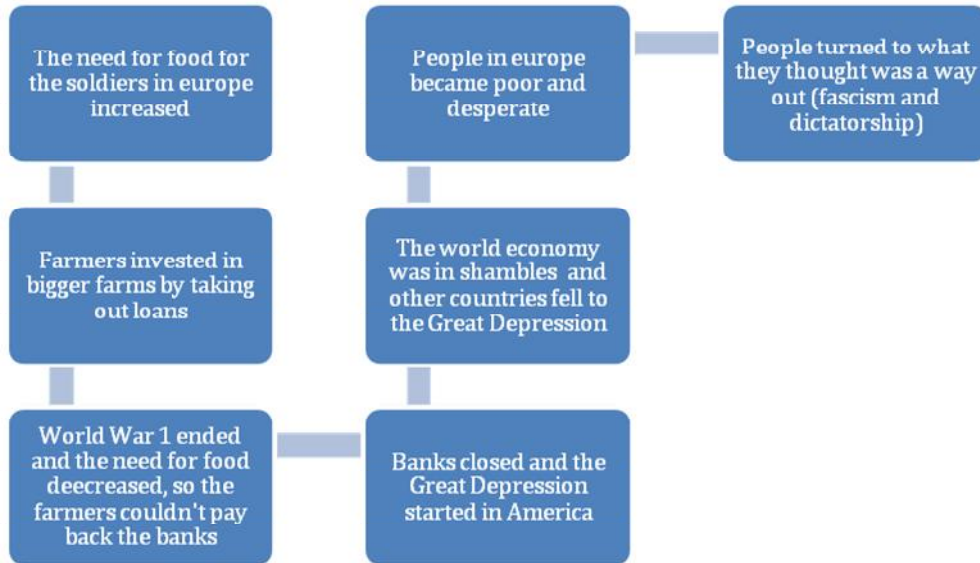


Essential Questions

1. Although the allies had won World War I, their economies were in shambles and most were faced with political instabilities. (Adam Kaddoura)



2. The isolation of the USA forced Europeans to solve their own economic and political problems in the 1920s and 1930s. (Adam Kaddoura)

- Since the USA was in a depression, they had to worry about themselves and could no longer give out loans to Germany and other nations in Europe who needed the money.

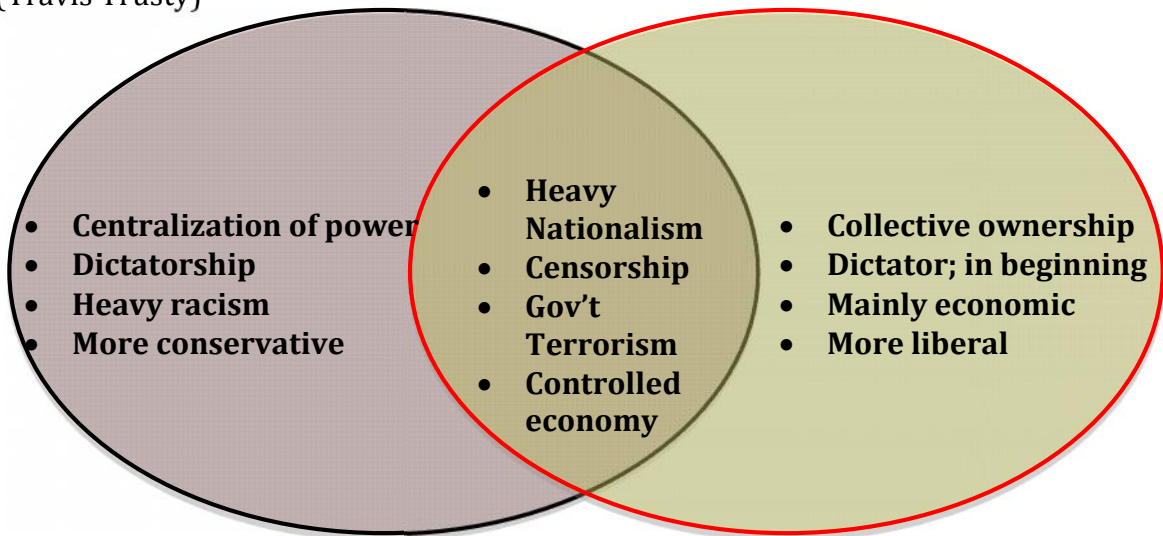
3. The eschewing of the USSR by western European allies led to resentment and distrust of western powers by Stalin. (Adam Kaddoura)

- Western Powers disliked USSR's communist government.
- Stalin's fake promises of free elections angered the Western Powers.
- They would not allow the USSR to control Eastern European countries.
- Stalin claims the Western Powers did not support them on the Eastern Front.

4. (Travis Trusty)

Fascism

Communism



5. Differing motives led some Europeans to favor the appeasement of Hitler while others favored the popular front movement. (Travis Trusty)

	France	Great Britain	Russia	USA	Italy
Position (regarding appeasement)	Against	For	For	Neutral	For
Motive	Wanted to cripple Germany in order to prevent another war.	Wanted to stop war by not giving Hitler a reason to get upset.	Wanted to prevent Germany from invading if a war started.	Non-European; enjoyed natural isolation from European politics.	Wanted to ally with Germany in order to increase political power.

6. Worldwide economic problems hastened the rise of totalitarian regimes in Germany and Italy during the mid-war years. (Travis Trusty)

- The Great Depression caused:
 1. Inflation
 2. Unemployment
 3. Low living standards
 4. Resentment for the gov't
- The poor worldwide economy in turn allowed totalitarianism to rise because:
 1. The people were desperate for change
 2. The people wanted a strong leader to improve life

7. Anti-Semitism threatened security and lives of German Jews by the mid-1930s eventually culminating in the Holocaust. (Travis Trusty)

- Anti-Semitism, in the time surrounding the Holocaust, was common
 1. Nuremberg Laws
 2. Book burnings
 3. Boycott of Jewish businesses
 4. Laws limiting Jewish jobs and educational opportunities
 5. Exploitation of Jews by authoritarian rulers

Essential Questions

1. How did the apparent victory of democracy in WWI deteriorate into the totalitarian regimes of the 1930s and what accounted for the setbacks to many parts of Europe? (Adam Kaddoura)

- When the Great Depression hit Europe, many people became not only poor but also very desperate for change.
- They turned to communism, fascism, and dictatorship as a way out.

2. What are the similarities and differences between fascism and communism?

Fascism	Communism
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centralization of power • Heavy racist and nationalistic dictatorship • Controlled economy • Conservative • Used censorship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collective ownership • Dictatorship in the beginning • Run by people after • More liberal • Used terrorism • Nationalistic

3. Why did the Germans support Hitler? (Steven Cheng)

- They were in a state of economic depression and general decline causing them to look to someone who could reestablish Germany as it was.
- Hitler came out with many promises that intrigued the Germans.

4. Why was anti-Semitism accepted in the mid-war years?

- Anti-Semitism came to be generally accepted because Europe needed a scapegoat
- During the mid-war years, Hitler had already established a deep abhorrence of Jews causing his followers to share his views
- Hitler’s opinions and spread through countries as he conquered them.

5. How did the general mood of the 1930s compare with that of the 1920s? (Travis Trusty)

1920s	1930s
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tension between central powers and allies over post-WWI terms • France is trying to limit Germany’s power • Acceptance of socialism • Push for reform 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rising nationalism • Acceptance of fascist leaders • Disgruntled workers • Desire for new gov’t

6. Is it possible to “outlaw war as an instrument of international policy?”

- War will always happen due the political differences and economical turmoil.
- People will do anything when they are desperate even believe in people who are willing to kill millions.

7. How do economic problems affect politics? (Steven Cheng)

- Exemplified in Italy and Germany.
- When a countries economy sharply declines, the people suffer and desperately try to solve this problem.
- If one were to rise up and promise adjustments to consolidate the problems, he would obtain the majority of the population.
- The great depression is perhaps the quintessential example of such.
- Europe’s rapid decline of economics caused fascism to rise with Benito Mussolini and Adolf Hitler in Italy and Germany

1. There were two main theatres of World War II, each with differing causes.

- Allies (U.S.S.R., the US, and Great Britain.)

Brett Magnan, Adam Kaddoura, Travis Trusty, and Steven Cheng

- Sought to put down fascism and enforce democracy
 - Axis (Nazi Germany, fascist Italy, and Japan)
 - Based on imperialistic thoughts to conquer as much land as possible.
2. The various steps in the appeasement of Hitler were actually steps toward the outbreak of war.
- The League of Nations didn't want to upset Hitler by using force.
 - Hitler saw this as an opportunity to attack.
 - Hitler's attack on Poland started WWII
3. There was a lot of distrust between USSR and western powers and the USA because the USSR felt that the powers on the western front didn't attack quickly enough, leaving the USSR to fight a one front war against Germany.
4. Many European countries felt with the poverty and distress after the war by looking for a way out through socialism and fascism.

Essential Questions

1. What were the major causes of the outbreak of the war with Germany and with Japan? (Travis Trusty)
- Both wanted to increase their power and influence and they both wanted to get revenge for earlier embarrassments to their people
 - Japan against America for forcing trade to open between Japan and the west
 - Germany against Europe for unfair post-WWI treatment.
 - Why they wanted war.
 - Germany wanted to create a master race in the world
 - Japan wanted to assert themselves to a new height of power with their newly industrialized country.
2. Why is the Munich crisis considered to be an important turning point in the impending outbreak WWII?
- It was the largest display of weakness by the League of Nations.
 - Gave Hitler the chance to take Czechoslovakia and the confidence to defy the League of Nations.
3. How did decisions made at the Yalta and Potsdam Conferences affect the post-war Europe? (Adam Kaddoura and Brett Magnan)
- Stalin promised free-elections at Yalta, the changed his mind at Potsdam.
 - Angered the US and led to the Cold War.
4. How did the world deal with post-war European social and economic problems, such as poverty, refugees, and general political and economic disorganization?
- The United States gave money to Western Europe to rebuild their countries, Eastern Countries didn't accept money. Cold War was a war of ideals.
5. How did the use of the atomic bomb forever change the world? (Steven Cheng)
- Tremendous scientific discovery.
 - Countries began to use these newly developed atomic bombs as threats to obtain what they want after World War II.
 - In the Cold War and the "atomic age", the tension between the communists and western powers was greatly stressed due to the constant threats of the destructive atomic bomb.