Social Studies 11 Explorations

Turning Points of WWII: Themes and Theatres of War

**Instructions:**

* Select 12 events/themes from the list provided (see backside).
* A **detailed** **paragraph** description for each event must be provided. This description must include an explanation of **why** that particular event or theme is a turning point and **how** the event/theme is important in the context of the entire war.
* A **visual** must also be provided for each event/theme one is reviewing. The visual can be of a map, a photograph, a poster, an artist’s rendering (et cetera) of the event/theme in question. A **brief** description (1-2 sentences) (this is called a caption) of the visual underneath the image is required, as is a **citation (**[**Chicago Style**](https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide/citation-guide-2.html)**)**  that indicates the source (where you found the image – website, etc.
* Your assignment **must** include:
	+ Minimum of one event regarding the pre-War years
	+ Minimum of one event regarding the War in Asia
	+ Minimum of one event regarding the War in the Pacific
	+ Minimum of one event regarding the War in Africa
	+ Minimum of two themes seen throughout the War

see list on reverse side of this page

* Write a rationale - one paragraph, for each event/theme selected. See example that follows.
* Format your image and description in an organized manner. One may choose to use google docs or slides (or word or power point) for the organizing this assignment.

**Blitzkrieg**



Blitzkrieg is a German military strategy utilized in WWII to quickly overwhelm enemies through the use of mobile units (tanks) and air support. The German invasion of Poland in 1939, and subsequent invasions of Norway, Denmark, the Netherlands, and Belgium illustrate blitzkrieg, as the Nazi army rapidly swept through much of Europe. Blitzkrieg allowed the German army to take control of massive areas of Europe before enemy forces could mobilize, giving the Germans a tremendous advantage. This tactic illustrated a different approach by the German military in a major European conflict in an effort to avoid the stalemate that characterized World War I. It was chiefly responsible for the early success of the German assault on Europe, though its success would be negated by multiple factors following 1942.

An illustration of the blitzkrieg tactic used by the German Wehrmacht in the early going of World War II.

Sources:

The Map Archive. 2020. “The Blitzkrieg Encirclement, 1939.” Accessed March 30th, 2020.

 <https://www.themaparchive.com/blitzkrieg-encirclement-1939.html>

Foley, Robert T. 2011. “Blitzkrieg.” *BBC*. Accessed March 30th, 2020

 <http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/worldwars/wwtwo/blitzkrieg_01.shtml>

* Read the textbooks and use other sources such as: the Internet, books, the library, campbellswebsoup.weebly.com, etc., to research your chosen events.
* It is recommended that you look beyond Wikipedia for information on the topics you are researching. [The Reynolds Library Website](https://reynoldslibrary.sd61.bc.ca/research-inquiry/research-toolkit/) has good research ‘toolkit,’ with the likes of Canadian Encyclopedia and World Book Online.
* Provide citations beneath each entry (event/theme using [Chicago Author-Date Style](https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide/citation-guide-2.html))
* Conference with your teacher. Ask for help, ask questions, and have your work checked.

**Please be sure to submit a polished work on the due date – April, 15th, 2020.**

**Assessment**

* Visuals (2)
	+ relevance of imagery/caption
	+ citation
* Paragraph Description (3)
	+ Context – relevance to war effort?
	+ rationale – why important?

**Possible Events/ Turning Points/ Themes**

Pre-War

Japanese Invasion of Manchuria

Italian Invasion of Abyssinia

Spanish Civil War

Nazi-Soviet Non-Aggression Pact

War in Asia

Sino-Japanese War

Rape of Nanking

Battle of Hong Kong

Burma (the forgotten front)

War in the Pacific

Pearl Harbour

Battle of Midway

Battle of Coral Sea

Battle of Leyte Gulf

Battle of Guadalcanal

Battle of Iwo Jima & Okinawa

Hiroshima & Nagasaki

War in Russia

Operation Barbarossa

Kiev Offensive

Siege of Leningrad

Battle of Moscow

Battle of Stalingrad

War in Europe

Russo-Finish War

Invasion of Poland

Fall of France

Battle of the Atlantic

Battle of Britain

Balkans Campaign

Bomber Command/Offensive

Normandy Invasion (D-Day)

Italian Campaign

Battle of the Bulge

Warsaw Uprising

War in Africa

Desert War

Siege of Tobruk

Battle of El Alamein

Operation Torch

Tunisia Campaign

Themes

Appeasement

Lebensraum

Blitzkrieg

Maginot Line

‘Strategic Bombing’

Resistance Movements

Genocide

Kamikaze

Tanks or Airplanes

Aircraft Carriers

Women in War

Island Hopping

Note: If there is another event/ theme you are interested in reviewing, see your teacher for confirmation before pursuing.