Great Depression, World War II, Cold War

Academic Vocabulary

**Interwar Years & Great Depression**

**Kellogg-Briand Pact-** 1928 international agreement in which signatory states promised not to use war to resolve "disputes or conflicts of whatever nature or of whatever origin they may be, which may arise.

**Disarmament-** the reduction or withdrawal of military forces and weapons.

**Overproduction**- is the accumulation of unsalable inventories in the hands of businesses.

**margin buying**-  refers to the initial or down payment made to the broker for the asset being purchased.

**Maginot Line-** a **line** of concrete fortifications, obstacles and weapon installations that France constructed on the French side of its borders with Switzerland, Germany and Luxembourg

**New Deal-** designed to improve conditions for persons suffering in the Great Depression.

**Fascism**- an authoritarian and nationalistic right-wing system of government and social organization.

**Totalitarianism**- a system of government that is centralized and dictatorial and requires complete subservience to the state.

**Black Shirts**- Ultranationalist, they posed as champions of law and order and violently attacked Communists, socialists, and other radical and progressive groups.

**Il Duce**- Nickname given to Mussolini, “The Leader”

**Benito Mussolini-** Italian Fascist dictator.

**Chancellor**- a senior state or legal official.

**Dawes Plan**- attempt in 1924 to solve the World War I reparations problem.

**Adolf Hitler**- Leader of Germany During Third Reich

**Mein Kampf-** Adolf Hitlers Manefesto

**Joseph Stalin**- Leader/Dictator of the Soviet Union

**Gulag-** Forced Labor Camps.

**Great Purge**- a campaign of political repression in the Soviet Union.

**Collectivization**-  a policy of forced consolidation of individual peasant households into larger farms owned by the state.

**Holocaust**

**Gestapo**- secret police of Nazi Germany

**Kristallnacht**- “Night of Broken Glass”

**Genocide**- Genocide is the intentional action to systematically eliminate an ethnic, national, racial or religious group.

**Holocaust**- destruction or slaughter on a mass scale, especially caused by fire or nuclear war.

**Concentration Camp**- a place where large numbers of people, especially political prisoners or members of persecuted minorities, are deliberately imprisoned in a relatively small area with inadequate facilities, sometimes to provide forced labor or to await mass execution.

**Nuremberg Laws**- New **laws** which institutionalized many of the racial theories prevalent in Nazi ideology.

**World War II**

**Sanction**- a threatened penalty for disobeying a law or rule.

**Appeasement**- the action or process of appeasing.

**Pacifism**- the belief that any violence, including war, is unjustifiable under any circumstances, and that all disputes should be settled by peaceful means.

**Rome-Berlin- Tokyo Axis**- The pact sealed cooperation among the three nations (Axis powers) in waging World War II.

**Anschluss**- Was the Nazi propaganda term for the annexing of Austria into Nazi Germany in March 1938.

**Munich Conference**- Settlement permitting Nazi Germany's annexation of portions of Czechoslovakia along the country's borders mainly inhabited by German speakers, for which a new territorial designation "Sudetenland" was coined.

**Nazi-Soviet Pact-** Stalin and Hitler agreed not to go to war with each other and to split Poland between them.

**Blitzkrieg-**  “lightning war”, a military tactic designed to create disorganization among enemy forces through the use of mobile forces and locally concentrated firepower.

**Radar**- A system for detecting the presence, direction, distance, and speed of aircraft, ships, and other objects, by sending out pulses of high-frequency electromagnetic waves that are reflected off the object back to the source.

**Sonar**- A system for the detection of objects under water and for measuring the water's depth by emitting sound pulses and detecting or measuring their return after being reflected.

**Battle of Britain-** The Royal Air Force against an onslaught by the German Air Force

**Operation Barbarossa**-  Code name for Nazi Germany's invasion of the Soviet Union during World War II.

**Lend-Lease Act**- Congress authorized the sale, **lease**, transfer, or exchange of arms and supplies to 'any country whose defense the president deems vital to the defense of the United States.

**Pearl Harbor**-Japan surprise attack on U.S. Naval Base in Hawaii

**Reparations**- the making of amends for a wrong one has done, by paying money to or otherwise helping those who have been wronged.

**D-Day**- Invasion of Normandy.

**Island-hopping**- Crossing of an ocean by a series of shorter journeys between **islands**.

**Battle of the Bulge**- A major German offensive campaign launched through the densely forested Ardennes region of Wallonia in Belgium, France, and Luxembourg on the Western Front toward the end of World War II in Europe.

**V-E Day**- Victory in Europe **Day**.

**Kamikaze-** Japanese Suicide Pilots

**Cold War**

**United Nations**- Intergovernmental organization to promote international co-operation.

**“iron curtain”**- The notional barrier separating the former Soviet bloc and the West prior to the decline of communism that followed the political events in eastern Europe in 1989.

**Truman Doctrine**- The principle that the US should give support to countries or peoples threatened by Soviet forces or communist insurrection.

**Marshall Plan**- A program by which the United States gave large amounts of economic aid to European countries to help them rebuild after the devastation of World War II.

**Containment-** The action of keeping something harmful under control or within limits.

**NATO-**  Alliance of countries from North America and Europe committed to fulfilling the goals of the North Atlantic Treaty.

**Warsaw Pact**- Was a collective defense treaty among Soviet Union and seven Soviet satellite states in Central and Eastern Europe in existence during the Cold War.

**Franklin D. Roosevelt**-  An American statesman and political leader who served as the President of the United States from 1933 to 1945.

**Winston Churchill**-  Prime Minister of the United Kingdom from 1940 to 1945 and again from 1951 to 1955.

**Harry Truman-** 33rd President of the United States, an American politician of the Democratic Party during WW2.