

Many countries become industrialized. Work is done in factories. Economies grow.

Countries need resources and markets for goods. They start building empires.

European countries begin competing for colonies. When they try to talk out problems, diplomacy fails.

Archduke Ferdinand assassinated in Sarajevo by Serbs that want land from Austria-Hungary.

WWI begins.

The US joins the Allies in WWI.

Lenin takes over Russia in a coup d'etat. Russia drops out of WWI and becomes the USSR.

Germany loses WWI. The Treaty of Versailles punishes Germany severely. Germans want revenge.

Economic depression hurts the world. Weak countries turn to fascist dictators to fix things.

Aggression begins. Italy takes Ethiopia. Japan takes Korea, Manchuria, and China. Germany takes Austria and Czechoslovakia.

The world appeases aggressive dictators. The League of Nations does nothing. Pacifists don't want war.

Hitler invades Poland. WWII begins.

France is conquered by Germany.

**Hitler can't defeat Britain despite relentlessly bombing them.
Churchill won't surrender.**

Surprise, Surprise. Hitler goes back on his promise to Stalin and invades the Soviet Union.

**Japan attacks Pearl Harbor
hoping to wipe out the American
Navy. They don't.**

**The United States declares war on
Japan. Germany declares war on
the United States.**