

APWH: Unit 6-1914-present, The Most Recent Century

Guided Reading Questions for **Introduction** and **Collapse at the Center**. Notes must be in outline form AND must restate the question or state as a topic. Do not simply answer the question, you must explain fully.

I. Overview/Introduction

- A. What is the problem with periodization during this period in history?
- B. Identify and explain four-five distinguishing features of the time period.
- C. Explain the idea of three regions and one world.

II. Collapse at the Center: World War, Depression, and the Rebalancing of Global Power, 1900-1970s

A. Introduction

1. How was WWI an accident waiting to happen?
2. Explain the balance of power by 1900.

B. WWI: European Civilization in Crisis, 1914-1918

1. Identify and explain the major causes of WWI (MAIN)-Militarism, Alliances, Imperialism, and Nationalism. Make sure to include historical evidence/examples
2. Explain the legacies and major results of WWI- “quick war,” war of attrition, “total war,” disillusionment, political transformations/rearrangement of the map, Treaty of Versailles, social and cultural changes, changes beyond Europe, changing role of US
3. Conclusion Questions:
 - a. What aspects of 19th century history contributed to WWI?
 - b. In what ways did WWI mark new departures in the history of the 20th century?

C. Capitalism Unraveling: The Great Depression

1. Explain how WWI loosened the hold of traditional European values.
2. Support the statement, “The Great Depression was far and away the most influential postwar change.”
3. Describe the crash of 1929 and its impacts.
4. Identify and explain the major causes of the Great Depression.
5. How did worldwide empires make the Great Depression a worldwide problem and how did it present a challenge to governments. Include evidence/examples.
6. Evaluate how WWI and the Great depression could contribute to a future war.
7. Conclusion Questions:
 - a. In what ways was the Great Depression a global phenomenon? (evidence)

D. Democracy Denied: Comparing Italy, Germany, and Japan

1. How and why did political ideals come under attack in the wake of WWI?
2. Identify and explain the basic platform of Fascism in Europe.
3. Identify and explain the appeal/causes of the rise Fascism in Europe. Where did this ideology gain support?
4. Compare and contrast the rise and support of authoritarian dictators/rule in Italy, Germany, and Japan. **Account** for the similarities and differences.
 - a. Fascism in Italy-social tensions, Mussolini, state power, papacy, etc.
 - b. Nazism in Germany-rise of Nazi party, similarities to Italian Fascism, collapse of German imperial state, German nationalism, anti-Semitism, celebration of German superiority, moral collapse of West, etc.
 - c. Japan Authoritarianism- newcomer to “Great Power,” differences of Japan, 1920s and move towards democracy, elite reaction, Great Depression hits Japan, “Radical Nationalism,” expansionism, shift in public life, resocialization, etc.

5. Conclusion Questions:

- a. In what ways did fascism challenge the ideas and practices of European liberalism and democracy?
- b. What was distinctive about the German expression of fascism? What was the basis of popular support for Nazis?

E. A Second World War

Road to War in Japan and Asia-

1. How was WWI even more global than WWI?
2. Describe how WWI began in Asia before it occurred in Europe. (imperial ambitions, Chinese nationalism, Russo-Japanese War, Manchukuo, League of Nations)
3. Explain how international opinion was increasingly against Japan and the impacts of Japan feeling threatened.
4. Explain Japan's actions during 1940-41 and its effects.
5. Why did Japan attack Pearl Harbor? Consequences?

Road to War in Europe-

1. What role did the Treaty of Versailles play in the origins of WWI? What was the initial reaction of the US, France, and Britain to Germany's aggression?
2. Explain the concept of war being central to the Nazi ideology.
3. Identify and explain Hitler's timeline of aggression and expansion in Europe.
4. How was WWII different from WWI? Why was it different?
5. When and how did the tide of war turn from the Axis powers to advantages for the Allies?

Outcomes of Global Conflict-

6. Explain and analyze the major outcomes/effects of WWII.
 - a. casualties and destructive nature
 - b. blurred lines of civilians-USSR, China
 - c. new attitudes of "total war"
 - d. mobilization of economies
 - e. genocide and Holocaust
 - f. weakened and impoverished Europe and the end of empires
 - g. consolidation and expansion of communists world/Cold War
 - h. growing internationalism and creation of international organizations
 - i. US as a superpower

7. Conclusion Questions:

- a. How did WWII differ from WWI? (SPICE)

F. The Recovery of Europe and Reflections

1. Identify the three major factors that explain the recovery of Europe
2. Explain and how Europe was able to recover in the second half of the 20th century.
 - a. industrial societies
 - b. integration of economies
 - c. US and the Marshall Plan
 - d. creation of European Coal and Steel and the European Economic Community (then the EU)
 - e. NATO
3. Describe the process in Japan. How is similar/different than the process in Europe?
4. Conclusion Questions:
 - a. How was Europe able to recover from the devastation of war?
 - b. What lessons can be learned from studying WWI and WWII?
 - c. Why is the 20th century known as the "American Century?"

Answer the Chapter Questions. Make sure to include historical evidence to support your arguments.

