

Turning Points to Victory

Trace how key World War II events changed the course of the war.

USII.6 "The student will apply history and social science skills to understand the major causes and events of World War II and the effects of America's role by explaining the rise and spread of fascism and totalitarianism internationally and the..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline events that changed the direction of the war. Then number three events that form one cause-to-outcome chain, beginning with a cause and ending with an Axis surrender.

From Aggression to Allied Victory

- ① In the 1930s, fascist and totalitarian governments gained power in Germany and Italy, while military leaders controlled Japan. Adolf Hitler used Nazi propaganda, fear, and antisemitism to control Germany. Benito Mussolini ruled Italy, while Japan's military leaders expanded into Asia. Many British and French leaders followed appeasement, allowing Hitler to take land in hopes of avoiding war. Germany invaded Poland in 1939, starting World War II in Europe. The United States stayed neutral at first, but aided Allied nations with supplies.
- ② Japan attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, bringing the United States into the war. President Franklin D. Roosevelt led the United States, while Winston Churchill led Great Britain and Joseph Stalin led the Soviet Union. At Midway in 1942, U.S. forces sank four Japanese aircraft carriers, stopping Japan's advance. U.S. forces later fought at Iwo Jima and Okinawa, costly Pacific battles that helped open the way for an Allied invasion of Japan.
- ③ Allied forces invaded Italy in 1943, weakening Mussolini's Axis government. On D-Day in 1944, troops landed in Normandy, France, creating a western front against Germany. The Soviet army pushed from the east. After Germany's final attack failed at the Battle of the Bulge, Allied and Soviet forces closed on Berlin. Germany surrendered in May 1945. In the Pacific, President Harry S. Truman approved atomic bombs developed by the Manhattan Project, and Japan surrendered in September. The Holocaust, Nazi persecution and murder of six million Jews, showed the human cost of dictatorship and hatred.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did the policy of appeasement fail to prevent war in Europe?

2 Why did the attack on Pearl Harbor change the role of the United States in the war?

3 Why was the Battle of Midway a turning point in the Pacific?

4 How did the Normandy landing and the Soviet advance help lead to Germany's surrender?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write four sentences that explain one chain of events leading to Allied victory. Include Pearl Harbor, one Pacific turning point, and one European turning point, then explain how these events helped lead to an Axis surrender.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline events that changed the direction of the war. Then number three events that form one cause-to-outcome chain, beginning with a cause and ending with an Axis surrender. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did the policy of appeasement fail to prevent war in Europe?	British and French leaders allowed Hitler to take land, but Germany later invaded Poland in 1939 and started World War II in Europe.
2	Why did the attack on Pearl Harbor change the role of the United States in the war?	Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor brought the United States into the war.
3	Why was the Battle of Midway a turning point in the Pacific?	U.S. forces sank four Japanese aircraft carriers at Midway, stopping Japan's advance.
4	How did the Normandy landing and the Soviet advance help lead to Germany's surrender?	The Normandy landing created a western front against Germany while the Soviet army pushed from the east. Allied and Soviet forces then closed on Berlin, and Germany surrendered in May 1945.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor brought the United States into the war. At Midway, U.S. forces stopped Japan's advance by sinking four aircraft carriers. In Europe, the Normandy landing created a western front against Germany. These turning points helped the Allies pressure the Axis powers until Germany and Japan surrendered.

Accept chains that accurately use Pearl Harbor, a Pacific event, and a European event from the passage. The response should explain a connection between the events and an Axis surrender, not simply list events.