

New Bedford Public Schools
Division of Adult & Continuing Education

New Bedford High School Evening Extension

2019 – 2020 School Year
Trimester III

Learning Packet #2
for
U.S. History II

Teacher: *Mr. William Monty*
Social Studies Department
New Bedford High School
230 Hathaway Boulevard
New Bedford, MA 02740
wmonty@newbedfordschools.org

Email Mr. Monty with questions/concerns regarding
this packet at the email address listed above.

Due date: May 5, 2020

US History II Students:

PART I:

Please read the attached articles and follow the instructions to complete the exercises.

PART II:

Answer the following questions with an extended (minimum of three paragraphs) responses.

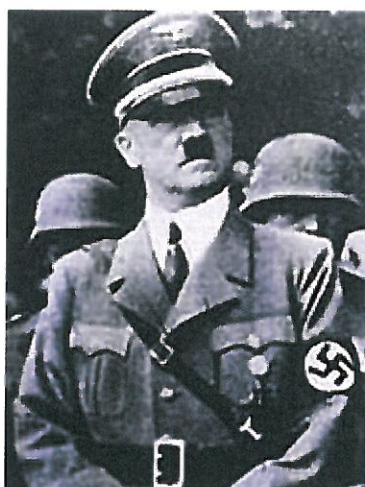
- 1) Why was Germany unhappy with the Treaty of Versailles?
- 2) What condition was Germany in during the ten years after World War I?
- 3) How did Adolf Rise to power in Germany?
- 4) Why did European countries allow Hitler to rebuild and expand Germany?
- 5) Why did World War II happen?

Adolf Hitler

- **Occupation:** Dictator of Germany
- **Born:** April 20, 1889 in Braunau am Inn, Austria-Hungary
- **Died:** April 30 1945 in Berlin, Germany
- **Best known for:** Starting World War II and the Holocaust

Biography:

Adolf Hitler was the leader of [Germany](#) from 1933 to 1945. He was leader of the Nazi party and became a powerful dictator. Hitler started [World War II](#) by invading Poland and then invading many other European countries. He is also known for wanting to exterminate the Jewish people in the [Holocaust](#).



Adolf Hitler
from the US Holocaust Museum

Where did Hitler grow up?

Adolf was born on April 20, 1889 in a city named Braunau am Inn in the country of Austria. His family moved around some, living a short while in Germany and then back to Austria. Hitler did not have a happy childhood. Both his parents died fairly young and many of his brothers and sisters died as well.

Adolf did not do well in school. He was expelled from a couple of schools before he moved to Vienna, Austria to pursue his dream of becoming an artist. While living in Vienna, Hitler found that he did not have much artistic talent and he soon became very poor. He would later move to Munich, Germany in hopes of becoming an architect.

Soldier in World War I

When World War I began, Hitler joined the German army. Adolf was awarded twice with the Iron Cross for bravery. It was during World War I that Hitler became a strong German patriot and also came to love war.

Rise in Power

After the war, Hitler entered politics. Many Germans were upset that they had lost the war. They were also not happy with the [Treaty of Versailles](#), which not only blamed the war on Germany, but took land from Germany. At the same time, Germany was in an economic depression. Many people were poor. Between the depression and the Treaty of Versailles, the time was ripe for Hitler to rise to power.



*Mussolini (left) and Hitler
from the National Archives*

Once entering politics, Hitler discovered that he was gifted in giving speeches. His speeches were powerful and people believed what he said. Hitler joined the Nazi party and soon became its leader. He promised Germany that if he became leader he would restore Germany to greatness in Europe. In 1933 he was elected Chancellor of Germany.

After becoming Chancellor, there was no stopping Hitler. He had studied his idol, Benito Mussolini of Italy, about how to install a fascist government and become a dictator. Soon Hitler was dictator of Germany.

World War II

In order for Germany to grow, Hitler thought the country needed more land or “living space”. He first annexed Austria as part of Germany and then took over part of Czechoslovakia. This wasn’t enough, however. On September 1, 1939 Germany invaded Poland and World War II began. Hitler formed an alliance with the [Axis Powers](#) of Japan and Italy. They were fighting the [Allied Powers](#) of Britain, France, the Soviet Union, and the United States.



Hitler in Paris
from the National Archives

Hitler's army began to take over much of Europe. They attacked quickly in what was called Blitzkrieg or "lightning war". Soon Germany had captured much of Europe including France, Denmark, and Belgium.

However, the Allies fought back. On June 6, 1944 they invaded the [beaches of Normandy](#) and soon liberated France. By March of 1945 the Allies had defeated much of the German army. On April 30, 1945 Hitler committed suicide.

The Holocaust and Ethnic Cleansing

Hitler was responsible for some of the most horrible crimes committed in human history. He hated Jewish people and wanted to exterminate them from Germany. He forced Jewish people to go to concentration camps where 6 million Jews were killed during World War II. He also had other people and races he didn't like killed including handicapped people.

Facts about Hitler

- Hitler loved the circus, especially the acrobats.
- He never took his coat off, no matter how hot it got.
- He didn't exercise and didn't like sports.
- Only one of Hitler's 5 siblings survived childhood, his sister Paula.
- Hitler was temporarily blind from a mustard gas attack during World War I.
- He had a cat named Schnitzel.

Questions on Hitler

1. In what country was Adolf Hitler born?
 - a. Germany
 - b. Austria
 - c. France
 - d. Denmark
 - e. Switzerland

2. As a young man, Hitler moved to Vienna to pursue his dream in what career?
 - a. Engineering
 - b. Business
 - c. Construction
 - d. Military
 - e. Art

3. Which of the following best describes Adolf Hitler's childhood?
 - a. He grew up in a happy home
 - b. His parents were wealthy and he did well in school
 - c. Both his parents and several siblings died while he was still young
 - d. His father was a leader in the German government who helped Adolf rise to power
 - e. He was known as a child genius and a superior athlete

4. Hitler joined the German army and fought during what war?
 - a. Boxer Rebellion
 - b. Franco-Prussian War
 - c. Spanish Civil War
 - d. World War I
 - e. Napoleonic Wars

5. Which of the following helped Adolf Hitler to rise to power in Germany?
 - a. Poor economic conditions following World War I
 - b. The Treaty of Versailles
 - c. Loss of land and prestige from losing World War I
 - d. All of the above
 - e. None of the above

6. Hitler rose to power as the leader of what political party?

- a. Nazi
- b. Democratic
- c. Communist
- d. Socialist
- e. Labor

7. Who was Benito Mussolini to Hitler?

- a. His leading general during World War II
- b. The dictator of Italy who Hitler idolized
- c. His main rival for power in Germany who Hitler had killed
- d. Hitler's friend and fascist leader of Spain
- e. An enemy of Hitler who tried to overthrow Hitler early on during his rise to power

8. What two countries were Germany's main two allies during World War II?

- a. France and the United Kingdom
- b. Russia and Austria
- c. Italy and Japan
- d. China and Spain
- e. Greece and the United States

9. What is the name given to Hitler's killing of 6 million Jewish people during World War II?

- a. The Blitzkrieg
- b. The Great Terror
- c. The Holocaust
- d. The Blitz
- e. The Gestapo

10. How did Adolf Hitler die?

- a. He was executed by the Allies for war crimes
- b. He died when his bunker exploded during battle
- c. He was poisoned by one of his generals
- d. He committed suicide
- e. He escaped to South America and died of old age

Name: _____

Date: _____

The Rise of Hitler

At the completion of the war, American president Woodrow Wilson argued for fair treatment of Germany by the Allied Powers. Wilson believed that a League of Nations was needed to prevent future wars. However, France and England wanted vengeance. The resulting Treaty of Versailles imposed terrible hardships on Germany. The treaty stripped Germany of its overseas colonies and its coal-rich Saar region. Germany was limited to a small army and was forbidden to build large ships. The treaty also forced Germany to pay Great Britain and France for the damage caused by the war. The German people were quite proud, but they were in no position to oppose the terms dictated by England and France.

Life for the German people became very difficult after the Treaty of Versailles. Germany was forced to borrow vast sums of money from America in order to pay its war debt to England and France. In 1929, the United States experienced an economic depression. A depression is a time when business is bad and many people are out of work. America was unable to continue lending money to Germany during the depression. Without the income from American loans, Germany was unable to pay its war reparations to England and France. The result was a severe depression in Germany. German money became close to worthless. The German people were angry with the Treaty of Versailles; they felt the terms were unfair. Many Germans believed a strong leader could return their nation to greatness.

In 1923, Adolf Hitler attempted to overthrow the German government. He was unsuccessful, and sent to prison for nine months. While in prison, Hitler wrote *Mein Kampf*, which means “my struggle.” Hitler suggested that there were easy solutions to the complex problems the German people faced in the 1920s. Hitler blamed Germany’s problems on its weak government. He said Germany had lost the war because of “a stab in the back.”

Hitler spoke in a charismatic style that impressed the German people. He blamed outsiders for causing problems in the nation. He argued that if pure Germans known as Aryans controlled the destiny of Germany, it would return to greatness. Hitler placed the blame for many of Germany’s problems on one group: the Jews.

By January 1933, Hitler and his National Socialist (Nazi) party controlled Germany. Hitler became a dictator, a leader with complete control. The Nazis acted quickly against all who opposed their rule. They outlawed all other political parties. People who opposed the new regime were often murdered.

The Nazis focused on teenagers, and trained them to follow Hitler’s beliefs. The Boy Scouts and other teenage organizations were outlawed. Teens were encouraged to join the “Hitler Youth,” where they chanted Nazi slogans and were taught that they had the power to fulfill Germany’s destiny as a world power.

*This is a higher order learning question. You must answer the question to the best of your ability, but any reasonable answer will be graded as correct.

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Name: _____

Date: _____

Fill in the Blanks

The G_____ War lasted far longer and exacted a greater toll than anyone expected. The v_____ European nations wanted v_____ on Germany. American President Woodrow W_____ wanted to form a L_____ of N_____ to prevent future w_____, but the American *C_____ refused to join the organization. The *A__l__e__ forced Germany to *a__c__p__ the T_____ of V_____. Germany was s_____ of its c_____ in *Af_____. Additionally, Germany was also l_____ to a small a_____, forbidden to b_____ large s_____, and forced to pay F_____ and G_____ B_____ for the d_____ caused by the w_____.

The terms of the T_____ of V_____ led to a severe d_____ in Germany. Many frustrated G_____ people believed a strong l_____ could r_____ their n_____ to g_____. Some G_____ began to listen to the c_____ voice of Adolph H_____, who blamed o_____ for the p_____ facing the nation. H_____ argued that pure G_____ he called A_____ could return the nation to greatness. He placed the b_____ for many of G_____’s problems on the J_____. Hitler and his N_____ party took c_____ of Germany in 1933. The ruthless N_____ outlawed all other political parties. Soon after, H_____ became the d_____ of G_____.

*This is a higher order learning question. You must answer the question to the best of your ability, but any reasonable answer will be graded as correct.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Answer in complete sentences

*1. Why do you think the Americans were less interested in vengeance after the Great War than the French or British?

2. How did an economic depression in America in 1929 lead to an ever greater economic depression in Germany?

*3. Why were many German people initially attracted to Adolph Hitler's ideas?

Name: _____

Date: _____

4. What book did Adolph Hitler write while in prison?

*5. Describe how Adolph Hitler and his National Socialist party gained complete control of Germany in the 1930s.
