

World War II: 1942-1945**I. From 1939 to 1942, the Axis Powers dominated Europe, North Africa, & Asia****A. In Europe**

1. Germany used _____ tactics to dominate Eastern & Western Europe
2. England was wounded from German attacks in the _____
3. Hitler broke the _____ Nonaggression Pact & marched into _____

B. The German & Italian armies dominated Northern Africa, threatened the _____ & the _____ fields in the Middle East**C. The _____ dominated Asia, crippled the U.S. navy after the _____ attack, & seized most Western colonies in the Pacific****II. However, the Allied Powers began to turn the tide of the war in 1942 & defeated the Axis Powers by 1945****A. The European Theater, 1942-1945****1. North Africa & the Italian Campaign**

- a. When the USA entered WWII, Stalin wanted the Allies to open a _____ & divide German army
- b. Instead, Britain & USA agreed to fight the Axis Powers in _____ (Stalin was _____)
- c. The Allies defeated Germany at the Battle of _____ in 1942 & then pushed the Axis Powers out of Africa
- d. American & British troops invaded _____, took Sicily in 1943, seized Rome in 1944
- e. In 1945, Mussolini was _____ & _____ by the Italian resistance

2. The Soviet Union & the Eastern Front

- a. Meanwhile, the Soviet army stopped the German attack at Moscow & Leningrad in 1942
- b. The Battle of Stalingrad
 - i. The Soviets defeated the German army at the _____
 - ii. The Soviet victory at Stalingrad was a _____ in World War II because the Russians began pushing towards _____ from the East by 1943

3. The Tehran Conference, 1943

- a. In 1943, Joseph Stalin (USSR), Franklin Roosevelt (USA), & Winston Churchill (Britain) met in _____ to coordinate a plan to defeat Germany
- b. At the Tehran Conference, the “ _____ ” agreed to open a second front to _____ the German army

4. America, Britain, and the Western Front

- a. D-Day
 - i. By 1944, the Allies decided to open a _____ by invading Nazi-occupied _____
 - ii. Operation Overlord (called _____) in June 1944 was the _____ land & sea attack in history
 - iii. The _____ invasion was deadly, but the Allied victory created a Western Front...and allowed the Allies to push towards _____ from the West
 - iv. At the same time, the _____ pushed from the East
- b. Forced to fight a _____ war, Hitler ordered a massive counter-attack at the Battle of the Bulge...but _____
- c. By March 1945, the Allies were fighting in Germany & pushing towards _____

5. In February 1945, the “Big Three” met at the _____ Conference to create a plan for Europe after the war was over

- a. Stalin agreed to send troops to help the U.S. _____
- b. They agreed to allow _____ (free elections) in nations freed from Nazi rule
- c. They agreed to _____ after the war
- d. They agreed to create & join a _____

6. As the Allies pushed into Germany & Poland, troops discovered & liberated concentration & _____
7. Victory in Europe
- In April 1945, the Soviet army _____ Berlin
 - On April 30, 1945, Hitler committed _____
 - On May 9, 1945, the German government signed an unconditional _____ to the Allies
- B. While the war was coming to an end in Europe, the Allies continued to fight the Japanese in the Pacific
- The Battle of Midway, 1942
 - After the attack on Pearl Harbor, the USA _____ to the Pacific theater
 - The Pacific war revealed a new kind of fighting by using _____
 - The _____ in the war in the Pacific came at the Battle of _____
 - After Midway, the Allies began to _____ controlled by Japan
 - Japan did not play by traditional rules in war
 - " _____ " pilots flew planes into _____ & aircraft carriers
 - Japanese soldiers refused to _____ & _____ Allied prisoners of war
 - Island Hopping Strategy
 - The problem for the Allies was the _____ & _____ it would cost to retake the thousands of islands the Japanese controlled in the Pacific
 - The fight for _____ took _____ & cost 25,000 Japanese & 2,000 U.S. lives
 - The U.S. developed an _____ strategy to skip the heavily defended islands & seize islands close to Japan
 - From 1943 to 1945, the Allies took back the _____ & were moving in on _____
 - Iwo Jima and Okinawa
 - In 1945, the Allies won the islands of Iwo Jima & Okinawa
 - From these islands, the U.S. began firebombing Japanese cities
 - Despite losing control of the Pacific & withstanding _____ attacks, Japan _____ to surrender
 - By May 1945, the war in Europe was over & U.S. began preparing for a _____ of Japan
 - The Manhattan Project
 - In 1939, _____ wrote U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt about the potential to build a _____ weapon
 - FDR created a top-secret program called the _____
 - In July 1945, the bomb was successfully _____ at Los Alamos, New Mexico during Project _____
 - In April 1945, FDR died & his VP _____ had to decide how to end the war in the Pacific

World War II Decision Making Activity

By 1945, World War II was coming to an end. Germany surrendered in May and Japan had lost most of the lands it had conquered in the Pacific. The fighting became harder as the Americans came closer to Japan because many Japanese soldiers would rather die fighting than surrender. Japanese suicide pilots called "kamikazes" sank American ships by crashing their planes into them. It looked as though the Japanese would have to be subdued by a massive invasion. It would be difficult to attack Japan, an island country. An American invasion of Japan was planned for the fall of 1945. The invasion force would consist of some six million men. It was estimated that perhaps one million would be killed or wounded in the fighting that would take at least a year. Millions more Japanese are likely to die as well. In July, President Harry Truman was told that a secret atomic bomb had been successfully tested. There were only two bombs ready, and those bombs were quickly shipped to the Pacific. Truman wanted to end the war as quickly as possible. He faced the decision of whether to use the atomic bombs and, if so, where to drop them.

I. Assume the role of an advisor to President Truman. Given the situation in the Pacific in 1945, what is America's biggest challenge?

II. Brainstorm alternative courses of action and their consequences.

Alternatives	Positive Consequences	Negative Consequences
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		

III. Develop a plan of action. What should Truman do to end the war? Why?

7. The Potsdam Conference, 1945

- a. In July 1945, the Big Three met at the _____ to discuss the end of WWII
- b. Truman learned the atomic bomb was _____ & issued the Potsdam Declaration to Japan: " _____ or face _____ "

8. Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and the Atomic Bomb

- a. When Japan refused to surrender, Truman ordered the bombing of _____ on August 6, 1945
- b. After _____ days, Japan did not surrender so a 2nd atomic bomb was dropped on _____
- c. After the second atomic bomb, Emperor _____ agreed to a _____

9. World War II was _____

II. Conclusions: The Impact of World War II

A. World War II was the biggest, most _____, & most impactful war in world history:

- 1. _____ was destroyed by the war & lost its place as the _____ in the world

2. The _____ & _____ emerged as _____ & rivals competing for influence in the world
3. A _____ was formed to replace the League of Nations to help promote peace
4. Colonized nation began to demand _____