

Title: Beginning of World War II
Grade and Subject: 9th Modern World History
Time Allotted: 1hr 30min

SOL #:	WHII.10 c WHII.11 a	NCSS Theme:	IX. Global Connections
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What is the guiding question for this lesson?	How did the rise of dictators led to the start of WWII?
How will student understanding be assessed ?	The students will be assessed through their participation during the “expert-base” group activity and through their attention and participation during the PowerPoint.

Key Concept (no definition necessary):

Dictatorship
 Isolationism
 Power

SWBAT:

1. Identify and explain the main causes for WWII.
2. Identify and explain the causes for the rise of the dictators of the 1920’s and 1930’s.
3. Identify dictatorial regimes and their leaders in the 1930’s.

Materials (List primary sources and additional materials):

Daily Agenda
 Video questionnaire
 Political Cartoon of America and Europe in different beds
 Expert Group information sheets

- Failures of the Treaty of Versailles
- Failures of the League of Nations
- Appeasement
- Aggression of Axis Powers

 Matrix on Causes of WWII

Just Do It: (5 min)

Students will look at a political cartoon on the situation in Europe and how America is separated from the events. They will be asked to analyze the cartoon using the following questions:

- What are three things you see in the cartoon?
- Who is in this cartoon?
- What are they doing?
- What is the message of this political cartoon?

Obj #	Description of Lesson Procedure	Check for Evidence of Understanding
2, 3	PowerPoint on the rise of dictatorships in Italy, Japan, and Germany. The lecture will cover the environment of each country at the time, and the appeals of each dictator. It will also get into how each dictator initially led their countries to war. (30 min)	Students will later be formally assessed with a quiz on the rise of dictators and the causes of WWII.
2, 3	United streaming video on the rise of dictators in Europe. (15 min)	Students will fill out a questionnaire related to the video, and some of the questions will be used on the next quiz.
1	Students will participate in an expert-base group activity. The activity will involve five expert groups that will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aggression by totalitarian powers (Germany and Japan)• Failures of the Treaty of Versailles• Weakness of the League of Nations• Appeasement Students will be placed in an expert group and will have to record the main facts from information sheets they will be given. They will then breakup and move into predetermined	The students will be checked for understanding by going over the information they have recorded from the activity, and through their participation in their groups. Students will also be formally assessed later with a quiz on the rise of dictators and the causes of WWII.

	“base” groups where they will share the information they recorded with the rest of their group. (40min)	
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Closure: (Ties the lesson together and relates it to the lesson’s guiding question)

There will be a list of questions that will be discussed in class to bring the material together and to check for the students’ understanding.

Students will be assigned to create a persuasive political cartoon that is supposed to convince America to enter WWII or to stay out. The cartoon must contain two examples from the events of the rise of dictators and the immediate causes of war, and explain their significance. This will be assigned for homework and due the next class meeting.

Aggression of the Axis Powers

Japan

On 7 July 1937, Japan, after occupying northeastern China (Manchuria) in 1931, launched another attack against China near Beijing (see Marco Polo Bridge Incident). Rather than retreating swiftly, as in previous engagements with the Japanese, the Chinese government began a war of resistance, marking the official start of the Second Sino-Japanese War, which would soon become part of the World War. The Japanese made vast initial advances, but were stalled in Shanghai for months in the Battle of Shanghai. The city eventually fell to the Japanese and in December 1937, the capital city, Nanking (now Nanjing), fell and the Chinese government moved its seat to Chongqing for the rest of the war. Surprised by the unanticipated level of resistance from China, the Japanese forces committed brutal atrocities against civilians and POWs when Nanking was occupied (see Nanjing Massacre), killing as many as 300,000 civilians within a month.

Germany

Germany was forbidden by the Treaty of Versailles to occupy the Rhineland, and area between the Rhine River and the French border. Hitler believed that if he violated this part of the treaty no one would respond. In March, 1936 Germany marched troops into the Rhineland, and neither the French nor the British reacted for fear of starting a war.

Germany wanted more land it considered belonged to it. Germany invaded Poland on September 1, 1939 in an attempt to conquer land that was taken from them in the Versailles Treaty. This violation of the Munich Agreement caused France and Great Britain to declare war on Germany on September 3, 1939, starting World War II.

Italy

Italy, led by Mussolini, wanted to expand its borders and saw Abyssinian (Present-day Ethiopia) as the perfect place. By 1932, the advance from Italian Somaliland was noticeable, as roads were being built well within what was considered Abyssinian (Ethiopia) territory.

In November of 1934, Abyssinian (Ethiopian) territorial troops, accompanied by the Anglo-Ethiopian boundary commission, protested Italy's incursion. The British members of the commission soon withdrew to avoid an international incident. In early December, the tensions mounted to a clash that left 150 Abyssinian (Ethiopian) and 50 Italian casualties. This resulted in the Abyssinia (Ethiopian) Crisis at the League of Nations.

The League of Nations exonerated both parties for the Walwal incident in September 1935. Italy soon began to build its forces on the borders of Abyssinia in Eritrea and Italian Somaliland.

With an attack appearing to be inevitable, the Emperor Haile Selassie ordered a general mobilization. His new recruits consisted of around 500,000 men, many of whom were armed with primitive weapons such as spears and bows.

Appeasement

Rhineland

In 1936 Germany entered an area of land between France and Germany known as the Rhineland. This was in direct violation of the Treaty of Versailles, but both the French and the British refused to take action for fear of causing war.

Austria

Hitler had tried to seize Austria in 1934 to unify the German-speaking people in both countries; "One blood demands one Reich." Italy mobilized its troops in response to Germany, and Germany backed down. Germany tried again in 1938, after they had signed a pact with Italy, and in March 1938 moved troops into Austria and proclaimed it a part of Germany. Austria asked France and Britain for help, but they refused for fear of causing war.

Czechoslovakia

Finally, Germany demanded to be able to annex the Sudetenland in Czechoslovakia because it believed it to be a part of Germany. This led to the Munich Agreement in 1938. The Munich Agreement was an agreement regarding the Sudetenland Crisis between the major powers of Europe after a conference held in Munich in Germany in 1938 and signed on September 29. The Sudetenland as discussed here was an area of Czechoslovakia, where the German minority was actually majority or close to majority. The Sudetenland was of immense strategic importance to Czechoslovakia, as most of its border defenses were situated there, along with huge armament facility -koda Works. The purpose of the conference was to discuss the future of Czechoslovakia and it ended up surrendering much of that state to Nazi Germany. It is considered by many to stand as a major example of appeasement. Because Czechoslovakia was not invited to the conference, the *Munich Agreement* is commonly called the *Munich Dictate* by the Czechs.

Weakness of the League of Nations

Lack of own Armed Forces

The League, like the modern United Nations, lacked an armed force of its own and depended on the Great Powers to enforce its resolutions, which they were very reluctant to do. Economic sanctions, which were the most severe measure the League could implement short of military action, were difficult to enforce and had no great impact on the target country, because they could simply trade with those outside the League. The problem is exemplified in the following passage, taken from *The Essential Facts About the League of Nations*, a handbook published in Geneva in 1939:

*"As regards the military sanctions provided for in paragraph 2 of Article 16, there is **no legal obligation** to apply them... there may be a political and moral duty incumbent on states... but, once again, there is no obligation on them."*

Reluctance of Members

The League's two most important members, the United Kingdom and France, were reluctant to use sanctions and even more reluctant to resort to military action on behalf of the League. So soon after World War I, the populations and governments of the two countries were pacifist. The British Conservatives were especially tepid on the League and preferred, when in government, to negotiate treaties without the involvement of the organization. Ultimately, the UK and France both abandoned the concept of collective security in favour of appeasement in the face of growing German militarism under Adolf Hitler.

No United States

Representation at the League was often a problem. Though it was intended to encompass all nations, many never joined, or their time as part of the League was short. One key weakness of the League was that the United States never joined, which took away much of the League's potential power. Even though President Woodrow Wilson had been a driving force behind the League's formation, the United States Senate voted on January 19, 1920 not to join the League.

Failures of the Treaty of Versailles

*“The day must come when a German Government will summon up the courage to declare to the foreign powers: ‘The **Treaty of Versailles** is founded on a monstrous lie. We refuse to carry out its terms any longer. Do what you will! If you wish for war go and get it! Then we shall see whether you can turn seventy million Germans into serfs and slaves!’”*
Adolf Hitler, “The Role of the Party”, Speech to the NSDAP, Munich, August, 1, 1923

Didn’t include all 14 Points

The leaders of the main countries involved in the creation of the Treaty of Versailles used some of Woodrow Wilson’s Fourteen Points when making the treaty. They included the creation of a League of Nations, a reduction of national armaments of all wartime countries, and a readjustment of colonial claims. However, the Treaty of Versailles was disputed over for the exact points of Wilson’s plan that the countries wanted to include. France didn’t want to include the point about free and equal trade for all countries that agree to the Treaty of Versailles, and Britain vetoed the point about having free and open seas during times of peace and war. These parts of the Fourteen Point Plan were left out of the Treaty of Versailles, and would help frustrate the countries of Europe to lead to World War II.

The Punishment of Germany

Germany’s economy was severely crippled with the removal of its resource rich territories by the Treaty. German possessions in the Balkans, Poland, and Africa were all confiscated by the allied powers after the war. These were the lands that contained good natural resources to help with the industrialization and production of German industries. Germany was also punished after WWI by the Treaty of Versailles through the requirement of paying reparations to the ally countries for damages during the war. Finally, the Treaty of Versailles also forced Germany to accept full responsibility for the starting WWI. Germany resented Great Britain and France for these punishments after WWI. The majority of the country, including Adolf Hitler, viewed the treaty as a lie and wanted to rebel against it.

Causes of World War II

Causes	How they led to war
<p data-bbox="267 657 771 751">Failures of the Treaty of Versailles</p>	<p data-bbox="824 331 1218 367"><u>Didn't Include All 14 Points:</u></p> <p data-bbox="824 661 1230 697"><u>The Punishment of Germany:</u></p>
<p data-bbox="251 1444 787 1539">Weaknesses of the League of Nations</p>	<p data-bbox="824 1081 1214 1117"><u>Lack of Own Armed Forces:</u></p> <p data-bbox="824 1375 1156 1411"><u>Reluctance of Members:</u></p> <p data-bbox="824 1669 1063 1705"><u>No United States:</u></p>

Appeasement

Rhineland:

Austria:

Czechoslovakia:

Aggression of Axis Powers

Japan:

Germany:

Italy:

Daily Agenda

March 10, 2006

“Let’s Get Started”



- What are three things you see in the cartoon?
- Who is in this cartoon?
- What are they doing?
- What is the message of this political cartoon?

Today’s:

- **SOL:** WHII.10 c & WHII.11 a
- **International Focus:** How did the rise of dictators led to the start of WWII?
- **Students Will Be Able To (SWBAT):**
 1. Identify and explain the main causes for WWII.
 2. Identify and explain the causes for the rise of the dictators of the 1920’s and 1930’s.
 3. Identify dictatorial regimes and their leaders in the 1930’s.

What we’re doing

- **PowerPoint lecture on the “Rise of Dictators” (Italy, Japan, Germany)**
- **Video on the Rise of Dictators – Fill out questionnaire**
- **Expert group activity on Causes of WWII**
- **PowerPoint on the Causes of WWII**

Checking for Understanding

- How did Hirohito and Tojo come to power?
- What were the aims and goals of Japan under these dictatorships?
- How did the need for natural resources push Japan to war?
- How did the economic situation of Italy in the 1920’s help bring Mussolini to power?
- What was the name of the new political movement Mussolini started?
- Why did Germany so willingly elect Hitler?
- What / who did Hitler blame for the depression in Germany?
- What were some of the failures of the Treaty of Versailles?
- Why did Germans resent the Allies and the Treaty of Versailles?
- What was it about the League of Nations that made it hard to enforce decisions and sanctions?

- Why did France and Great Britain allow Germany and Italy to build up their armies and capture land in Europe and Africa?
- What did Japan do in China to cause war?
- What did Italy do that helped push Europe into WWII?
- How did Germany initiate the declaration of war from France and Great Britain.

Homework

- Read pages 781 – 786 & 826 – 830
- Create a Political Cartoon that will persuade America to enter WWII or to continue with its non-interventionism policy. The cartoon must contain at least two references to the events that led to WWII (one from both the rise of dictators, and immediate causes of war). Each reference must be explained for what it's supposed to represent and the significance of the event. The cartoon should be clear and it should be able to convince me to go to war or to stay out as soon as I look at it. **(Due Wednesday 3/15)**

“Rise of Dictators” Questionnaire

1. What was World War I optimistically called?

War to end all wars

2. What three things made it hard for democracies to succeed in Europe?

1. War debts

2. Hunger

3. Poverty

3. What did the Treaty of Versailles ultimately do?

Lay the groundwork for the Second World War.

4. What did Stalin create when he took over Russia?

1. Created collectivization of agriculture

2. Created government control of industries and production

3. Created a Police State

4. Created purges of opposition

5. Created a communistic government

5. What political movement did Benito Mussolini create in Italy?

Fascism

6. What did the Nazi extreme form of nationalism lead them to believe?

The needs of their country are more important than others, and more important than individual rights.

7. What did Hitler want to do with all German speaking people?

Unite them into one state

8. What did Hitler capitalize on to take control of Germany?

Hate and racism

9. Like Germany and Italy, Japan desired what for its growing population?

More land and resources

10. The League of Nations condemned Japan's invasion of Manchuria, but what did they do to stop it?

Nothing

“Rise of Dictators” Questionnaire

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2. What three things made it hard for democracies to succeed in Europe?
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
3. What did the Treaty of Versailles ultimately do?
4. What did Stalin create when he took over Russia?
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 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
 - 5.
5. What political movement did Benito Mussolini create in Italy?
6. What did the Nazi extreme form of nationalism lead them to believe?
7. What did Hitler want to do with all German speaking people?
8. What did Hitler capitalize on to take control of Germany?
9. Like Germany and Italy, Japan desired what for its growing population?
10. The League of Nations condemned Japan’s invasion of Manchuria, but what did they do to stop it?