

American History B (Foundations)

Unit 9 Study Guide

World War II Begins....

- Hitler used the fact that the Treaty of Versailles made Germany the "bad guy" AND the depression that hit after WWI to rise to power in Germany
- Hitler and other European leaders were tyrants and Totalitarians-they were in charge and NO ONE had a say EXCEPT them- TOTAL power
- US and other democracies couldn't agree if they should stop the totalitarian governments or stay out of it- so nothing happened-it wasn't "our" business
- Hitler encouraged Anti-Semitism (hatred of Jewish people) in Germany to find someone for people to "blame" for bad conditions-lack of jobs, poverty, etc.
- People who Hitler thought were not desirable were sent to concentration camps where they worked as slaves or were killed if they weren't seen as useful
- In Asia, Japan took over many areas near them- increasing their power. Another TOTALITARIAN government.
- Germany invaded Poland and England and France came to Poland's aid- helping them fight against Germany.

- United States continued to try to stay out of the events but that was about to change ☹️.

US enters WWII

- Japan has attacked and invaded many areas in Asia- mainly part of China.
 - US places many ships (over 100!) in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.
 - On December 7, 1941, Japanese bombers attack the Harbor and kill over 3,200 people and injured over a 1,000 more civilians and soldiers.
- The US enters World War II

World War II- WWII

ALLIED LEADERS-

- President Franklin Delano Roosevelt represented the United States.
- Winston Churchill led Great Britain,
- Joseph Stalin was the leader of U.S.S.R.(Russia)

AXIS LEADERS-

- Benito Mussolini led Italy
- Adolf Hitler led Germany
- General Hideki Tojo represented Japan as their military leader.

WE won this WAR because EVERYONE played a part!

- We would win this war in our science laboratories and factories as well as on battlefields.
- All through the war we will keep improving our weapons, planes, tanks, and armored vehicles.
- We're going to do amazing things in medical science so that disease and infection will no longer be the major causes of wartime deaths. The lives of many badly wounded men will be saved.
- We know something that they don't suspect we know. They think they are smarter than we are. They are wrong. We have learned to read their most difficult codes. That will prove more valuable than almost anything else we do.
- Cryptography: Cracking Codes
- Women take on new roles at home in the United States- working in jobs and positions normally done by men who are now serving in the military

WAR MOVES ON.....

- Germany perfected the "Blitzkrieg" where their troops attacked all together by air and ground. Overwhelmed Allied forces quickly this way. Allies were LOSING.
- August 1942-February 1943- US forces attack and push Japanese forces slowly out of several Pacific islands- the Battle of Guadalcanal. This is the first large attack by the Allies and a major victory for Allied forces.

- Due to fear and racism, US puts Japanese Americans into “camps” where they must stay, leaving their homes and jobs.
- Women take on new roles at home in the United States—working in jobs and positions normally done by men who are now serving in the military.
- In Europe, Allied forces try to push Germany and Italy back to their own lands and out of occupied countries.
- In the Pacific, US forces gradually push Japanese forces back towards Japan, island by island.
- D-Day is turning point in war in Europe as Allied troops storm France and take it back from Axis forces. The Allies were winning many battles in 1945, but Germany and Japan will not give up.
- It is clear the Allies will win the war, but Germany and Japan are refusing to surrender.
- Roosevelt wants to end the old, before the war imperialist ways. He believed people should be free to govern themselves.
- Roosevelt wanted the war to have meaning. He wanted to go beyond the defeat of Nazi Germany, to an end of not only WWII, but also an end to the beginnings of all wars.

How great was FDR?

- A poll of 50 leading historians soon ranked him just behind Lincoln and Washington as one of the three greatest presidents.
- Winston Churchill said that in world importance, Roosevelt was first

FDR’s Achievements

- He led the nation through two of its worst times—a depression and a world war—with gusto, courage, and an unflinching confidence
- He was inspiring. He made people believe in their country and want to do their best for it.
- He believed in government for the people. During the Roosevelt administrations, Social Security, farm programs, aid for home buyers, aid for dependent children, and other caring programs were begun. He paid attention to laboring people and their needs. Some called it a “revolution.”
- He strengthened the two-party system.
- He brought new people into government. He named a woman, Frances Perkins, to his cabinet. He began the process to “include the excluded.”
- He cared about the environment. He sent young people from the inner cities out to plant trees, and he worked to protect our nation’s natural heritage.
- By his personal example he showed that—for people with energy and intelligence—there need not be any such thing as a handicap.
- He won the war and set the stage for the prosperity that was to follow. It might not have happened with another leader.

1945 was a year of slow progress towards Allied victory.

- Allied forces push into Germany, find and free concentration camps, and eventually into Berlin
- In April Franklin Delano Roosevelt dies, Benito Mussolini is killed and Adolf Hitler kills himself.
- May 7th- Germany surrenders and the next day is proclaimed V-E Day (Victory in Europe)

- AUGUST- US drops atomic bombs on Hiroshima (Aug 6th)
- and Nagasaki (Aug 9th)

The War is OVER in all areas