

Name: _____

World War II Study Guide

Vocabulary

appeasement

Battle of Britain

blitzkrieg

Holocaust

Polish Corridor

genocide

Vichy Government

D-Day

Winston Churchill

Guided Questions

1. Who were the Axis powers?
2. Who were the Allied powers?
3. What early excuses did Hitler and Mussolini use for their expansion?
4. Why did Hitler believe the German people had the right to invade other countries?
5. How did the rest of the world react to Fascist expansion?
6. At what point did Europeans realize that Hitler would not be appeased with anything less than the domination of Europe?
7. How did Churchill convince the British to keep going in spite of overwhelming odds?

8. The Nazis attempted genocide against several groups (including Jews). Name them.
9. The Nazis identified Jewish people racially rather than religiously. What does that mean, and why was it a problem for people that didn't practice Judaism?
10. Besides the obvious (being a genocide), what was especially nonsensical (stupid) about the Holocaust?
11. Why did Hitler invade the Soviet Union?
12. What allowed the USSR to win the Battle of Stalingrad? Why was Stalingrad significant?
13. Why was the U.S. participation in the war important for the other Allied powers?
14. What was the Allied plan following the Casablanca Conference?
15. What happened on D-Day?
16. What happened to Hitler at the end of the war?
17. How did the treatment of the losers of WWII differ from the end of WWI? Why is that significant?