Name:_____ Date: _____ **A**

U.S. History

WWII: Germany and Japan

Vocabulary

Surrender
Treaty
Reparations
Militarism
Negotiate
Isolationism
Natural Resources
Industrialization
Axis Powers
Allied Powers

Reading Skills

Text Structure
Circle the text's heading.

Main Idea
Underline the MAIN IDEA of each paragraph.

Key Details
Who?

Where?

When?

Germany **surrendered** in World War I under the Treaty of Versailles in 1919. This **treaty** forced Germany to pay **reparations** and have minimal armed forces. Adolf Hitler rose to power in Germany in the late 1930s. Germany slowly began building its military and strengthening the country. They did this against the Treaty of Versailles. The process of maintaining a strong military is known as **militarism**. Hitler was determined to rebuild Germany. Hitler began testing the boundaries of the Treaty of Versailles. He wanted to see if the treaty would be enforced. At first, other countries attempted to **negotiate** with Hitler. Germany began taking over territories that were lost in World War I. Then, they invaded Poland. At that time, the United States was neutral and staying out of it. This is called **isolationism**.

Germany was getting stronger and invading Europe. Meanwhile, Japan became more and more aggressive. Japan had limited **natural resources** because it is an island. Japan was dependent on other countries for resources. Resources Japan needed were rubber, oil, and iron ore. The nation needed these resources for building industry, which is called industrialization. Japan was dependent on other countries for these resources, so they invaded and occupied China in 1937. Japan continued to be aggressive by taking over colonies in Vietnam, as well. When Japan agreed to join the Axis Powers in 1940, worldwide tensions increased. The main powers in World War II were the **Axis Powers** and the **Allied Powers**. The main Axis powers were Germany, Japan and Italy. The Main Allied Powers were Great Britain, Soviet Union, China, and the United States.

It's difficult to claim a single event that caused World War II. It was a combination of issues. Germany invading Poland is widely accepted as one of the main factors that led to World War II in Europe. Japan's aggression and their relationship with Germany are another main contributing factor. America eventually declared war after Japan attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

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Reading Skills

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WWII: Germany and Japan

Directions: Circle the best answer choice based on the passage.

1. What does the underlined word most likely mean?

Japan was <u>dependent</u> on other countries for resources.

   a. Helpful
   b. Self-sufficient
   c. Independent
   d. Reliant

2. Why did the author write this text?
   a. He or she wanted to answer the question, "Who is Adolf Hitler?"
   b. He or she wanted to describe the events that led to World War II.
   c. He or she wanted to explain how Japan became an ally to the USA.
   d. He or she wanted to describe the relationship between Germany and Japan.

3. Which is the heading of the text?
   a. Reading Skills
   b. 3
   c. WWII: Germany and Japan
   d. World War II

4. Why did Japan invade China?
   a. To help Germany and Adolf Hitler rise to power.
   b. To have access to natural resources, since Japan is an island.
   c. To gain allies to help them fight in WWII.
   d. Germany told them to.

5. How does the sentence below support the author's point?

America would eventually declare war after Japan attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

   a. It explains reasons Japan attacked the United States.
   b. It describes Pearl Harbor.
   c. It shows how Germany's rise in power and Japan's aggression led to the start of WWII.
   d. It does not support the author's point

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Reading Skills

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WWII: Germany and Japan

Directions: Circle the best answer choice based on the passage.

1. Which agreement did Germany not obey?
   a. Treaty of Paris
   b. Treaty of Versailles
   c. Treaty of Europe
   d. Treaty of Poland

2. Germany first invaded what country?
   a. Poland
   b. Soviet Union
   c. Italy
   d. Japan

3. Japan had limited _____ due to being an island.
   a. Airports
   b. Railroads
   c. Natural Resources
   d. Factories

4. Japan was dependent on other countries to provide them with _____.
   a. Water
   b. Fuel
   c. Crops
   d. Oil, rubber, and iron ore

5. What is the best definition for industrialization?
   a. The building of roads
   b. The building of railroads
   c. The building of farms
   d. The building of all types of industry

6. Japan first invaded what country?
   a. China
   b. Vietnam
   c. Italy
   d. Germany

7. Which TWO main events are the causes of WWII?
   a. Invasion of Poland and Germany
   b. Invasion of Poland and Japan's aggression toward other countries
   c. Sinking of the USS Maine and Japanese passenger ships
   d. Destroying railroads and ports

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