

Important People/Events of World War II

<http://www.historyplace.com/worldwar2/timeline/ww2time.htm>

Background:

Starting in 1933 with his appointment as “Chancellor” of the German Reichstag (government), Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party came to gain control of Germany’s future.

Over the next 5 years, Germany would violate the Treaty of Versailles on numerous occasions. By August of 1939, Germany will have begun forming an “axis” of power with the countries of Japan, Italy, and Russia (secretly) to take over the world. Then on **September 1, 1939**, Hitler and Germany will invade Poland, starting WWII...

Major Figures of World War II

Allies:



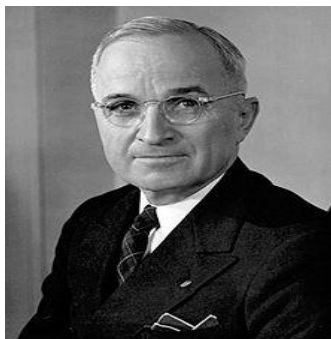
Neville Chamberlain
Prime Minister of Britain
1937 to 1940. Tried to give Czechoslovakia to Hitler to make him stop...



Winston Churchill
Prime Minister of Britain from 1940 to 1945. Instrumental in withstanding Germany’s bombings of London...



FDR
President of US from 1933 to 1945. Urges Congress to join WW II after bombing of Pearl Harbor in Dec. 1941



Harry S. Truman
Becomes **US President** 1945 After FDR’s death. Will order Bombing of Japan in August 1945, thus ending WWII.



Dwight Eisenhower
“**Supreme Commander**” of Allied Forces in Europe. Called for “D-Day” invasion in France in June 1944.



Joseph Stalin
leader of Russia during WWII. Signed a “secret pact” with Hitler in 1938 to not attack each other. Hitler will attack Russia in June 1941

Axis Powers:



Adolf Hitler

Leader of Germany from 1933 to 1945. Invades Poland in September 1939 beginning WWII.



Emperor Hirohito

leader of Japan from 1926 to 1989. Helps Axis Powers by attacking China starting in 1937. Joins Hitler in 1940.



Benito Mussolini

leader of Italy from 1922 to 1943. Joins Axis b/c thought Allies didn't give Italy enough after WWI.



Isoroku Yamamoto

Admiral in Japanese Navy that planned the bombing of Pearl Harbor and Midway in the Pacific Ocean.



Erwin Rommel

Nicknamed "Desert Fox", Rommel was leader of German ground forces in Africa.



Joseph Goebbels

appointed by Hitler as "**Minister of Enlightenment**" to use propaganda to convince Germans of cause

Important Events:

World War II saw a number of events take place around the world that affected the outcome of the war. Here are just a few of the BIG events...

15 events everyone should know about WWII:

1. Hitler (Germany) invade Poland; starts WWII – September 1939
2. Germany takes control of Paris (France) – June 1940
3. “Battle of Britain” begins (Germans begin bombing of London) – July/August 1940
4. Germany attacks Russia – June 1941
5. 1st “concentration camp” (Auschwitz) uses gas chambers – September 1941
6. Japan bombs Pearl Harbor (Hawaii) – December 1941
7. 1st American forces land/help in Britain – January 1942
8. FDR signs “executive order 9066” relocating all Japanese to camps in the US – Feb 1942
9. Italy surrenders to Allies – October 1943
10. “D-Day” Allies land in Normandy, France – June 1944
11. Allies “liberate” (free) France of Germans – August 1944
12. Last of “camps” are liberated by Allies – April 1945
13. Russia reaches Berlin; Germany surrenders – May 1945
14. Atomic bombs are dropped on Japan; Japan surrenders – August 1945
15. World War II ends and United Nations is created – September 1945

To Do:

With the information about the people/events involved in World War II, you will place **3 (or more) facts for each part** on the Venn Diagram below. You might decide to compare 2 leaders, 2 countries, 2 events or years during World War II. To get more information, you can always use the timeline link on the first page or google the event to help with the diagram 😊...

Events/People of World War II

