

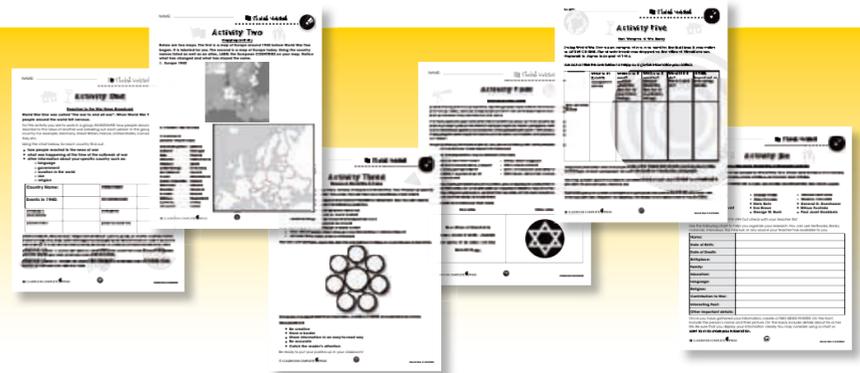


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Major Battles

1. Match each of the words below with the correct meaning. You may use a dictionary to help you.

1	neutral	carried by ship over the sea	A
2	aviator	a place where the military keeps supplies and equipment, where soldiers stay	B
3	seaborne	a warship with a deck so that airplanes can land and take off	C
4	surrender	people who are killed or injured during a battle	D
5	casualties	a pilot of an airplane	E
6	aircraft carrier	not supporting either side in a disagreement	F
7	base	to give over to someone else	G

2. Being **NEUTRAL** means not taking a side in an argument. Can you think of a time when you have been neutral in an argument? Why would you want to be neutral?



Major Battles

There were many battles fought during World War Two. Each one had **casualties**, and all caused damage. Three of the major battles are described below.

The Battle of Pearl Harbor December 7, 1941

As in World War One, the United States remained **neutral** for the first part of the Second World War. That changed when the American military **base** at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii was attacked at 7:55 a.m. on December 7, 1941.

Pearl Harbor was home for almost 50,000 American troops. It was the biggest American base in the Pacific region. The Japanese military attacked Pearl Harbor from the coast off of the island of Oahu. Japan's goal was to cause as much damage as possible. They especially wanted to damage battleships, **aircraft carriers** and airplanes on the ground. The attack was sudden. Hundreds of Japanese airplanes attacked the American base, damaging many American ships and airplanes. The Americans fought back. The attack was over in less than two hours. Close to 2,500 people lost their lives. This battle was the start of war between Japan and the U.S.

The Battle of Midway June 4 to June 7, 1942

The Battle of Midway has been called a "turning point" in World War Two. The battle occurred six months after the attack on Pearl Harbor. It took place on the Midway Islands, northwest of Hawaii. The U.S. defeated Japan by destroying several large ships and aircraft carriers.

Losing the Battle of Midway was terrible for the Japanese. They were not fighting to take over U.S. territory; they just wanted more control in the Pacific region. They thought that if they took the Midway Islands, the U.S. would not have power and that the Japanese could gain control. Japan lost many boats and aircraft, as well as **aviators** to operate the airplanes during the battle. As a result, the United States was able to gain control of that area of the Pacific Ocean.

The Battle of Normandy June 6, 1944

The Battle of Normandy started on June 6, 1944. This date is also known as D-Day. This battle was fought between the Nazis and the Allies, including American and Canadian soldiers. It is the largest **seaborne** invasion in history with almost three million troops involved. The battle began during the night as soldiers parachuted into France. Later, attacks came from the air and from the sea. The Battle of Normandy lasted for more than two months. It was the first of many victories for the Allies. Germany **surrendered** less than a year later.



Major Battles

1. Circle **T** if the statement is **TRUE** or **F** if it is **FALSE**. Go back to the reading passage to check your answers.

- T F a) The Japanese lost the Battle of Midway.
- T F b) The United States did not want to be neutral at the beginning of World War Two.
- T F c) The Battle of Normandy took place in Italy.
- T F d) The attack on Pearl Harbor was the beginning of the war between the United States and Japan.
- T F e) Japan wanted control of the Pacific Region.
- T F f) The Battle of Normandy started on June 6, 1944 which is also known as D-Day.
- T F g) Germany surrendered within a year of the Battle of Normandy.
- T F h) Pearl Harbor has been called a "turning point" in World War Two.

2. What was the **TURNING POINT** of World War Two?

3. What signaled that start of war between Japan and the United States?



Major battles

4. Use the words in the list to give the answer to each clue. Write the correct term on the line.

casualties	aircraft carrier	surrendered	
neutral	aviator	base	seaborne

- _____ a) The United States did not want to take sides.
- _____ b) Without these, Japanese airplanes could not get off the ground.
- _____ c) Able to have airplanes land and take off in the middle of an ocean.
- _____ d) These were people who were injured or killed in battles.
- _____ e) When soldiers are carried by ship to get to a place
- _____ f) The Germans gave up shortly after the Battle of Normandy; they knew they could not win.
- _____ g) This is a place where soldiers live and train, and where the military keeps supplies and equipment.

Research & Application

5. The United States government has military bases all over the country and all over the world. Find out where some of these bases are and then choose **one** to investigate. Create a poster that shows the following information:

- **Name**
- **Location (include a map)**
- **Size**
- **Specialty (air force, navy, etc.)**
- **Special features (tours, museum, special forces)**
- **At least three other interesting facts**

Be ready to share your poster with the class.

6. Many cities and towns across the United States grew because of a military base close by. Find out if there is a military base near your hometown. If you can, make plans to go and visit it. If you cannot visit the base, do some research at the local library or on the Internet to find out more about the military base close to your community. Write a **three-paragraph** information piece about what you have discovered.



The End of War

2. Use the following words to fill in the blanks.

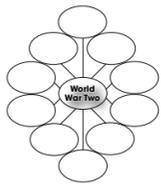
perished	emerged	surrendered
conflict	influence	agencies

World War Two was the biggest _____ in history. Many countries were involved and many people _____ in the fighting. War ended in Europe on May 7, 1945 when the German forces _____ to the allies. Although peace came to the world, new tensions _____ between the United States and the Soviet Union. Both wanted to be superpowers and have _____ over other countries. Today the United Nations works to bring peace to many parts of the world. Many UN _____ try to improve the lives of people around the world.

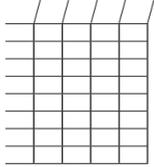
Research & Application

3. **Statistics** are numbers that give information about different things. For example, in World War Two, 55 million people perished. That is a statistic of the number of people who died. Do some research to find out different statistics about World War Two.

a) In the first part, gather statistics about **ten** different "topics". Use the web organizer on the next page to help you.



b) In the second part, gather statistics using **five to eight** of the "topics" from part A for **at least three** different countries involved in World War Two. Use the chart on page 34 to help you organize your information.



Crossword Puzzle!

Across

- The armed forces of a country
- A rotating structure onto which guns are mounted
- An expression of an intent to do harm
- To pass away; to die
- To enter and take over in hopes of getting something
- A demand that if rejected means the end of peace
- A connection based on similar ideas
- Not weak; not uncertain
- Something that is very complicated or complex

Down

- The one who defeats an enemy; the winner
- To become known
- An extended struggle
- A hidden supply that may be stored
- Having a high price
- An exchange of information
- Organized spreading of certain ideas
- Having little strength
- Given over to someone else
- An extreme shortage of food



Comprehension Quiz

1. Circle **T** if the statement is **TRUE** or **F** if it is **FALSE**.

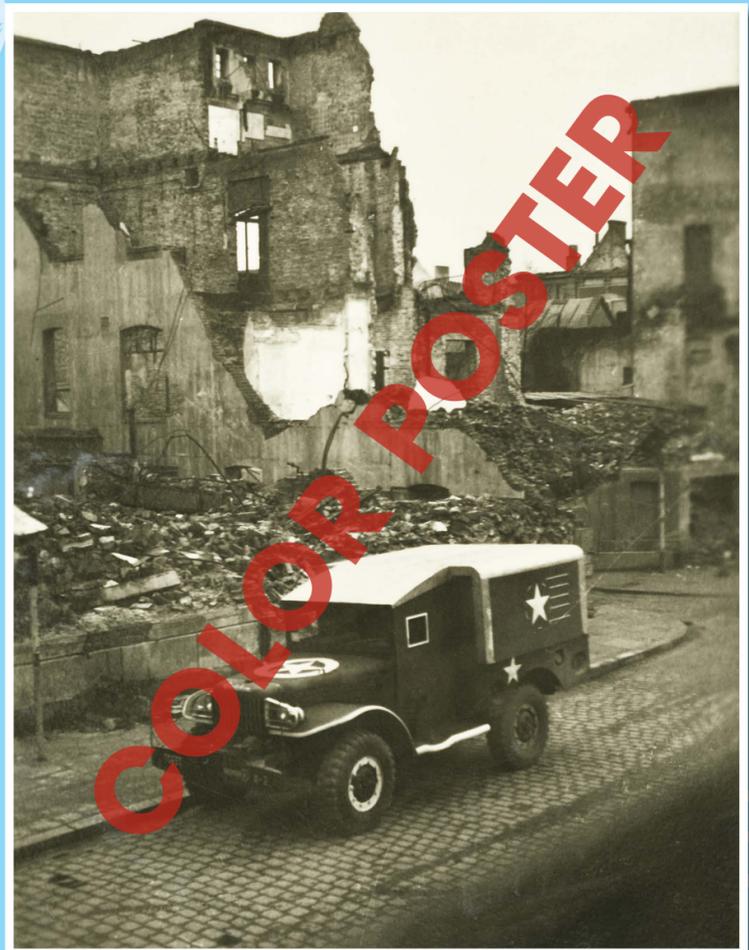
- T F** a) World War Two is one of the most important events in world history.
- T F** b) World War Two lasted for eight years.
- T F** c) Many people died in fighting; many people also died from disease.
- T F** d) The Treaty of Versailles allowed people to live in peace.
- T F** e) Adolf Hitler became the leader of Germany in 1933.
- T F** f) Blitzkrieg means lightning warfare.
- T F** g) The U.S. joined World War Two at the Battle of Pearl Harbor.
- T F** h) World War Two was not the biggest war in history.

2. Fill in the blanks with the words in the list. There will be six words left over.

reserves	influence	transportation	blamed
promote	perished	economic depression	tension
sophisticated	Pearl Harbor	propaganda	fatigue
Normandy	alliances	aviators	invaded

World War Two began when Germany _____ Poland. After World War One the Treaty of Versailles was meant to _____ peace but it was never enforced fully. Since Germany was _____ for World War One, many people in Germany were angry. Germany wanted revenge. The _____ was another factor that led to war. Many people were poor and were desperate for help. The rise of both nationalism and militarism led to _____ in Europe. Countries formed _____. One side was the Axis and the other was the Allies. Adolf Hitler became leader of Germany. He used _____ to get people to agree with him. He told Germans that other people were to be blamed for their problems. Hitler invaded Austria and Czechoslovakia; other countries did not stop him. When Hitler invaded Poland, the allies responded and World War Two started. The United States became involved when the Japanese military attacked _____ from off the coast of Hawaii. The U.S. then defeated the Japanese at the Battle of Midway. By 1943, the Axis powers were showing signs of _____. By 1945, World War Two ended. The allies were victorious. New tensions developed between the United States and the Soviet Union. Both countries wanted to be superpowers and have _____ over others.

Destruction of WW II



NAME: _____

After You Read 



Germany's Role in the War

1. Below is a list of events that took place leading up to World War Two. Put the events in order in which they occurred. Place a one on the line for the first event, a two for the second event, etc. Go back to the reading to check your answers.

- _____ a) World War Two begins on September 3, 1939.
- _____ b) March 1939, Hitler takes over all of Czechoslovakia.
- _____ c) France and Great Britain agree to give some of Czechoslovakia to Hitler.
- _____ d) Great Britain and France issue an ultimatum to Hitler.
- _____ e) August 31, 1939, a prisoner dressed like a Polish soldier is shot on the border of Poland and Germany.
- _____ f) In 1933, Adolf Hitler becomes the leader of Germany.
- _____ g) Hitler makes a deal with the Soviet Union.
- _____ h) People in Germany begin to put their hope in the Nazi Party.
- _____ i) Germany takes over Austria.
- _____ j) Hitler invades Poland.
- _____ k) People in Europe are unsure what to do.
- _____ l) Blitzkrieg attacks take place in Poland.

Accept any reasonable answer

18

1.

a) 12

b) 6

c) 5

d) 11

e) 8

f) 3

g) 7

h) 2

i) 4

j) 9

k) 1

l) 10

19

2.

Lightening warfare; rapid firing of guns and weapons

3.

People needed to have hope in something; they believed he would help them out of the economic depression

4.

Answers will vary

5.

Answers will vary

20

1.

a) seaborne

b) base

c) aircraft carrier

d) casualties

e) aviator

f) neutral

g) surrender

2.

Answers will vary

21

1.

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

2.

Battle of Midway

Battle of Pearl Harbor

23



4.

a) neutral

b) aviator

c) aircraft carrier

d) casualties

e) seaborne

f) surrendered

g) base

6.

Answers will vary

24

EASY MARKING ANSWER KEY