

# Chapter 36: WWII/Cold War Reading Answers

Note: As you read the mortality rates for WWII, keep in mind that the total number of U.S. casualties in all wars combined is approximately one million people (source: U.S. Navy historian Hannah Fischer, updated 13 July 2005).

## Origins of World War II - p. 836

*Briefly explain why each of the following went to war:*

1. Japan
  2. Italy
  3. Germany
- 
4. When Hitler and Mussolini first started expanding, other European powers responded with a policy of appeasement. What does this mean? Did it work?

## Total War: The World under Fire - p. 840

5. Why was World War II history's first (and hopefully only) full-scale global war?

## Blitzkrieg: Germany Conquers Europe – p. 840

6. Germany's strategy called for "blitzkrieg," or lightning war. How effective was this strategy in aiding German expansion?
7. What major western European nation had Germany failed to conquer? What did the Germans do to try and bring about the defeat of this nation?

## The German Invasion of the Soviet Union – p. 841

8. How did Hitler feel about the communist government of the Soviet Union?
9. Why were the Germans unable to defeat the Russians? Name at least 4 reasons.

## Battles in Asia and the Pacific – p. 842

10. How was the United States involved in the war before 1941?
11. Why did the Japan choose to attack the U.S.?
12. Within the first year of the attack on Pearl Harbor, how did the Japanese fare in the war?
13. The Japanese claimed they were helping the Asian nations by conquering them. How did the Japanese claim they were helping?

## Defeat of the Axis Powers – p. 844

14. The U.S. and U.S.S.R. were key to winning the war because...
15. How did Russia's entry hurt the German war machine?
16. From which sides of Germany did the British and Americans attack?
17. As the U.S. moved closer to Japan, what new kinds of pilots did the Japanese introduce?
18. Why was much of Tokyo destroyed?
19. What two things persuaded Emperor Hirohito to surrender unconditionally?

## Life during Wartime – p. 848

20. Japanese and German authorities ruled different places in different ways. One thing they had in common, though, was their solution to labor shortages. How did they get workers?
21. What kinds of experiments did the various Axis powers perform, and on whom did they perform them?

22. What is a collaborator (you can either reason this out or look it up elsewhere)? Why did many people become collaborators?
23. What kinds of actions did resistors take?

### The Holocaust – p. 850

24. How long before WWII had vilification and persecution of the Jews in Europe begin?
25. Before the Holocaust, what other methods did the Nazis consider for getting rid of Jewish people?
26. List all of the ways the book gives that people were killed in the Holocaust. (The book lists 10. Find at least 8.)

### Women and the War – p. 852

27. In what ways did women transform their roles during the war?

### The Cold War – p. 853

28. Why was it called the “cold” war?

### Origins of the Cold War – p. 854

29. What is the goal of the United Nations? Why was the U.N. better equipped to do this than the League of Nations?
30. What was the “Truman Doctrine?” (Be sure you read the entire section here - you must understand what the U.S. did to understand the policy.)
31. In the Marshall Plan, the U.S. helped rebuild the war-torn nations of Western Europe. They did this because they wanted to prevent, or forestall...
32. What defensive organization did the U.S. form in the Cold War? What was Russia’s defensive organization?
33. Communist-controlled East Berlin was hemorrhaging people into the West. How did the communists attempt to stem this flow?

### The Globalization of the Cold War - p. 856

34. What was the cause of the Korean War?
35. U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower learned a lesson from the Korean War - a lesson he called the “domino theory.” What was the assumption that Eisenhower made?
36. Give at least three reasons that the Soviet-Chinese Alliance began to unravel.
37. What was “MAD?”
38. What happened in Cuba that turned it from U.S. ally into an enemy of the United States?
39. What did Kennedy agree to in order to convince the Soviets to remove their nuclear missiles from Cuba?

### Dissent, Intervention, and Rapprochement - p. 860

40. What was de-Stalinization?
41. When other nations encountered the de-Stalinized Soviet Union, they felt that the time had finally come for them to attempt domestic reforms and seek a degree of independence from Soviet domination. How did the USSR react to their attempts at freedom?
42. What was détente? Why did they enter a period of détente?