

GUIDED READING

7-4.5 Causes and Course of WWII

What Caused Italy and Germany to really want another War?

Germany and Italy did not like the provisions of the Treaty of Versailles. Japan, Italy and Germany began to build up their militaries and wanted to establish empires. The international community did little to stop it. Italy was VERY upset with the Treaty of Versailles because they were on the victorious side and were not rewarded with a large amount of land. Germany was furious with the provisions of the Treaty of Versailles, especially the war guilt cause. The high cost of war reparations and the loss of valuable of territory devastated Germany.

- 1. What three nations began building up their militaries?**
- 2. Why was Italy upset with the Treaty of Versailles?**
- 3. Why was Germany upset with the Treaty of Versailles?**

Military Aggression Begins: Germany, Italy and Japan

Italy and Germany began military aggression in their drives for empires, which soon led to a second world war. Mussolini (Italy) attacked Ethiopia in 1935. The League of Nations protested the attack but did nothing to stop the Italians. The League of Nations also failed in preventing Hitler from militarizing his country and then occupying the Rhineland. Germany, Italy, and Japan formed the Axis Alliance in 1936.

- 4. Where did Mussolini first attack in 1935?**
- 5. What did the League of Nations do about it?**
- 6. What three nations formed the Axis alliance?**

Isolationism and Neutrality for the United States

1930s: United States chose a foreign policy of isolationism, passing a series of Neutrality Acts that prohibited the country from loaning money or selling weapons to countries in war.

7. What did the United States' neutrality Acts prohibit?

The US chose Neutrality... What were Great Britain and France doing?

APPEASEMENT: Give Hitler what he wants and eventually he will stop! Great Britain and France falsely believed that a policy of appeasement would prevent another world war. This lack of a firm hand against aggression allowed Hitler to annex Austria in 1938, violating of the Treaty of Versailles. Hitler then demanded the Sudetenland in western Czechoslovakia and during the Munich Conference of 1938, the British and French agreed to allow Hitler the Sudetenland in return for promises that his demands for additional territory would cease. The policy of appeasement was proven a failure in early 1939 when Hitler invaded Czechoslovakia and Italy invaded Albania soon after.

8. What is Appeasement?

9. What two countries believe in Appeasement?

10. Hitler went on to annex _____ in 1935. Hitler then demanded the _____ in western _____.

11. Was the policy of Appeasement a failure?

When did WWII Begin??

World War II began in September 1939 when Hitler invaded Poland and its British and French allies came to its defense, abandoning appeasement.

12. WWII began when Hitler invaded _____.