

## VISUAL STUDY GUIDE

QUICK  
FACTS

## World War II: 1939–1945

**German aggression leads to war**

- Rhineland militarized
- Austria and parts of Czechoslovakia annexed
- Poland invaded

**Axis Powers make early gains**

- Germany conquers Denmark, Norway, France, invades Soviet Union
- Nazis adopt the Final Solution and establish death camps
- Japan attacks Pearl Harbor, rules the Pacific

**The Allies fight back**

- British and Americans win in North Africa, Italy
- Soviets win at Stalingrad
- Americans win at Midway, begin island hopping

**The war ends**

- Soviets push back Germans from the east
- After D-Day, other Allies push toward Germany from the west
- Americans win in Pacific; atomic bomb ends war

## Major Events of World War II

- 1939** ■ Nazi-Soviet nonaggression pact  
 ■ German troops invade Poland and the war begins

- 1940** ■ Germany conquers France  
 ■ Battle of Britain begins

- 1941** ■ Germany invades the Soviet Union  
 ■ Japan attacks Pearl Harbor  
 ■ United States enters the war

- 1942** ■ Allies win the Battle of Midway  
 ■ Allied victory at El Alamein  
 ■ Allies begin to hear reports of widespread killings of Jews in Europe

- 1943** ■ Soviets win the Battle of Stalingrad  
 ■ Allies invade Italy

- 1944** ■ Allies invade France in D-Day  
 ■ Allies begin to discover death camps

- 1945** ■ Allies meet at Yalta and Potsdam  
 ■ Germany surrenders  
 ■ Allies win battles of Iwo Jima and Okinawa  
 ■ Allies drop atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki  
 ■ Japan surrenders and the war ends

## Review Key Terms and People

Complete each sentence by filling the blank with the correct term or person.

1. Neville Chamberlain pursued a policy known as \_\_\_\_\_ in dealing with the Germans.
2. Germany, Italy, and Japan formed an alliance known as the \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The British used the technology of \_\_\_\_\_ to help them win the Battle of Britain.
4. In 1941, Hitler's forces began the widespread, systematic killing that marked the start of the \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Hitler's plan to rearm Germany was an action that would \_\_\_\_\_ the Treaty of Versailles.
6. The Germans lost the \_\_\_\_\_ after being surrounded by Soviet troops.
7. In some cities the Nazis forced Jews to live in a \_\_\_\_\_, or confined area.
8. The \_\_\_\_\_ was the Nazi plan for the deliberate, mass execution of Jews.
9. On \_\_\_\_\_, the Allies launched a major, long-planned invasion of Europe.
10. The \_\_\_\_\_ was formed after the war to encourage international cooperation and prevent war.

**Persuasion: Writing an Evaluation** In the late 1930s, many Americans did not want to become involved in conflict in Europe, believing that the United States should stay out of troubles overseas. Others thought it was dangerous to ignore the aggressive actions of dictators in Europe and Asia. **21. Assignment:** In an essay, evaluate the wisdom of American isolationism. To provide support for your evaluation, use specific reasons and examples from the chapter and from other research.

**WRITING ABOUT HISTORY**

**20.** The Allied invasion of France, or D-Day, began on June 6, 1944, when 150,000 soldiers landed on the beaches of Normandy. Using the Internet, research what happened in Normandy on D-Day. Then write a report about the first 24 hours after the landing, using eyewitness accounts and other documents to support your work.

go.hrw.com  
Practice Online  
Keyword: SHL WW2

**Using the Internet**

- 18. Explain** Why is the man—and the viewer—being told to be quiet? How can talk “cost lives”?
- 19. Draw Conclusions** Why do you think the artist used the symbol of Uncle Sam?



**Reading Like a Historian** The American propaganda poster below shows a man being urged to be quiet by Uncle Sam, a symbol of the United States.

**Analyzing Visuals**

**History's Impact video program**  
Review the video to answer the closing question:  
How did events after World War II lead to the beginning of the Cold War?

**Comprehension and Critical Thinking**

- SECTION 1** (pp. 835–842)
- 11. a. Recall** How did Great Britain and France respond to Hitler's aggression in the late 1930s?
  - b. Explain** Why were the results of German attacks on France and Britain so different?
  - c. Predict** How might the Japanese success at Pearl Harbor have later hurt their cause?

- SECTION 2** (pp. 843–850)
- 12. a. Identify** Who won the battle to control the Atlantic?
  - b. Explain** In what ways did the Allied victory at Midway affect the war in the Pacific?
  - c. Make Judgments** How did the Battle of Stalingrad demonstrate Hitler's poor judgment?
- SECTION 3** (pp. 854–857)
- 13. a. Describe** How did the Nazi government treat German Jews before World War II began?
  - b. Identify Cause and Effect** How did German military victories lead to the Nazis' Final Solution?
  - c. Evaluate** What do you think of the Allies' decision to focus on winning the war rather than immediately trying to save the people in Nazi death camps?

- SECTION 4** (pp. 858–863)
- 14. a. Recall** What effect did D-Day have on the war in Europe?
  - b. Cause and Effect** What events helped bring about an end to the war in the Pacific?
  - c. Elaborate** In what ways did World War II affect the world?

**Reading Skills**

- Understanding Causes and Effects** Use what you know about understanding causes and effects to answer the questions below.
- 15.** Why did Germany begin to threaten much of Europe in the 1930s?
  - 16.** What effects did Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor have on the war?
  - 17.** List the causes and effects of Nazi anti-Semitism during the 1930s and 1940s.