

Upper Secondary Elective History– Subject Code: 2261

How to use?

- This deck of notes contains the 10 chapters covered for O Levels History Elective paper
- Chapter 1-6 contains more in-depth content, whereas chapter 7-10 contains sufficient information for one to score during their examinations.

Final Tips

- This deck of notes should NOT replace what you learn from your teachers. This can only act as a supplementary to aid your learning.
- When in doubt, ALWAYS FOLLOW what your HISTORY TEACHERS say
- Spread the word and share the notes 😊 (Sharing is caring guys!)
- ALL THE BEST FOR YOUR STUDIES!

O Level History Elective Chapter 1 – The Paris Peace Conference and the League of Nations in the 1920s (* = potentially tested)

Paris Peace Conference

Aims of the Big Three	<p>*US: Woodrow Wilson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Believed that the US would restore to civilisation, and that nations should cooperate to achieve world peace. One of the important points in his Fourteen Points was the setting up of an international body called the League of nations. It was a platform for countries to resolve disputes without wars. - Believed that Germany should be punished but not destroyed completely. He wanted to strengthen democracy by replacing older leaders who brought Germany into war. - Believed in self-determination where countries ruled themselves rather than be ruled by others - Britain and France thought that Wilson's idea of self-determination is one that is naive and impractical. France also believed that US were too soft on Germany.
	<p>Britain: David Lloyd George</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Protect Britain → thus not keen on Wilson's plan to free the seas - Rebuild Britain's economic prosperity → tricky because before the war, Germany was Britain's second-largest trading market - Maintain the British empire → concerned about Wilson's idea of self-determination as it would result in Britain losing its colonies - Had a long-term concern of Russia. Britain wanted Germany to recover economically to act as a buffer against the rise of communism in Europe because of influence of Russia.
	<p>France: Georges Clemenceau</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Suffered the worst damage during WW1 → Northern France invaded, 1.7 million deaths with many wounded or missing (4% of population died) - Concerned that Germany has a younger and larger population (65 million) than France (40 million) thus Germany could use their manpower for a future war. - France wanted Germany to be broken up into a collection of smaller states by he knows that others will not agree. Thus, he demanded for a treaty that would weaken Germany as much as possible.

*Treaty of Versailles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Under Article 231 of the ToV, Germany must accept total blame for starting the war → However many Germans did not feel that they alone started the war - Germany had to pay 6.6 billion pounds as reparations to the Allies for war damage → Germany was already in huge debt from the war and this may ruin their economy - Germany lost 10% of their land, 12.5% of their population and was forbidden to form a union with Austria → Major blow to German pride and its economy, Many Germans will live under Poland and Czechoslovakia. - Germany was limited to an army of 100,000 men. Conscription was banned and soldiers had to be volunteers. No armoured vehicles, submarines or aircrafts were allowed, and the navy could have only six battleships. The Rhineland had to be demilitarised as well. → Army was a symbol of German pride and was too small for a country of Germany's size. No other countries were disarmed to this extent. - The League of Nations was set up as an international body to help countries resolve disputes and enforce decision. → Germany not being able to join felt like a further insult.
*Impact of ToV	<p>Short term impact → link to War Guilt Clause (1st point of ToV)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Many Germans believed that their army did not lose the war and felt that their country had been stabbed in the back by the Jews, communists and weak politicians. - A wave of bitterness against the new democracy system and it was unpopular <p>Medium term impact → link to reparations (2nd point of ToV)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Germany faced a political and economic crisis. In 1922, Germany fell back on reparations thus French and Belgium invaded the Ruhr in 1923. They took what Germany owed them in the form of raw materials and goods. This was legal under ToV → invasion not only humiliating but also violent, killing about 130 civilians - Economy disrupted by hyperinflation as government printed money to pay the reparations. Prices shot up and became worthless. Many Germans from the middle-class lost their saving overnight. → blamed the government for political instability <p>Long Term impact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Treaty became a festering sore for many Germans. They hated and blamed it for Germany's problems faced. This was exploited by Adolf Hitler's Nazi Party in early 1930s.

League of Nations

Aims of the LON	<p>The League was set up to resolve international disputes without going to war.</p> <p>Wilson's vision for the League was a world government and police force. All major countries would join the League, bind themselves and disarm. If there is a dispute, countries would promise to protect one another achieving collective security.</p>
Success of LON (social issues – memorise one)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The League helped millions of refugees to return home after the war. - The Health Commission of the League helped to reduce the spread of contagious diseases through international vaccination programmes and helped to reduce fatalities from such diseases. - The League also worked to reduce the smuggling of cheap labour, opium and dangerous chemicals across international borders.
*Weakness of the LON	<p>(structural – main countries were not there, need 2/3 of assembly)(post-war attitudes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Both the US and the USSR were not part of the LON because US was not allowed to join the League due to the ToV and USSR was communist. - In the post WW1 period, the USA was arguably economically, politically and militarily the most powerful country in the world - Economic sanctions would be difficult to enforce. The US continued to supply weapons and goods to aggressor countries even if the League imposed military or economic sanctions. - The absence of US and USSR weakened LON ability to enforce sanctions effectively
	<p>Abyssinian crisis, 1935</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The fatal blow of the League came about when the Italian dictator, Benito Mussolini, invaded Abyssinia in 1935. - In December 1934, there was a dispute between Italian and Abyssinian soldiers at the Wal-Wal oasis in Abyssinia. Mussolini demanded an apology from Abyssinia, and he began preparing the Italian army to invade it - The Abyssinian Emperor, Haile Selassie, appealed to the League for help but was unsuccessful. Britain and France could send troops to defend Abyssinia however they chose not to do so. - The Abyssinian Crisis damaged the global confidence in the League for good.

Attempts to keep the Peace (just memorise one)	<p>The Dawes Plan, 1924</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Represented by the United States, Britain, Italy and France, the plan helped Germany's recover from hyperinflation and restructure its reparation payments - It ended a crisis in Europe by removing French and Italian troops from the German Ruhr region so that the area could be used to generate money - The United States also loaned Germany large sums of money to support its economy.
--	---

O Level History Elective Chapter 2 – Nazi Germany

Circumstances

Weimar Government (weakness)	<p>Proportional Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Proportional government meant that any party taking part in the elections would gain seats in the Reichstag equal to the number of votes- It was hard for one party to gain a majority, even parties opposed to democracy, such as the German Communist Party, could gain seats.- Governments ended up a mixture of different political parties which made it challenging for the Reichstag to pass laws- 1930 elections, Nazi Party saw a dramatic increase in its representation, going from 12 to 107 seats, making it the second-largest party in the Reichstag. The Communist Party also gained seats, increasing their representation to 77 seats.- This led to governments which were weak and often short-lived
	<p>Left wing (communist) and the Right wing (nationalist)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The left-wing groups were the Communists, and they wanted a Germany ruled by soviets where the state would own all the industry- The right-wing groups comprised mainly of the German Army which objected to the signing of the Treaty of Versailles.- The opposition of the Left and the Right wing led to the Kapp Putsch in 1920. Kapp wanted to re-establish a single-rule government and overthrow the Weimar Government- 13 March 1920, Kapp led 5000 into Berlin in a rebellion known as the Kapp Putsch. This led to a President Ebert called a general strike and millions of workers responded, stopping the putsch.- This led to worsened the division between the right-wing and the government

Economic issues	<p>Hyperinflation (Invasion of the Ruhr)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Germany faced a political and economic crisis. In 1922, Germany fell back on reparations thus French and Belgium invaded the Ruhr in 1923. They took what Germany owed them in the form of raw materials and goods. This was legal under ToV → invasion not only humiliating but also violent, killing about 130 civilians - Economy disrupted as money needed to restore the place back. Thus, this made economy even worse as money needed to be pumped into both reparations and recovery of the Ruhr
	<p>Hyperinflation (Printing of money)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Germany's problems were worsened by the hyperinflation caused by the overprinting of money which the government used to pay off its debts. - Many Germans lost their savings overnight and they blamed the government. - The middle class was the worst hit and they stopped supporting the government, believing that the government and its democratic system had failed.
	<p>Great Depression</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Severe worldwide economic depression sparked by the stock market crash of 1929 in the New York Stock Exchange. - This affected Germany because Germany was dependant on loans for her economic recovery. Thus, when USA recalled the loans, Germany suffered an economic crisis. - 6 million was unemployed, which equated to 40% of the workforce. The average German income fell by 40% between 1929 to 1932. This led to hunger, illness and eviction from their homes.
Resentment over TOV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Treaty became a festering sore for many Germans. They hated and blamed it for Germany's problems faced. This was exploited by Adolf Hitler's Nazi Party in early 1930s.

Hitler / Nazis

Nazi Party	<p>Ideology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Nazi's main belief was shown through the 25-point programme.<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Abolition of ToV- Union between Germany and Austria- Nationalisation of large industries and businesses- Generous provision for old-age pensioners- Only "true" Germans are allowed to live in Germany, while Jews were to be excluded- Creation of a strong central government in Germany
	<p>Reorganise</p> <p>(1) Creation of SA (belongs to the Nazis)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- August 1921, Hitler organized a series of armed groups under the title 'Gymnastic and Sports Sections.' In October, he changed the name to Sturm Abteilung (SA) or Stormtroopers.- The SA attracted many ex-soldiers, especially from the Freikorps, which had been disbanded in 1920. These were men who had felt betrayed by the Treaty of Versailles. The SA offered them a new uniform in which to fight for Germany.- The SA was tasked with protecting Nazi Party meetings, disrupting meetings of rival political groups, and fighting against the paramilitary wings of other parties, such as the communists.- They were instrumental in intimidating political opponents and helping the Nazi Party gain power through violent tactics. <p>(2) Creation of the SS (belong to Hitler)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The SS evolved into an elite paramilitary organization under the leadership of Heinrich Himmler.- They were responsible for state security, intelligence, and policing. The SS controlled the Gestapo (secret state police) and was central to the enforcement of Nazi policies, including the persecution of Jews and other groups.- The military wing of the SS, known as the Waffen-SS, fought alongside the regular German army (Wehrmacht) during World War II. They were involved in combat operations as well as war crimes and atrocities.- The SS was responsible for the administration and operation of concentration camps and extermination camps, playing a key role in the Holocaust.

Hitler's Consolidated his party	<p>Within Germany (Reichstag Fire, 1933)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 27 February 1933, the Reichstag building was burnt down. At that time, many Germans thought that the Nazis might have started the fire themselves. But it seems like it was the work of a mentally unstable communist. - Hitler declared this as the beginning of communist uprising. - This led to the SA and the SS arresting 4000 communists on the night of the fire - This made it difficult for opposition parties to campaign → elections on 5 March, Nazis gained 288 seats, which was the majority of the seats
	<p>Within Germany (The enabling act)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hitler wanted to introduce the Enabling Act, which allowed him to make and pass laws without consulting the Reichstag - During the vote, only the SPD voted against him as the communists were in prison. The Catholic Centre party decided to cooperate with the Nazis as well - Thus, the Enabling Act was passed on 24 March. - Hitler became a dictator and could pass new laws for the next four years. There was nothing President Hindenburg or anyone else could do.
	<p>Within Nazi Party (The Night of the Long Knives)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In 1934, Hitler begin to see the SA as a threat - The SA was nearly three million strong and its members were fiercely loyal to Rohm (the leader) and they supported his calls to tax elite groups such as industrialist and landowners to help the unemployed - Weekend of 29-30 June 1934, squads of SS men arrested Rohm and other leading figures in the SA. Hitler accused Rohm of plotting to overthrow and murder him. - Rohm and 400 others were executed.
	<p>Fuehrer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - By the summer of 1934, the elderly German President, Paul von Hindenburg, lay close to death at his country estate in East Prussia. He had been in failing health for several months, thus giving Adolf Hitler and the Nazis ample opportunity to make plans to capitalize on his demise. - Reich Chancellor Hitler planned to use President Hindenburg's death as an opportunity to seize total power in Germany by elevating himself to the position of Führer, or absolute leader, of the German nation and its people. By merging the powers of the President with those of the chancellor, he had total control

Life Under Nazi Rule

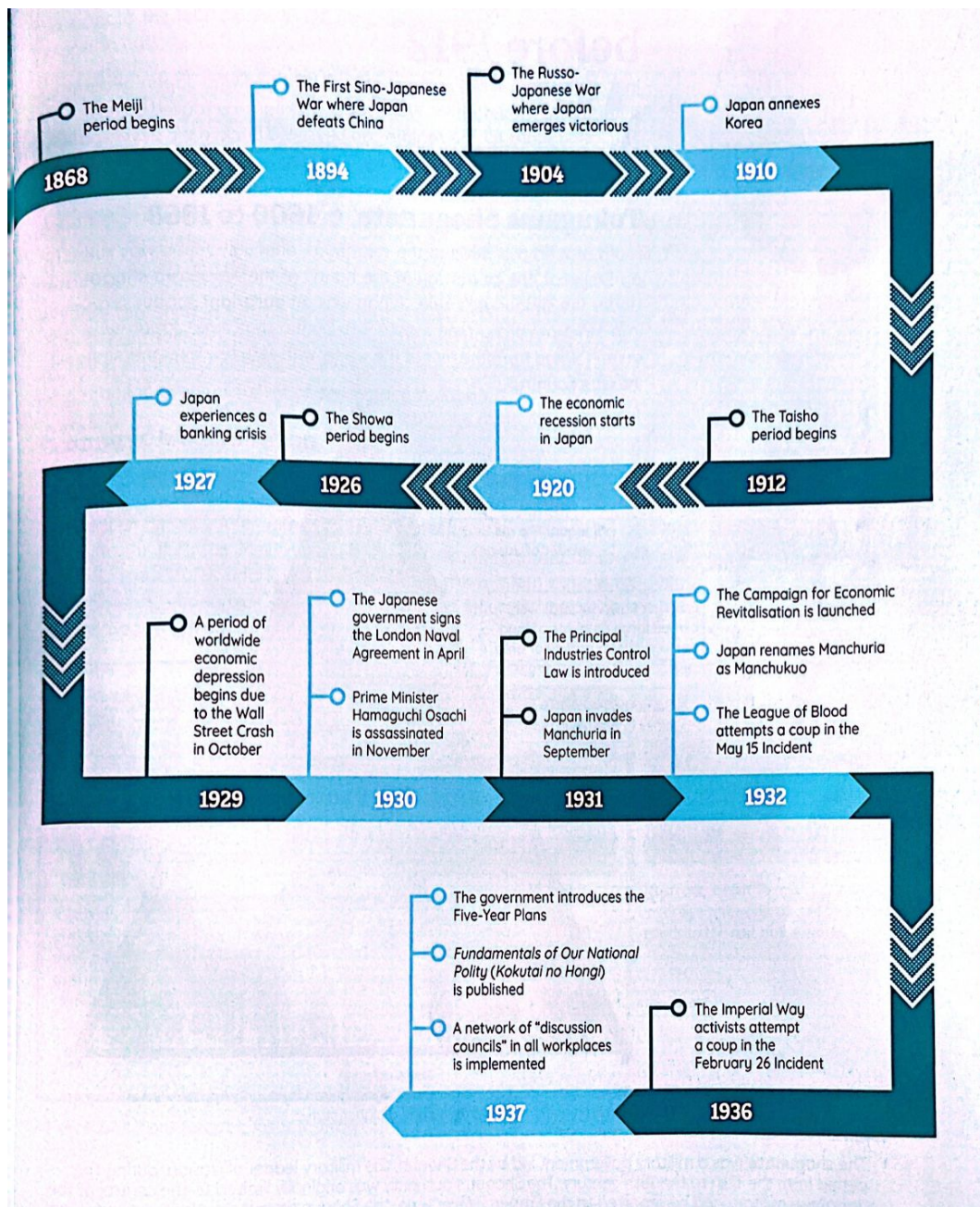
<p>Economic</p> <p>(success)</p>	<p>Role of women (good and bad)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Hitler held a traditional view of the role of women. He believed that women could best serve their nation by fulfilling their roles as good mothers and spouses.- Under Nazi Rule, women were excluded from politics and academics. Women were not allowed to vote in elections and were discouraged from pursuing university studies.- Employment opportunities were limited and discrimination against women applicants was encouraged. <p>- 1942-1945, the Nazi arms industries did require more female workers to cope with the increasing demand for war supplies. However, Nazi policy towards women remain conflicted between their traditional view of women as mothers, and the actual need for them to support the Nazi war machine.</p>
	<p>German Economy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Hitler promised the German people he would get them back to work and restore the economy.- There were 5 million unemployed in 1933 but the Nazis still acted with energy and commitment- The Reich Labour Service sent men on public works projects and conservation programmes, to build a network of highways. Railways were extended or built from scratch.- There were major house-building projects and new public building projects such as the Reich Chancellery in Berlin <p>- These efforts help to improve Germany's economy as there is an improvement in transport and facilities, allowing for a more liveable environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Employment rates have also gone up as many unemployed would have joined companies that require extra help with the improvement of Germany's infrastructure.

Political (failure)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Joseph Goebbels, the Minister for Public Enlightenment and Propaganda, used propaganda to encourage German nationalistic sentiments. At the same time, he stirred up anti-communist and racist feelings. - Goebbels kept very strict control over what Germans were allowed to read, hear or watch. No books, painting or any other art form could be produced without Nazi approval. - There was also heavy censorship and newspaper were not allowed to print anti-Nazi ideas. All films had to carry a pro-Nazi message. The newsreels shown along with films all proclaimed Nazi achievements. - There were harsh penalties for anyone who listened to unauthorised stations. These restrictions were enforced strictly and the police could arrest any offenders and take them to concentration camps.
Social (failure)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It was bad for those who did not fit into this National Community. This included those that are not of the Aryan race. - They persecuted members of other races and many minority groups like the Roma, Homosexuals and mentally ill people. They persecuted any group that they thought challenged Nazi ideas. - Over 300,000 men and women were forcefully sterilised between 1934 and 1945. At least 5000 disabled babies and children were killed between 1939 and 1945 either by injection or starvation. - Between 1939 and 1941, 72000 mentally ill patients were gassed before extermination.

The Rise of Authoritarian Regimes: Case Study of Militarist Japan (Chapter 3)

Objectives

- The circumstances leading to the rise and establishment of an authoritarian regime in Japan.
- The increased influence of the militarists in Japan in the 1930s.



PART 1: Did the ... led to the rise of militarism in Japan?

* Challenges for Japan: 1912 – 1932 (Rise of military government in Japan - Evidence)

Political Challenges in Japan's Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Emperor Yoshihito was sickly and too weak to exercise authority over Japan's government, many Genro (those who advised the Emperor) also left Japan's political scene due to age.- Divisions between the court officials, the civilian politicians and the military worsened.- The military opposed the internationalist policy of diplomacy and trade led by the civilian politicians and resented the Prime Ministers and their Cabinets for cutting the military's budget.- The military began to act on their own and disregarded the Prime Ministers and Cabinets and Emperor Yoshithito.
Economic Challenges in Japan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Japan's economy faced problems after WW1 ended. By early 1920s, there was severe inflation with made goods very expensive.- For example, the price of rice increased by 174 per cent.- On top of that, there was high unemployment because large companies dismissed thousands of workers due to the decline in overseas demand for Japanese goods. <p>Challenges in countryside</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Insufficient land for farmers due to the large population growth in Japan.- Technological advances in farming did not spread quickly enough to the countryside which led to the productivity of farmers staying stagnant in 1920s.- Much of their harvest went towards paying the landlord, leaving them with barely enough to eat.
Tensions in Japanese Society	<p>Rural-Urban divide</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- To strengthen Japan's economy, the government continued to support the wealthy zaibatsu.- The gap between the rich and the poor widened.- The landlords lived in luxury and engaged in leisure activities which was a sharp contrast to the poverty of the tenant farmers.- The sudden increase in the prices of commodities (e.g. rice) led to the uprising of Rice riots in 1918. → there was already growing unhappiness of the poor towards the wealthy <p>Changing Role of women</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- There were common complains that young women were abandoning their traditional roles in their families.- In the 1920s, many young women found jobs in cafes and restaurants in the city, while others worked in silk mills and factories.- Conditions were hard but wages were reasonable, and women for greater independence than before.- This was seen as a threat to traditional Japanese society and values.- These women were accused of serving their own interests instead of the needs of the families.

Impact of the Banking Crisis of 1927	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Japanese banks issues new loans in 1923 to companies that were not stable - By 1927, there was widespread panic among the Japanese that the banks did not have enough money due to bad debts - This led to the collapse of the banks and many common people lost their savings - The Japanese government tried to deal with the crisis by introducing new policies to stabilize the banks. - This has led to increasing public resentment towards the civilian government
Impact of Great Depression	<p>Impact on farmers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Great Depression has affected the income of the people, resulting in a lower demand for farmers' produce. - The income of farmers fell by an average of 43% between 1929 and 1931. - Landowners also tried to evict tenant farmers who could not pay rent. - The farmers thus held protest meetings and took the landowners to court.
	<p>Impact of small business owners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - They struggles to attract customers as many Japanese felt the effects of the crisis - In 1930, there were twice as many closures of small businesses as in an average year. - Many business owners joined protest movements such as that led by the Imperial Middle Class Federated Alliance. - The Alliance claimed that the political parties were looking after the landowners, banks and zaibatsu while letting small business owners go out of business
	<p>Unemployment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Great Depression caused mass unemployment in Japan as businesses collapsed. - It is likely that 15%-20% of Japan's workforce lost their jobs between 1930 to 1932 - Most workers were only entitled to 14 days' pay when they were dismissed.

	<p>Fear of Communism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Many workers were attracted to the messages by communist agitators who criticized the state - However the Japanese Communist Party was very small and never took root in Japan - Nevertheless, the government feared the threat of communism, especially since the USSR was geographically close to Japan and shared borders with Japanese territories in Korea and Manchuria
	<p>Growing Distrust in the Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The effects of the Great Depression led many Japanese to believe that the civilian government cared only about the elites - There was a strong feeling of distrust among the Japanese who believed that the civilian politicians were either in cahoots with the zaibatsu or were receiving money and benefits from them.

Rise of Military influence in the Government (Explanation)

Discontent from the military	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Throughout the 1920s, sections of the Japan's military believed that the political parties and the zaibatsu were corrupted and self-seeking. - They believed that the politicians and zaibatsu were not interested in serving Japan but themselves. - They generally felt that the civilian government no longer respected the military in Japan because of the cuts in military budgets, it seemed like the political parties favoured the zaibatsu rather than the military.
London Naval Conference, 1930	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Japan, Britain, US and France met at the London Naval Conference in 1930 to review the limit on building warship - Japan demanded to build more warships but was rejected by the Western powers. - Japan was forced back down and reluctantly sign the London Naval Treaty of 1930 as it knew the country was not ready to confront the Western powers - This looks like a form of betrayal by the government and undermined the people's trust in the democratic government
Manchuria	<p>Assassination of Zhang Zuolin, 1928</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In 1928, the Kwantung Army assassinated Zhang in an attempt to replace him with a new and more co-operative leader. - Without real authority over the Japanese military, the Prime Minister was unable to force the military leaders to punish those who were responsible for the assassination - This shows how the Emperor failed to control the military through the Prime Ministers and it shows how the military could defy the civilian government
	<p>Mukden incident, 1931</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In September 1931, the Kwantung Army blew up railway tracks at Mukden. They blamed it on the Chinese government and used it as an excuse to take over Manchuria - By December, the Kwantung Army were in control of most of the region. - The invasion of Manchuria was extremely popular with the Japanese public as many saw this to a solution of Japan's economic problems - The military in Japan supported the Kwantung army's actions while the Prime minter and the civilian government were unable to control the Ishiwara and his supporters - This incident showed that the civilian officials had only a weak control over the military, as the military had a greater say in Japa's foreign policy

Growing opposition to the civilian government	<p>Assassinations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In November 1930, a right-wing fanatic shot prime Minister Hamaguchi Osachi, who died eventually - In February 1932, the League of Blood murdered the former Finance Minister - In the following month, the League assassinated the head of the Mitsui corporation - They intimidated the civilian politicians and caused them to drop their opposition to the military
	<p>May 15 incident, 1932</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - After talks with military leaders, the Seiyukai party was prevented from forming a new cabinet even though it had the majority share of representatives in Diet. - On 26 May 1932, the Emperor appointed a navy admiral as Japan's new Prime Minister. His cabinet had 15 members, of whom 5 were elected civilian party representatives and the other 10 were military officers and government officials - With the majority made of military officers, Japan is now officially under militarist rule

PART 2: How was like in Japan after militarization (impact – good/bad)

* Japan under Militarist Rule

Consolidation of Military Power in the government	<p>Increased Military Influence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- By 1934, the military officers could take positions in the civil service originally reserved for non-military or civilian politicians- Foreign affairs ministry handed over the supervision of Manchuria to the military- The successes of the Japanese military since the Meiji period, and especially in Manchuria, became a source of national pride- The military government also took control of political life- In 1935, the government carried out a campaign of “electoral purification” to remove corrupt practice in the government. In fact, it aimed more at individuals and groups who held views which the militarist government did not find acceptable, particularly socialism and communism.- Political parties also became less important and fewer Japanese bothered to vote
	<p>The emergence of the control fraction in the Japanese government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The military was divided between the Imperial Way fraction and the Control fraction- One of the turning points of Japan’s politics was the February 26 incident in 1936, where nineteen leading figures in the Imperial Way Fraction were arrested.- They thus loss its influence within the army and gave the Control Fraction the opportunity to seize control of the military and restore its discipline.- The military had so much influence over the cabinet that they were able to appoint an active general as the Minister for War, as the control fraction began to prepare for war by further modernizing the Japanese military
	<p>Loss of Political Power for Civilian Politicians</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The Japanese supported the military officers and their expansionist plans- In 1937, the military led an invasion into China and the Cabinet planning office was made up of mostly military officers in October 1937.- This shifted control of Japan’s finances from the civilian government to the military government- In October 1941, the army minister General Toji Hideki took the role of Prime Minister → signifies the military’s total control over the Japanese government.

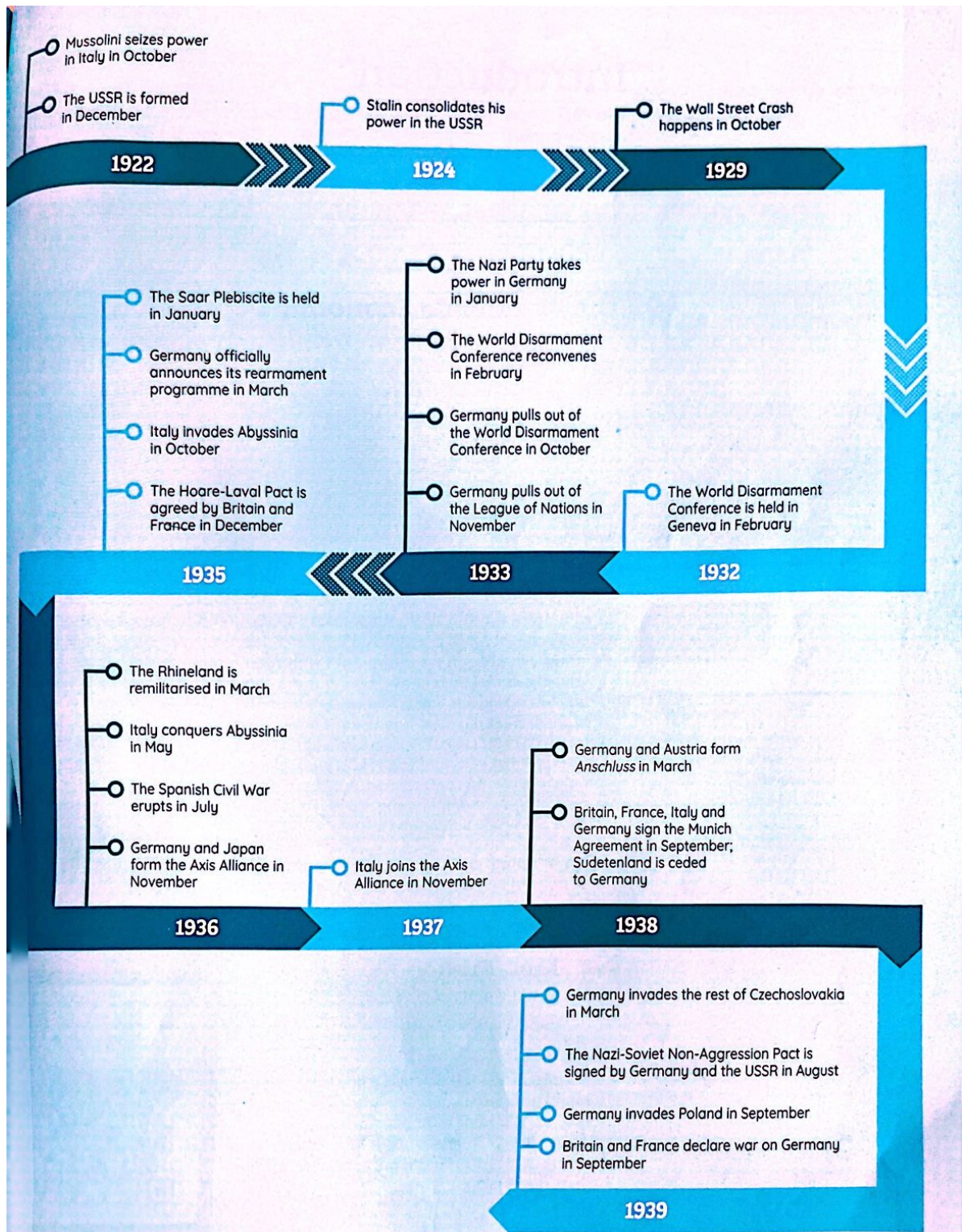
Japan's Economy	<p>Japan's Industrialisation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The militarist government's industrialization efforts were further encouraged by its emphasis on expanding its empire and preparing for war - It shifted from developing consumer industries to heavy industries and chemical production - More money was set aside for heavy industries, expanding the manufacturing industries and strengthening Japan's economy - Thus this led to new industries which gave rise to new zaibatsu - The military hoped that this would enable Japan to develop into a self-sufficient and industrially strong state
	<p>Control of the Industry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The government believed that competition between the zaibatsu was wasteful, and feared that they would seek to make profits, sometimes at the expense of the country. - To prevent this, the government passed the Principal Industries control Law in 1931. This law made it legal for the zaibatsu to form cartels to limit competition and regulate the production and prices of the products sold. - The government soon became more directly involved and even controlled these cartels - In 1937, the government introduced the five-year plans setting targets for production in various industries
	<p>Control of Labour union</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In 1936, the militarist government had a different attitude toward labour unions. - It did not favour labour unions and forced thousands of workers to withdraw from the union of government employees.
	<p>Improving conditions in Japan's Countryside</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - By 1932, many farmers were heavily in debt, and they struggled to pay their rent, taxes and feed their families. - The government then increased public works in the countryside to provide jobs for the people living there - The government started a campaign to stress the need to revive the spirit of co-operation in rural areas. It encourages farmers to utilize scientific farming methods. These measure help to increase their income and many farmers signed up for it.

Social Changes	<p>Control of Japanese Thought</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The government took action to promote loyalty to the state and the emperor, as well as a strong military spirit. In addition, the campaign for economic revitalization emphasized the traditional values seen in the lives of the peasants in rural Japan - The government began to search for strategies to manage workers and increase productivity. There were to cooperate to prevent conflict in the workplaces. Workers were told that companies were like families, where every member was equally valuable before the emperor - Individuals who promoted ideas that did not conform to the government were silenced.
	<p>Control of Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Japanese education system stressed Shinto beliefs, loyalty to the emperor and the community over the individual - The Ministry of Education published a document called Fundamentals of Our National Polity and used it as a basis for Japan's education system. - It was intended to guide teachers in inculcating Japanese traditional ethnics in their students.

The outbreak of World War II in Europe (Chapter 4)

Objectives

- The ineffectiveness of the League of Nations in the 1930s
- The aggressive foreign policy of Germany
- The unsuccessful policy of appeasement



PART 1: Failure of the League of Nations in the 1930s

Failure of Disarmament (World Disarmament Conference, 1932- 1934)	Limiting offensive weapons - It was difficult to get all countries to agree on what offensive and defensive weapons are - The resolutions passed did very little to ensure how the limitations on weapons would be achieved - Individual countries used the Conference to raise their own particular issue
	Dealing with Germany - Most countries shared the view that the terms set out in the Treaty of Versailles should be fairer to Germany - The first option was for every country to disarm to a level that Germany had been forced to. The second option was to allow Germany to rearm to a level closer to that of the other powers - In July 1934, Germany put forward proposals for all countries to disarm down to its level. When the conference failed to agree on the principle down to its level, the Germans walked out and the Conference broke up.
	The Conference Reconvened - In December 1932, the other powers agreed to discuss equality for Germany. Germany agreed to return to discussion and the Disarmament Conference reconvened in February 1933. - Hitler agreed to attend the Conference and appeared to be genuinely interested to make progress on disarmament - Even as his military commanders were secretly making plans for rearmament, Hitler pretended to engage with the other powers on the issue of disarmament. In May 1933, Hitler promised not to rearm Germany if all other nations agreed to disarm in five years. - He knew that the other powers will not want to disarm to the same level of Germany and this gave him justification he needed to rearm Germany.
Failure of collective security (The Abyssinian Crisis, 1934 – 1936)	- The fatal blow of the League came about when the Italian dictator, Benito Mussolini, invaded Abyssinia in 1935. - In December 1934, there was a dispute between Italian and Abyssinian soldiers at the Wal-Wal oasis in Abyssinia. Mussolini demanded an apology from Abyssinia and he began preparing the Italian army to invade it - The Abyssinian Emperor, Haile Selassie, appealed to the League for help but was unsuccessful. Britain and France could send troops to defend Abyssinia however they chose not to do so. - The Abyssinian Crisis damaged the global confidence in the League for good.
Conclusion	- The League of Nations lacks authority in enforcing peacekeeping measures, which resulted in the collapse of collective security. This eroded its credibility and showed its ineffectiveness in resolving conflicts and maintaining world peace.

PART 2: Nazi Germany's aggressive foreign policy

Hitler's Aims and Beliefs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The party offered radical solutions to Germany's economic problems like a massive rearmament programme, state control of industry and state investment in projects as well as to get rid of the Treaty of Versailles to end reparation payments
Germany's Increasing Aggression in 1933 - 1937	<p>Rearmament (1933 – 1935)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The Nazi government began rearmament in 1933, even though this was specifically banned under the Treaty of Versailles.- Thousands of unemployed workers were drafted into the army to help reduce unemployment- By 1935 Hitler no longer bothered to hide Germany's rearmament programme and held a freedom to rearm rally in Berlin.- In Britain, France, Poland and Czechoslovakia and the USSR, concerns grew over Germany's military build-up <p>Remilitarisation of the Rhineland (1936)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The Treaty of Versailles banned German forces from entering the Rhineland region, but Hitler declared that it was no longer acceptable because France and the USSR had signed an Treaty of mutual assistance in February.- In March Hitler ordered his troops into the Rhineland. It was a huge gamble as the German army was not yet strong enough.- However France was preoccupied with the Abyssinian crisis and the British could not guarantee their support for France if France challenged Hitler.- The League condemned Hitler's actions, but no further action was taken

PART 3: Policy of Appeasement in the 1930s

Anschluss with Austria	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- In 1938, Hitler wanted to unite the Germans of Austria with Germany.- There was a strong Nazi party in Austria. Hitler encouraged them to instigate union with Germany, or Anschluss.- Hitler marched troops into Austria in March 1938. In April 1938, Hitler held a plebiscite on Anschluss in Austria with 99.75% of Austrian voters approved of the Anschluss- With Anschluss, Germany absorbed Austria's population, industry, and natural resources.
Sudetenland and the Munich Agreement, 1938	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Hitler was interested in Czechoslovakia after taking over Austria. There was a large number of Germans in the Sudetenland.- In May 1938, Hitler claimed to protect the Sudeten Germans and threatened to invade if Czechoslovakia did not hand over Sudetenland.- When Hitler wanted to go into war with Czechoslovakia, Britain and France decided to give parts of the Sudetenland to Hitler, thinking it will satisfy Hitler's demands and attain peace.- Immediately after signing the Munich Agreement, people all over Europe thought that the war was prevented- In October 1938, Hitler moved his forces into the Sudeten. He claimed that this was the end of his demands- On 15 March 1939, German troops took over the rest of Czechoslovakia.

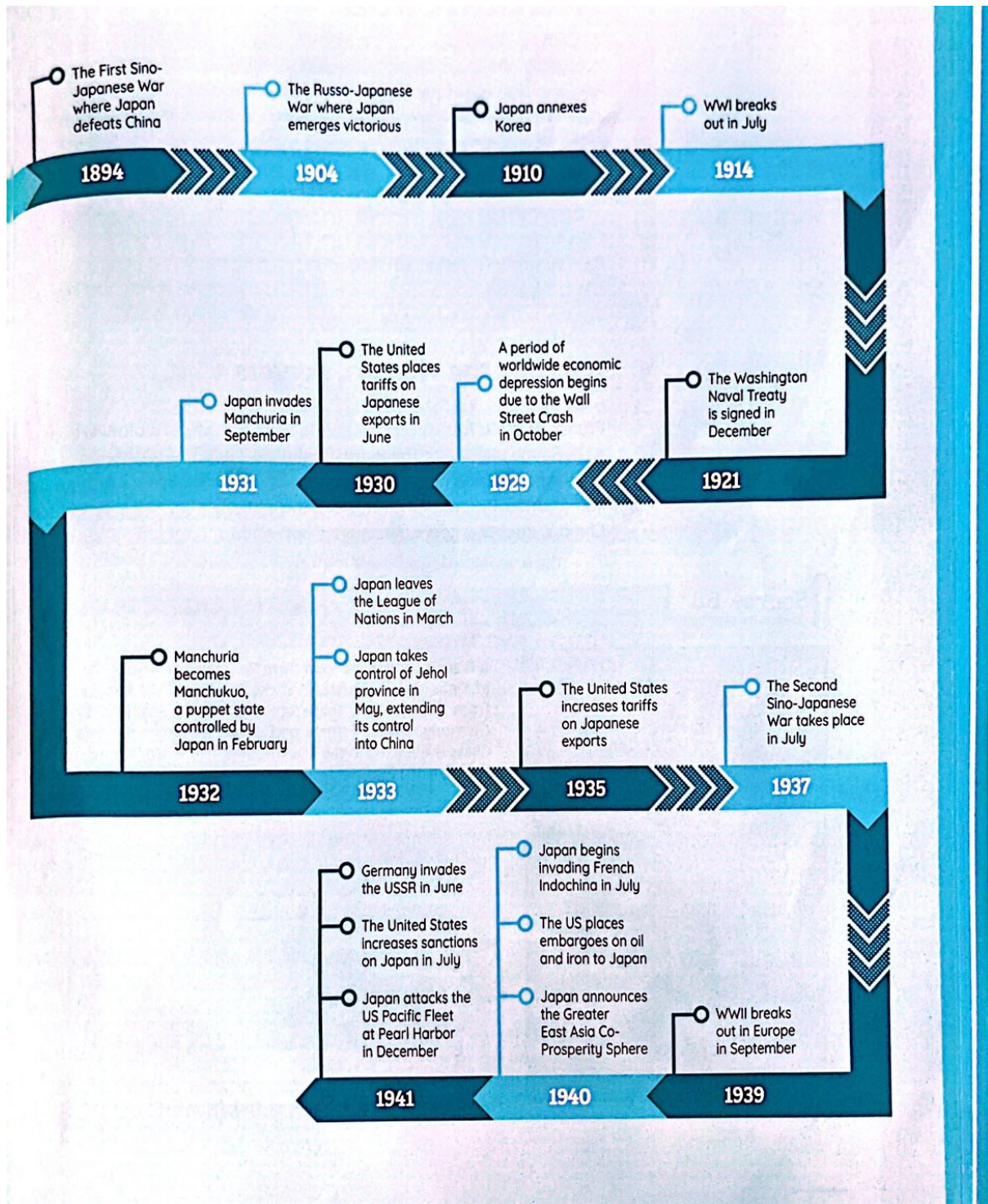
PART 4: Invasion of Poland (trigger event)

Invasion of Poland	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Germany's interest in the Polish corridor and Danzig was due to the large population of Germans.- Since April 1939, Germany had taken action to demand the Polish Corridor and Danzig. However the Polish leaders rejected these demands.- On 1 September 1939, certain that there was no opposition from the USSR because of the Pact, Germany invaded Poland. However Hitler miscalculated that Britain and France would not go to war over Poland.- On 3 September 1939, Britain and France declared war on Germany, WW2 in Europe had begun.
--------------------	---

The outbreak of World War II in Asia-Pacific (Chapter 5)

Objectives

- The expansionist foreign policy of Japan
- The Manchurian Crisis and the ineffectiveness of the League of Nations
- The worsening relationship between Japan and the US in the 1930s and 1940s



***Part 1: Japan's Expansionist Foreign Policy**

Rise of Japanese Militarism	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- tensions between the civilian politicians and military leaders worsened as the ultranationalist military commanders grew in prominence and influence in Japan politics through the military victories in the early 1900s against China and Russia- Many Japanese officers felt that it was Japan's destiny to remove the Western powers from Asia and expand its rule over Asia- This was extremely popular in Japan especially after the annexation of Manchuria. On the other hand, the civilian politicians increasingly lost the trust of the people who perceived them to be weak- During the 1930s the military became increasingly dominant, and by 1936 it was effectively running Japan
Japan and the Western Powers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The Japanese saw Britain, Russia and the US as rivals and obstacles to achieving their ambitions.- In their view, the US in the 1930s, leaving thousands of Japanese workers unemployment when it stopped importing goods from Japan- In 1936, Japan signed the Anti-Comintern Pact with Italy and Nazi Germany agreeing to oppose communism- The relationship between Japan and Britain was less straightforward. In the early 1900s, they had co-operated under the Anglo-Japanese Alliance (1902-1923) to prevent the USSR from advancing in the Far East. By the 1930s, the relationship of two countries deteriorated. Britain criticised Japan over the invasion of Manchuria and was on friendly terms with the US. Moreover, since Britain had colonies throughout Asia, including Hong Kong and Malaya, Japan viewed as a rival power
The Great Depression and Japan's search for Self-sufficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The Great Depression damaged Japan's economy due to its heavy reliance on foreign trade.- The economic crisis convinced the ultranationalist politicians and military commanders that democracy was falling, as it could not solve the problem for the people- The introduction of tariffs by the US in the 1930s to protect its economy also hurt Japan's export trade badly. These taxes made Japanese goods more expensive in the US- These tariffs were extended through the 1930s and hurt Japan's exports trade badly. The ultranationalists in Japan were convinced that other countries could not be relied upon and Japan needed to be self-sufficient.

Part 2: The Manchurian Crisis and the Response of the League of Nations (KNOW MANCHURIAN CRISIS)

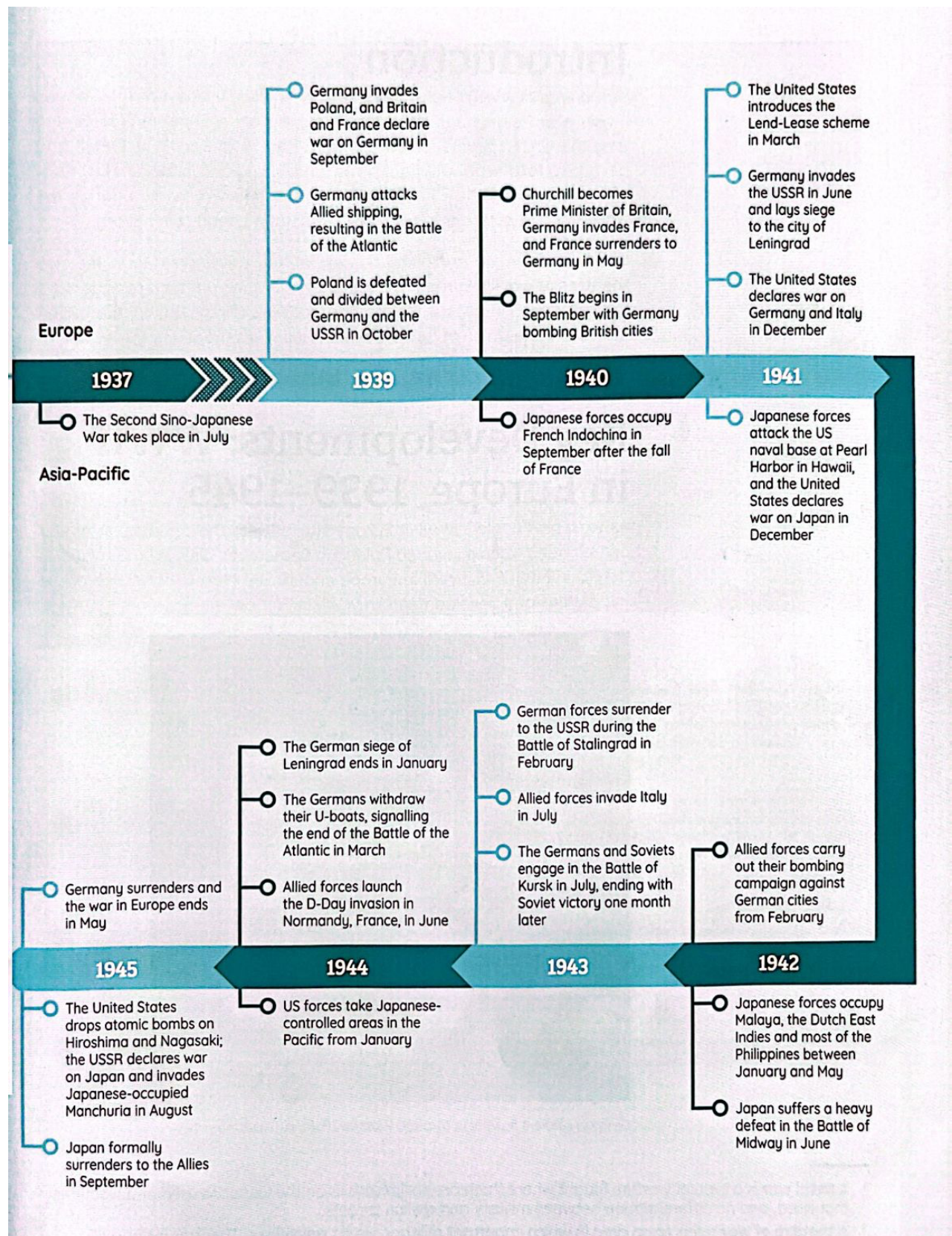
Japanese Public Opinion on the Manchurian Crisis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - By 1931, the idea that influence and control should be extended over Manchuria had gained a lot of ground in Japan - Manchuria was rich in coal and iron and was seen as the perfect solution to Japan's lack of natural resources - Even members like Shidehara, then Foreign Minister, believed that it was right and justifiable for Japan to extend into Manchuria
Instability in China	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On the borders with Manchuria, many local warlords did not fully accept Chiang's authority and some were prepared to collaborate with the Japanese in return for economic and military support - Chiang was locked in an intense rivalry with the small but growing Communist Part of China. - This painted the perfect opportunity for Japan to expand further and annex Manchuria
Conquest of Manchuria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In September 1931, Ishiwara's forces blew up a part of the railway track at Mukden. They blamed it on the Chinese government and used it as an excuse to take over Manchuria - By December they controlled most of the region
Response of the League of Nations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In October 1931, the League's council passed a resolution by 13 votes to 1 calling on Japan to withdraw its troops. - The Japanese claims they were not invading China, but simply acting in self-defence to keep peace since China was in a state of anarchy - Japanese announced they intended to occupy more of China - On 24 February, the Lytton Report was approved by 42 votes to 1 in the league's general assembly. - Japan rejected the Lytton Report and resigned from the league on 27 March
Consequence of the Manchurian Crisis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It tarnished the prestige of the League and showed how the league was helpless in the face of aggressor nations like Japan - It encouraged Japan to further expand into Asia in the following years as Manchuria's position played it in a strong position for expansion into China - Japan now had access to the raw materials and resources available in Manchuria needed for its growing industries.

***Part 3: Japan-US Relations**

US Economic War in Japan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The 1937 invasion of China prompted the US government to take a progressively harder line on Japan- President Roosevelt announced a series of financial and economic measures designed to halt Japan's aggressive foreign policy- After the failure of the negotiations between the US and Japan, and the refusal of Japan to withdraw from China and Indochina, an oil embargo was imposed on August 1941- The US policy was an attempt to strangle Japan financially- The US demanded that Japanese troops withdraw from China and promised not to threaten any territories belonging to the US or its allies.
Japan's Dilemma over the US	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- US demands were completely unacceptable to the Japanese- However, the only alternative seems to be a conflict with the US- US had resources that were estimated six times greater than Japan's

The attack on Pearl Harbour (trigger event)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- In September 1940, Japan signed the Tripartite Pact, which made it an ally of Germany and Italy. The pact was meant to be insurance against US intervention- The strategy targeted the powerful US pacific fleet base at Pearl Harbour which protected US and other Western interests in Asia- On the morning of 7 December 1941, some 300 planes took off from Japanese aircraft carriers to launch their attack on Pearl Harbour- Furthermore, with this attack, the United States declared war on Japan triggering the outbreak of WWII in Asia-Pacific
---	---

The End of World War II in Europe and Asia-Pacific



Strengths of the Allies

<p>Importance of the United States</p> <p>*FOCUS*</p>	<p>Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- In a short time, the US' vast resources were mobilized. The people, factories, shipyards, farms and even Hollywood and the movie industry joined in the war effort.- From 1942 onwards, the US supplied the Allies with food, raw materials, industrial equipment, weapons and ammunition, troops, ships and aircraft.- Battle of the Atlantic (1939 – 1945) → together with the controlled shipping routes across the Atlantic to Britain and the USSR, the US industrial production was an essential factor in the Allied victory in the war. <p>Economic + Military</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The US was not ready for war when Japan attacked Pearl Harbour in December 1941.- Within months, the US was rebuilding its fleet and training troops, producing weapons and other essential equipment.- Island-Hopping strategy in Asia Pacific → The allies came up with a strategy against Japan. This involved air attacks and submarines to isolate Japanese-held areas, instead of trying to capture them. The Allies would then conquer the islands, which were poorly defended and use them to further cut off ships that supplied the well-defended islands.- Faced with the strong resistance of the Japanese forces, the US decided to use its newly developed atomic bombs without warning. The devastation brought about by two atomic bombs was one of the key reasons for Japan's surrender.
<p>Importance of Britain</p>	<p>Ability to Resist</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- With their backs against the wall in the summer of 1940, many politicians believed the right policy would be for Britain to reach an agreement with Germany.- However, that did not happen. That would have proved fundamental to the defeat of Germany. During Battle of Britain, Britain's Royal Air Force had excellent fighter aircrafts such as Supermarine Spitfire, and the Hawker Hurricane British aircraft were as good as the German's. Moreover, the factories were able to keep producing more of such aircrafts to replace their losses.- The British Empire forces included the immense manpower and resources of India. India provided over 2.5 million men and women and a staggering 80 percent of its wealth to the Allied war effort. Although Indian troops fought in North Africa and Europe, the majority fought in Asia against the Japanese.

Importance of USSR	<p>Reorganisation and Resistance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - When Germany advance was halted by the Russian in later 1941, Stalin and his military leaders used this time to reform the Red army completely. They copied tactics and ideas used by the Germans and added some of their own – E.g. specialist units were created to listen to on German radio signals and disrupt them. - Stalin emerged during the war as a leader who inspired confidence and loyalty to his people. He calls upon them to fight to defend “Mother Russia” in the “Great Patriotic War” - The turning point was in early 1943 when the Germans had advanced again in 1942 towards the city of Stalingrad. The Soviets held them in a fierce battle and eventually encircled the Germans, forcing them to surrender.
	<p>Resources and Production</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To ensure production kept up with the high demand, the Soviets enacted harsh measures. Adults in the USSR received no food unless they worked in some way for the war effort. This applied to men and women. - The USSR produced a small range of reliable weapons, but in vast quantities. It equaled and the surpassed German war production in 1942. By 1943, the USSR produced one and a half times as many aircraft and twice as many tanks as the Germans. - The USSR allies also made important contributions to the campaign. Britain and the US supplied vast amounts of food, raw materials, and industrial equipment via shipping routes despite the U-boat threat from Germany.
	<p>Entry to the Asian-Pacific Theatre of War</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As agreed at the Tehran Conference and Yalta Conference, the USSR entered the war against Japan three months after the defeat of Germany - On 8 August 1945, the Soviets declared war against Japan and launched their invasion simultaneously on three fronts of Manchuria - The soviets were able to defeat the Kwantung Army in Manchuria and occupy northern Korea, which contributed to Japan’s decision to surrender to the Allied forces.

Weaknesses of Axis powers

<p>Germany's Military Weakness</p> <p>do happen that they ask "which factor is more damaging", focusing on only one country</p>	<p>Hitler's Mistakes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Hitler had little military command experience at the highest level. This lack of experience was exemplified by his order to halt the advance of German forces towards Dunkirk in May 1940- Another critical error Hitler made was during the siege of Stalingrad. In 1942, German forces attacked Stalingrad. Hitler wanted to take Stalingrad as a matter of pride, thus he committed hundreds of thousands of troops to a pointless battle that was lost by February 1943.- Hitler also decided to declare war on the US four days after the Pearl Harbour attack, despite having no obligation to do so under the terms of the Tripartite Pact signed with Japan and Italy
	<p>The two-front war</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- In WW1, Germany had tried to avoid a way on two fronts – against Russia in the east and against Britain and France in the west. In 1940, Hitler successfully fought a single-front war against Britain and France but failed to defeat Britain.- When he invaded the USSR in 1941, he placed Germany in a two-front war- This prevented him from concentrating his efforts and resources on a single front, causing the military to be gradually worn down by the Allied forces.
	<p>Poor planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- There were failures of planning in naval warfare. While the Germans use of U-Boats was highly effective, their use of surface ships was less so. They put too many resources into building giant battleships and failed to build aircraft carriers.- It was a similar situation with air power. From 1942 to 1945, the RAF and the US air force bombed Germany relentlessly. The Germans never developed heavy bombers which could do severe damage to towns and cities. German bombers were too small and could not carry enough bombs.- In the Battle of Britain, the RAF had the advantage of radar, which the Germans had not invested in. The RAF also had plenty of fuel, ammunition, and spare parts. On the other hand, shortages in these resources plagued the Luftwaffe.

Japan's Military Weakness	<p>Inter-service rivalry between the Army and Navy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Japanese army and navy have a long-term conflict with each other since the Meiji period. Hence when the war broke out, the rivalry between the army and navy prevented both groups from sharing resources and exchanging military intelligence, much less coordinate their attacks and defences against the allies. - In 1942, the navy asked the army to provide troop support for an invasion of Australia, the army refused. The army remained unresponsive throughout the Pacific War and was late to recognise the threat of the US counter-offensive in later 1942. - Throughout the 1943, the army refused to commit major reinforcements to the pacific islands. Both services could not agree on where to set Japan's defensive perimeter against the Allied forces.
	<p>Overstretched Empire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Japanese were unable to effectively leverage the empire they had because it was very spreaded out. In many areas, rail and road communications were poor, so it was difficult to deliver raw material and workers efficiently to the places where they are needed. - Hence large quantities of raw materials and finished goods like weapons and vehicles, had to be transported by sea - This was much more challenging than the situation in Europe, where Germany could transport materials from its empire by rail or road.
	<p>Poor planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Japanese failed to understand that the war at sea had changed by 1941. - Air power, in the form of aircraft based on carriers, was now far more important than traditional naval power like battleships. - Thus, while the Japanese damaged US battleships during the attack on Pearl Habor, they did not destroy any US aircraft carriers, as they were not located at the base. This allowed the US Navy to recover from the attack quickly.
	<p>Lack of Local support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Japanese looted the resources of the conquered lands and abused the locals and forced thousands into slave labour. Millions of Civilians died under Japanese rule. Thus the conquered people began to resist in any way they could against the Japanese. - In China, the communists under Mao Zedong carried out an effective campaign of guerrilla warfare against the Japanese. Many North Koreans joined the Chinese communist and later fought the Japanese back in Koarea. In Vietname, the nationalist leader Ho Chi Minh led the Viet Minh in a guerrilla campaign which gradually word down the Japanese. - There were many other resistance movements, including the Malayan People's Anti-Japanese Army, This was a mainly communist movement that fought an underground war against the Japanese. They fought bravely against overwhelming odds and in terrible conditions, about 1/3 of the fighters died during the war

History Elective Chapter 7 – Origins and development of the Cold War in Europe (1945 – 1955)

People involved	
Joseph Stalin (Yalta + Potsdam)	Leader of USSR
Franklin Delano Roosevelt (Yalta)	US President
Winston Churchill (Yalta)	Britain's Prime Minister
Harry Truman (Potsdam)	US President, replaced Roosevelt as he died
Clement Attlee (Potsdam)	Britain's Prime Minister, replaced Churchill as he lost the election

Defining some terms...	
Bipolarity	Describing the alliance behavior of states during the cold war. Specifically, towards the rivalry between USA (Democracy) and USSR (Communism).
Proxy War	A war instigated by a major power which does not itself become involved. In the context of the Cold War, the major powers would be USA and USSR. The USA was directly involved, but USSR was only indirectly involved.
Ideology	A set of beliefs or ideas, usually about politics and government. In the cold war context, it's the ideology of Democracy vs Communism
Buffer State	Buffer state would be a country situated between two larger hostile countries and serving to prevent the outbreak of regional conflict.
Satellite State / Dependent State	A satellite state or dependent state is a country that is formally independent but under heavy political, economic, and military influence or control from another country. In the cold war context, it would mean the eastern European countries that were under USSR influence/control.

CHEAT SHEET (REASONS FOR COLD WAR)

Ideology difference (before WW2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The US held views of democracy whereas the USSR held communist views and this led to series of events that led to suspicion and mistrust- Capitalism and communism are incompatible due to opposing beliefs in individual freedoms versus state control- Between 1918 and 1921, the Russian civil war was fought in Russia between the communists and the Whites- US and British troops supported the whites as they prevented communist victory- These events led to deepened mistrust and led to disagreements on what should happen once the war ended- This can be seen in both the Yalta and Potsdam conferences, where political leaders held individual views on matters
Atomic Bomb (During WW2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Since 1941, the US developed an atomic bomb and decided to keep it from USSR until the Potsdam Conference in July 1945- At the conference, Truman privately told Stalin that the US had successfully tested the atomic bomb- Stalin was not surprised when Truman told him about the bomb. Stalin already knew about it and was creating his own.- This further deepened Stalin's suspicions towards the US's intentions
Yalta Conference (During WW2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Some agreements were made during the Yalta conference- Germany was to be divided into 4 zones occupied by US, French, British and Soviets- Countries liberated from Germany occupation were allowed to hold free elections to choose the government they want- The Big Three to join the United Nations- Division of influence between Eastern and Western Europe led to tensions and mistrust between superpowers- Tensions and distrust was so high that Churchill asked the military to prepare for a possible war against USSR- USSR assumed free elections to be establishing pro-Soviet governments thus contributed to the cold war

Satellite States (After WW2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The creation of satellite states led to the division of Europe into two blocks. - Europe was split into the Eastern Block which were communist states under Soviet control and the Western Bloc which were democratic states supported by the U.S. and its allies - This division created an "Iron Curtain". For example, East Germany became a Soviet satellite, while West Germany was backed by Western powers, leading to the Berlin Wall and the split of the country - This division heightened political and military tensions between the superpowers, fueling the Cold War
Containment Policy – Truman Doctrine (After WW2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - President Truman announced that the U.S. would provide financial aid, military equipment, and advice to democratic countries threatened by communism. - After World War II, Greece was under British control, facing conflict between the communist party and royalists seeking to restore the monarchy, leading to a civil war in 1946. - With British resources depleted, they withdrew from Greece in February 1947, and in May 1947, the U.S. passed the Greece and Turkey Aid Bill, providing \$400 million in aid, which helped Greece establish a monarchy. - Truman doctrine shows how US would actively resist the spread of communism - The announcement of Truman Doctrine alarmed Stalin who then created an organization called Cominform
Containment Policy – Marshall Plan (After WW2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - June 1947, the Marshall Plan was announced, with the U.S. providing \$13 billion to help rebuild Europe's economies by shipping food, machinery, and livestock to democratic countries. - While the Marshall Plan was viewed as a generous gesture by U.S. allies, the U.S. had its own motives behind it. - The U.S. aimed for European markets to recover; countries without democratic systems, like Italy, did not receive financial support. - Economically, it was a massive boost to Western Europe and brought recover to countries. - Britain, France and West Germany benefitted from it. - Bind the US and its allies closer together against communism

Cominform and Comecon (USSR's response)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Cominform, set up in 1947, spread propaganda to unite communist states and prevent U.S. influence. - Stalin used Cominform to control satellite states, directing them to reject the Marshall Plan and cut trade with non-communist countries. - There was no real debate within Cominform; any disagreement would result in expulsion.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Comecon was set up in response to the Marshall Plan to free satellite states from U.S. influence. - Members traded mainly with each other, promising benefits similar to the Marshall Plan. - The USSR benefited most from Comecon, with countries like Poland forced to sell goods, like coal, at unfairly low prices.
Berlin Blockade (After WW2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - June 1948, Stalin initiated the Berlin Blockade, cutting off rail, road, water, and power supplies to Berlin - Truman ordered the Berlin Airlift, where the U.S. and its allies delivered supplies like food, coal, and medicine to Berlin by air for almost a year. - By May 1949, the blockade failed to drive the Allies out of Berlin, forcing Stalin to lift it, marking an early victory for the West in the Cold War. - The blockade marked the first major direct confrontation between the U.S. and the Soviet Union after World War II, showing the deepening divide between East and West. - The crisis highlighted the need for Western countries to defend against Soviet aggression, leading to the creation of NATO in 1949, which further escalated Cold War tensions.

History Elective – Chapter 8 (Extension of the Cold War outside Europe)

People Involved	
Kim Il Sung (communist)	First leader of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea)
Syngman Rhee (anti-communist, authoritarian)	First president of the Republic of Korea (South Korea)
Joseph Stalin (support NK)	Leader of USSR
Harry S. Truman (support SK)	President of the United States
Dean Acheson	Defence Minister of the United States
Mao Zedong	Leader of the People's Republic of China (from the Chinese Communist Party)
Chiang Kai-shek	Leader of the Republic of China, led Taiwan after defeat of GMD to CCP)
Douglas MacArthur	American military leader (led SK in the attack)
Matthew Ridgway	Replaces Douglas MacArthur after his dismissal

Key points	
Nationalism	Divided Korea
External influences	Impact of Korean War

CHEAT SHEET

Reasons for Korean War

Cold war element (NK)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Soviets were happy to allow Kim Il sung to establish control. He trained in the USSR and fought with the Chinese communist against the Japanese- USSR did not allow the elections to take place in it- With the support of the USSR, the North Koreans established the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (or North Korea) on 9 September 1948, recognising Kim as the leader- Soviet forces were to withdraw by the end of 1948- Kim showed that North Korea was self-sufficient and he isolated the country from the rest of the world to limit external influence and opposition
Cold war element (SK)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The United States backed Syngman Rhee for the position of President as Rhee had campaigned for Korean independence during the Japanese Occupation.- The United States favoured Rhee primarily because he was deeply anti-communist, a fluent English speaker, and a graduate from prestigious universities in the United States.- After gaining a majority of the votes in the election, Rhee became the president of the newly founded Republic of Korea (or South Korea) in August 1948.- The US forces were to withdraw from South Korea by June 1949- Rhee become authoritarian, arresting and killing political opponents which included suspected communists. US continued to support Rhee to prevent communism spread

Proxy War	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The United States provided military aid, financial support, and sent troops to help South Korea under the UN command. - The Soviet Union backed North Korea by providing weapons, strategic advice, and used Soviet pilots in combat disguised as Chinese forces. - The war became a battleground for the US-Soviet ideological conflict, with capitalism and communism indirectly clashing through their support of Korea's opposing sides. - Both superpowers were able to engage in a significant conflict without directly clashing with each other, thereby avoiding the risk of a full-scale nuclear war. The involvement of other nations, such as China's intervention on the side of North Korea, further exemplified the global dimensions of this proxy conflict.
Civil War	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Korean War had deep roots in the division of Korea after World War II, where the 38th parallel separated the communist North and capitalist South. - North Korea, led by Kim Il-sung, aimed to reunify Korea under communist rule, and its invasion of the South in 1950 reflected an internal struggle for control. - While foreign powers were involved, the war was fundamentally driven by Korean desires for unification and control over their own peninsula. - it was fought primarily over the issue of Korean unification, with both North and South Korea seeing themselves as the legitimate government of all Korea. Despite the involvement of superpowers, the conflict had its origins and driving motivations within Korea itself

Impact (NK and SK)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The main issues in the armistice talks were the return of POWs and the border between North and South Korea. - Some POWs chose to stay in the opposing country, while there were suspicions on both sides about whether all POWs were returned. - The Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) was created along the 38th parallel as a neutral area between North and South Korea to separate military forces.
Impact (US Foreign Policy) – fighting proxy war	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Although the United States put troops in Korea, the USSR did not. - The Chinese troops were volunteers and not officially under the command of communist China. - The Korean War was an example of how a local dispute could escalate into a superpower conflict.
Impact (US Foreign Policy) – escalation of tensions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The U.S. focused on containing communism in Asia, with South Korea, Japan, and Taiwan as key allies. - It stationed troops and military resources in South Korea and Japan to reinforce its presence. - The U.S. formed global anti-communist alliances like Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) and Central Treaty Organization (CENTO), providing financial and military support to allies in exchange for suppressing communism.
Impact (US Foreign Policy) – increase in military power	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The U.S. significantly increased its military power to enforce containment, doubling its armed forces by 1951. - Before 1950, U.S. efforts to combat communism were mainly through political actions and media, not military force. - NATO's military strength also grew, with countries increasing their defense spending from 5.5% to over 12% of GDP and stationing more divisions in key areas like West Germany.

CHUM (History) Chapter 9 – Extension of the Cold War outside Europe: Case Study of the Vietnam War (1954 – 1975)

We will learn about...

- what led to the outbreak of the Vietnam War;
- the role of the Vietnamese and global interests in influencing the course of the conflict; and
- the immediate aftermath of the war on Vietnam and the Cold War.

Who was involved?	
Ho Chi Minh	Helped to revive and lead the Viet Minh, spearheading the resistance against the Japanese forces in 1941, and later against the French in 1946, through underground campaigns
Mao Zedong	Leader of Chinese Communist Party (supported Ho Chi Minh)
Bao Dai	Emperor of South of Vietnam (non-communist)
Ngo Dinh Diem	Leader of the South Vietnam, supported by the US
John F. Kennedy	President of United States
Lyndon B. Johnson	President of United States (after President Kennedy was assassinated)
Richard Nixon	President of the United States (wanted to withdraw from the Vietnam War)
Leonid Brezhnev	Leader of the Soviet Union
Le Duan	First leader of Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Communist Party Chairman

CHEAT SHEET

REASONS FOR VIETNAM WAR

Civil Conflict (Nationalism)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Ho Chi Minh quickly gained control of North Vietnam, attracting supporters from South Vietnam and causing many to flee. He was popular for fighting against colonial powers and implementing land reforms that helped peasant farmers, although these reforms led to food shortages.- In South Vietnam, President Ngo Dinh Diem struggled to gain support despite some modernization efforts. He ruled harshly, rigging a referendum to become president and relying on U.S. support for being anti-communist, but many viewed his regime as unpopular and oppressive.- Diem's refusal to hold elections and make land reforms led to protests, especially from Buddhist monks and former Viet Minh members, who wanted unification with North Vietnam. Their frustration increased after Diem canceled promised elections in 1956.- Diem responded to the insurgency with harsh tactics, including imprisonment and torture. As the Viet Cong organized and began attacking government officials and forces, tensions rose, contributing to the outbreak of the Vietnam War.- As the situation in Vietnam worsened, the U.S. increased military support for South Vietnam by deploying advisors and troops to combat the Viet Cong and protect the Diem regime.- 2 August 1964, two alleged attacks on U.S. naval vessels by North Vietnam prompted the U.S. to escalate military involvement, leading to the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, which allowed for increased military action without needing a formal declaration of war.
---------------------------------	---

External Powers	<p>CHINA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - After the communist victory in China, Mao saw the U.S. as a major threat and worried about invasions from U.S. allies. - Mao believed that if Vietnam became non-communist, China could face attacks from South Korea, Taiwan, and Vietnam, so he wanted to support a communist regime in Vietnam. - By backing Vietnam, Mao aimed to show loyalty to another communist state and unite the Chinese people under his leadership, just as he had done during the Korean War.
	<p>USSR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Soviets supported Ho Chi Minh's fight against the French in the 1950s and helped in the formation of the Viet Cong. - By the mid-1960s, the USSR became increasingly interested in Vietnam as they competed with China for leadership in the communist world, steadily increasing their military support to North Vietnam. - By the late 1960s, the Soviets provided more military assistance to North Vietnam than China, including aircraft and air defense systems.
	<p>US</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - After the Geneva Accords in 1954, the US strongly opposed the unification of Vietnam under communist leadership and began to support the anti-communist regime in South Vietnam. - The US provided military aid, advisors, and economic assistance to South Vietnam under President Ngo Dinh Diem, significantly increasing American involvement in the region. - This established the Military Assistance Advisory Group (MAAG) and the Strategic Hamlet Program, aimed at curbing communist influence.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The U.S. sent more military support to South Vietnam, increasing tensions with North Vietnam and leading to confrontations in the Gulf of Tonkin. - The USSR and China helped North Vietnam, making the U.S. feel threatened and pushing them to be more aggressive. - 2 August 1964, Increased military presence caused instability, and attack U.S. ships in the Gulf of Tonkin led Congress to approve more military action in Vietnam.

PROXY OR CIVIL?

Proxy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- North Vietnam received significant support from the Soviet Union and China, both communist superpowers aiming to spread communism in Southeast Asia.- This support included military aid, financial assistance, and strategic guidance, crucial in North Vietnam's ability to continue fighting.- On the other hand, the United States, driven by its policy of containment, supported South Vietnam to prevent the spread of communism by providing substantial military aid, including troops, weapons, and financial resources, to bolster the South Vietnamese government.- They used Vietnam to exert their influence without direct conflict.- The U.S. and Soviet Union's heavy involvement indicates that the war's direction and outcome were largely determined by these external forces rather than purely Vietnamese interests.
Civil	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The communist North, led by Ho Chi Minh, and the anti-communist South, supported by various Vietnamese nationalist groups.- The division of Vietnam into North and South at the Geneva Accords in 1954 exacerbated these tensions, leading to a struggle for control of the entire country.- This internal conflict was driven by differing visions for Vietnam's future—whether it would be a communist or a nationalist state- political but also cultural and historical, as the two regions had long-standing differences that predated external involvement.- The intensity of the civil struggle was evident in the widespread support each side garnered from the local population, suggesting that the war was fundamentally about who would control Vietnam's future
Proxy > Civil	<p>Comparatively speaking, the involvement of the superpowers had a more significant impact on the course and outcome of the war than the internal divisions within Vietnam. The massive military and financial support from the United States and the Soviet Union prolonged the conflict and escalated it to a level that far exceeded the capacity of the Vietnamese factions alone.</p>

IMPACT

Impact on American socially and politically (weakening of presidency and ideology)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The Vietnam War hurt the U.S.'s reputation because of bad actions by soldiers and the use of harmful chemicals, showing that the U.S. wasn't morally better.- The U.S. couldn't stop communism from spreading in Southeast Asia, and countries like Laos and Cambodia also became communist after Vietnam.- Congress took more control over military decisions, reducing the president's power to start wars after the Vietnam War.- Many people in the U.S. protested against the Vietnam War, showing they lost trust in the government.
Detente	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- After the Vietnam War, the U.S. aimed to ease tensions with the Soviet Union through detente, leading to a 1972 treaty to limit nuclear weapons.- As part of detente, the U.S. and USSR held successful talks, including a 1975 meeting in Helsinki to discuss arms control, borders, and human rights.- The U.S. worked on detente with China, lifting its block on China's UN representation and establishing diplomatic ties through Nixon's visits.

O Level History Elective – Chapter 10: End of Cold War

- The decline of the USSR and the end of cold war
- The escalation of US-USSR tensions in the 1980s
- The impact of Gorbachev's political and economic reforms on the USSR and its fall

Main points	
USSR decline	USA vs USSR
USA superiority	Capitalism vs Communism
Gorbachev's Reform	

CHEAT SHEET (REASONS FOR END OF COLD WAR)

Gorbachev's Reforms – Glasnost (Short term)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gorbachev promoted open debate and honesty in government, allowing criticism from Communist Party members and the media. - This backfired by exposing corruption and inefficiency, which decreased public confidence in the communist government. - The positive image of Soviet life collapsed, leading to widespread disillusionment and the eventual disintegration of the USSR.
Gorbachev's Reforms – Perestroika (Short term)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Perestroika was a series of reforms aimed at increasing efficiency and reducing corruption, allowing managers to innovate and involve workers in decision-making. - The policy failed to improve output, leading to unemployment, black market growth, and shortages, which discouraged small business owners. - Instead of strengthening the communist party, Perestroika sparked opposition, with open elections in 1989 highlighting criticism from liberals and nationalists dissatisfied with Gorbachev's policies.
Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gorbachev's policies of glasnost and perestroika lowered tensions between the U.S. and USSR, promoting dialogue and cooperation. - As Eastern European countries gained independence and criticized communism, the USSR's influence declined, leading to the collapse of communist governments. - Gorbachev negotiated arms reduction treaties with the U.S., like the INF Treaty, which eased military tensions and encouraged a more peaceful relationship.

Foreign Policy reforms – Reagan-Gorbachev summits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In 1983, Reagan was shocked to find that the Soviets almost launched a nuclear strike on the U.S. due to a malfunction in their warning system. - Between 1985 and 1988, Reagan and Gorbachev agreed to reduce nuclear weapons. - Reagan's view of the USSR changed, and he no longer saw it as an "evil empire."
Foreign Policy reforms – ideologisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gorbachev aimed to reform the economy by reducing spending on superpower competition. - He withdrew troops from Afghanistan and Angola, ending military support for communist regimes. - In 1989, he called Warsaw Pact leaders together to promote non-intervention in their countries, urging them to implement changes as well.
Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gorbachev withdrew troops from Afghanistan, enabling a greater focus on domestic problems. - He encouraged Eastern European countries to pursue independence, which weakened Soviet control over the region. - Gorbachev's arms reduction treaties with the U.S. promoted cooperation and reduced Cold War tensions.

Decline of USSR (long term)	<p><i>Structural weakness of the command economy</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Soviet economy grew and expanded by the 1970s, the Soviet economy became overwhelmed by the increasing demands. - The Soviet government struggled to cope with many companies making different goods. It acted too slowly and made poor decisions. - E.g. the USSR was very slow to bring new technology into industries
	<p><i>External burdens on the economy</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - USSR provided money, technical equipment, advisors, food and medical supplies to many of their allies - These were financial burdens which greatly increase in the Afghanistan war in 1979. - The USSR invested too much in its military power. The nuclear weapon programme and the war in Afghanistan were too expensive. 30-50% of Soviet resources went to the military
	<p><i>Poor standard of living</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Most of the Soviets were keen on enjoying a higher standard of living as cars, telephones, televisions were rare and usually impossible to afford - The command economy prioritised industry and military spending over consumer goods - Workers' wages were not increasing. Many other non-communist countries had higher standards of living than USSR - Overinvestment in the military took many away from education and research and development. These sectors were creating economic growth in the US but they did not in the USSR.
	<p><i>Disillusionment of the Workforce</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Many Soviet workers believed that the system had corruption. Their bosses were appointed due to personal connections or even bribes. Wages were also tightly controlled. There were limited incentives to those who worked hard. Those who protested were arrested by the police

The Brezhnev doctrine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Launched in 1968, all Eastern European countries would be a one-party state, led by the Communist Party - Any attempts to reverse communism will be seen as a threat and other communist states would intervene by sending in troops - Honecker (German leader) and other communist leaders were pleased as it strengthened their position in their country. Opposition and resentment increased among civilians, especially in Poland. - Highlighted the failure of communism to provide good living standards, and show how communism did not benefit ordinary people - Communist government could be threatened by people power and resisted by organisation
Strength of US (economic) (long term)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reagan wanted to reduce government regulation to promote trade and economic growth. - He believed cutting taxes would motivate people to work harder and start businesses. - Reagan advocated for minimal government involvement, supporting free markets over government solutions, with backing from British Prime Minister Thatcher.
Strength of US (military) (long term)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The strong economy allowed Reagan to promote U.S. values like capitalism and democracy. - He backed anti-communist forces in places like Afghanistan and Nicaragua and increased the defence budget by \$32.6 billion. - In 1982, Reagan approved the Strategic Defence Initiative to develop a missile defence system, pressuring the Soviets to compete with U.S. advancements.
Trigger event → Collapse of USSR	