

World War II

Every now and then, something so significant will happen that nothing is left unchanged. Its impact is felt throughout the world, and everyone will live their lives differently because nothing in their world will be the same. The Second World War is just such a “watershed” event. Art, architecture, science, literature, politics, music, industry, and any other field one can imagine can be broken into pre-war and post-war categories. This was truly a turning point in every imaginable way.

But why? We’ve fought other wars, and we’ve fought most of these enemies before. Why is WWII so special? While there are no simple answers here, most historians can agree upon several reasons for the significance of “The Big One.” Over the course of the next few weeks, we will attempt to acquire a general understanding of the causes, events, and effects of the war.

Focus Questions: (Don’t be shocked if some of these appear on your test as short answer questions)

- How did totalitarian dictators rise to power in Europe and Japan?
- How did World War II start?
- Consider the “step by step” nature of the beginning of WWII. Why wasn’t this war avoided?
- Describe the events that led up to victory in Europe.
- Describe the events that led up to victory over Japan.
- Why did we use the atomic bomb and what effect did it have on the World?

Date	Topic	Objectives and Targets	Homework
Fri 1/2/14	Rise of Dictators	Explain HOW totalitarian dictators rose to power on Germany, Italy, Japan, and the Soviet Union. Identify and explain the changes that occurred in those countries under the rule of those dictators.	Open Book 7.1
Mon 12/17	The Start of WWII	Describe the events that threatened peace in the late 1930s, and explain how they collectively led to WWII.	7.2
Tue 12/18	The War in Europe	Describe (and explain the significance of) each of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● War in the Atlantic ● The War for North Africa ● The Invasion of Italy ● D-Day ● The battle of the Bulge ● The Surrender of Germany 	7.3
Wed 12/19	WWII in the Pacific	Describe (and explain the significance of) each of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● MacArthur and the Philippines ● The Battles of Coral Sea and Midway ● Kamikazes ● The Battles of Iwo Jima and Okinawa ● The Manhattan Project ● Hiroshima and Nagasaki ● The Yalta Conference 	7.5

Thu 12/20	The End of the War	Evaluate the arguments surrounding the Atomic bombs used to end the war, both then and now.	7.6
Fri 12/21	WWII Test		
Mon 1/7	The War at Home	Explain the social, political, economic, and cultural changes that WWII brought to America.	Open Book Chapter 7, section 4 (pgs 227-230)
Tue 1/8	Japanese Internment	Explain and evaluate the Japanese internment camps.	Chapter 7.4 (231-236)
Wed 1/9	Ed Puzzle: <i>Homefront</i>	Explain the social, political, economic, and cultural changes that WWII brought to America.	
Thu 1/10	Ed Puzzle: <i>Homefront</i>	Explain the social, political, economic, and cultural changes that WWII brought to America.	
Fri 1/11	Homefront Quiz/Essay		
Mon 1/14		Exam Review	
Tue 1/15		Exam Review	
Wed 1/16	Exams	1 st and 2 nd	
Thu 1/17	Exams	3 rd and 4 th	
Fri 1/18	Exams	5 th and 6 th	

