

# Hitler's Lightning War

Pgs. 441 – 446

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_

*FLT: I will be able to explain the major battles and turning points in the European theatre during WWII.*

1. What is the main idea of this section? Why does it matter now?

## **Germany Sparks a New War in Europe**

2. What are two reasons Stalin decided to sign the nonaggression pact with Hitler?
3. When did France and Great Britain declare war on Germany? What made them declare war?
4. What was Germany's military strategy called? What does it mean? What did it involve?
5. When did Stalin and the Soviets make their move? Which countries fell to the Soviet Union?
6. Describe Finland's resistance to Soviet invasion. What was the outcome and why?
7. Why was the Phony war called "the phony war?" Which two countries fell to Hitler after the phony war?

## **The Battle for France and Great Britain**

8. Which three countries did Hitler take next? What strategy was this invasion a part of?
9. What happened on May 26, 1940 when the Germans joined forces with German troops in Belgium?
10. Describe what happened in one of the most heroic acts of the war from Great Britain.
11. How did France fall? What part of France did the Germans take control?

12. Who was Charles de Gaulle? What was the unoccupied part of France now called?
13. What was the essential message in the famous words of Winston Churchill's inspiring speech?
14. What was Hitler's plan to invade Great Britain called? What was the plan?
15. What two secret weapons helped turn the tide of war in favor of Great Britain? What was the greatest weapon for the British? (Read "History Makers" in the margin of p.444).
16. What was the crucial lesson learned by the Allies after the Battle of Britain had ended in May 10, 1941?

### **The Eastern Front and the Mediterranean**

17. What was Germany's first objective in the Mediterranean and why? Why did Mussolini join the war?
18. How did Great Britain strike back? Who was General Erwin Rommel?
19. Why did Hitler want to build bases in southeastern Europe? Which two countries fell to Hitler here?
20. What was Hitler's *Operation Barbarossa*? Why was the Soviet Red Army not prepared? What did the Russians do as they retreated (same strategy against Napoleon – do you remember what it's called?)
21. What was the outcome of Hitler's invasion of the Soviet Union? What gave the Soviets an advantage?

### **The United States Aids its Allies**

22. How did the U.S. begin to help the Allies? What was the Atlantic Charter?