide revolution, where Stalin wanted to focus on building up the Soviet Union first/</p>

The Road to World War II

Question	Notes	Extra Information
<p>Explain the response of the Allies to Hitler's expansionist policies in the 1930s and how these policies influenced the course of World War II?</p>	<p>Appeasement - The Munich Conference</p> <p>Hitler tested the limits of the Treaty of Versailles as he slowly began to expand Germany's borders reclaiming the lands that had been taken away by the Treaty of Versailles. When Hitler sent troops into the Rhineland in 1936, a demilitarized zone established by the treaty between Germany and</p>	<p>1936 Berlin Olympics - Hitler used it as propaganda to display to the rest of the world how he had emerged from the Great Depression - but he also hid the fact that he was remilitarizing Germany from the World. It was in the middle of these games between the Winter and the Summer Games that he sent troops into the Rhineland. Later Hitler admitted that he did not have the military power to defend</p>

	<p>France, no one did anything.</p> <p>Then in 1938 Germany annexed its former World War I ally, Austria. Despite the fact that this violated the Treaty of Versailles which forbade any relationship between the two states, the rest of the world did nothing. The argument was that Austria wanted to join with Germany so why would they defend a country that didn't want to be defended.</p> <p>Hitler turned his sights on the Sudetenland, a sliver of Czechoslovakia that bordered Germany and had German Nationals living there. Again the rest of the world did nothing, allowing Hitler to gain control of all of the military industry that supplied Eastern Europe.</p> <p>The resources that Hitler gained as a result of his expansionist policies were not insignificant. In addition the time that he gained by not being challenged allowed him to continue to build up Germany's military. The more time that passed the more powerful Germany became and the deadlier the War was going to be.</p>	<p>this action and had France initiated anything to prevent this he would have had to back out.</p> <p>Munich Agreement - Chamberlain was even greeted by the Germans with cheers when he landed for the meeting in Munich - the people of Germany saw his arrival as a promise that they would not go to war.</p> <p>Also important to note that Mussolini called the conference because he did not have much of a military at the time, and he knew if Germany went to war over the Sudetenland that Italy would also be pulled into that war.</p>
<p>Explain why Hitler's invasion of Poland was the final straw for the Allies and is what ultimately pulled the continent into another massive conflict.</p>	<p>The country that Hitler attempted to gain control of which proved to be the last straw for the Allies was Poland. This time there were no excuses, there were no Germans living there, and Poland was not asking to join</p>	<p>Hitler had asked Poland for three things, and if they did these then he said Germany would not invade. He asked for transit rights across the Polish Corridor which was a strip of land given to Poland by the Treaty of Versailles in</p>

	<p>Germany, in fact Poland was asking France and Britain to help. On September 1, Germany invaded Poland and the War broke out.</p>	<p>order to give it access to the sea. The Polish Corridor went right through Germany separating it from East Prussia. The second thing he asked for was the city of Danzig, which had been a German City but was made a neutral port so that Poland could use it. The third request was for Poland to join the Anti-Communist League so that Poland would serve as a buffer between Fascist Germany and Communist Soviet Union. Poland was given until September 1, 1939 to comply to the ultimatum - when Poland didn't comply, Hitler dressed up German soldiers in stolen Polish Uniforms and had them attack a German Radio Station on the border of Poland - this was to make it look like Poland had attacked Germany rather than the other way around. It didn't fool the Allies for long as they quickly joined to defend their Polish ally.</p>
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World War II

<p>Explain why the United States and Britain sided with Stalin's Communist Soviet Union during World War II.</p>	<p>This is the concept of the "lesser of two evils". Even though the US and Britain were not fans of communism nor of Stalin, however, Hitler and Germany were more of an immediate threat to Europe and the World.</p>	
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	<p>France had been defeated, De Gaulle was controlling the French Military out of London, and the US's primary adversary, Japan was allied with Germany.</p>	
<p>Compare the Reinsurance Treaty of World War I with the Nazi-Soviet Pact in World War II, what were the motivations behind these agreements and to what extent were they successful?</p>	<p>Prior to World War I Germany and Russia signed the Reinsurance Treaty. For Germany it was a means of avoiding fighting on two fronts, so it could focus on defeating France before turning around and engaging in war with Russia. For Russia it was a way to buy some time so that it could build up its military as it had yet to fully industrialize and didn't have the full capability of effectively fighting a war at that time.</p> <p>Prior to World War II Germany and the USSR signed the Nazi-Soviet Pact for similar reasons. Again Germany was hoping to avoid fighting on two fronts and again the USSR wanted time to build up its forces.</p> <p>The difference between them is who violated each of the pacts. In World War I it was Russia that struck first, attacking East Prussia in order to ease pressure placed on France. In World War II it was Hitler that struck first. Either way it didn't end well for Germany as it in WWI it definitely weakened the German military as it was forced to divide. In World War II it weakened the German military after the initial attack at Stalingrad faced devastating losses in</p>	<p>The German invasion of the Soviet Union during World War II can be compared to Napoleon's invasion of Russia. Both ended badly as both were not prepared for the brutal conditions that a war in that region presented.</p>

	the USSR that weakened them.	
How did the US's involvement in the War evolve from isolationism to being responsible for the first nuclear weapon to be used during wartime.	<p>The US after World War I did not want anything to do with another war abroad, and focused on "America First" and Isolationism. Unfortunately due to rivalries in the Pacific the US's relationship with Japan deteriorated to the point where Japan attacked the United States pulling it out of its isolation. Because Japan was allied with Germany, once the US declared War on Japan, Germany followed suit and declared war on the United States. The United States at the time was also engaged in a secret program that would develop the first atomic weapon. After helping to defeat Germany in Europe, the US turned their attention to the Pacific Theater, and became the first country to ever use a nuclear weapon during wartime when it dropped 2 atomic bombs on Japan ending the War.</p>	<p>Atlantic Charter</p> <p>Trade with Britain and the relationship that Roosevelt had with Churchill</p> <p>The US used the war against Japan as an excuse to display its military might as its relationship with communist USSR continued to deteriorate. There is evidence that Japan was willing to surrender prior to even the dropping of the first bomb, and definitely after the first and before the second. The use of the bombs was more of a show of strength to the Soviet Union and warning to them as they entered into the Cold War.</p>

The Holocaust

Question	Notes	Extra Information
Explain how Hitler used an already existing anti-semitic atmosphere in Europe to gain power in Germany and simultaneously murder 12	As Hitler was attempting to gain control of Germany he used the anger that the German people had after their defeat in World War I to	The issues that Germany was facing after World War I could easily be traced to the requirements of the Treaty of Versailles imposed on them

million people.	his advantage. The Jewish population became a Scapegoat for all the problems that Germany was facing, and Hitler's "Final Solution" was a means of giving the people the revenge they craved. He used an already marginalized group in Europe to focus all of the anger and revenge the German people were feeling at the time on. His plan turned into the genocide of 12 million people.	by the Allies, the victors of the War. However, Hitler, in his mind needed to give the people of Germany someone that they could physically take their anger out on, and by capitalizing on an already existing anti-semitism, the Jewish population became that Scapegoat.
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Cultural Developments

Question	Notes	Extra Information
Identify and explain how new technological developments during World War II created what became known as the Age of Anxiety.	<p>Nuclear Weapons developed in the Manhattan Project with the help of physicists like Albert Einstein, created an uncertainty in society, especially after the bombs were dropped on Japan and their devastating effects were revealed. This period of fear and anxiety that we could die at any moment became known as the Age of Anxiety.</p> <p>In addition other new scientific discoveries were emerging all of which put into question the accepted order of society, contributing to feelings of uncertainty.</p>	
What was the "Lost Generation" and how did this influence political and social developments throughout Europe?	The generation of people who grew up during World War I, grew up in a world shrouded in uncertainty and chaos. This led to a generation of people who were questioning the values their parents had held, as many seemed no longer relevant. This actually	

	<p>inspired literature at the time such as F. Scott Fitzgerald and Ernest Hemmingway. In addition it allowed for changes to happen, and it is not that much of a stretch to contribute the rising feminist movement to the World Wars. Women ended up gaining the right to vote in most countries after World War I, and ultimately all but Switzerland had given them the vote just after World War II.</p>	
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