

History Test 6c: World War II

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1. Explain the following terms in your own words

4pts / 4

a) Hossbach minutes (Hossbach Protokoll)

A conference with Hitler and SS-Staft where violence was first discussed as a method of enlarging the Lebensraum.

b) Blitz War

A war tactic employed by the Germans. The goal was to surprise the enemy and advance very fast. It included many (fully) motorised units and air support. Blitz war was employed on many occasions, but the invasion of France is the most famous.

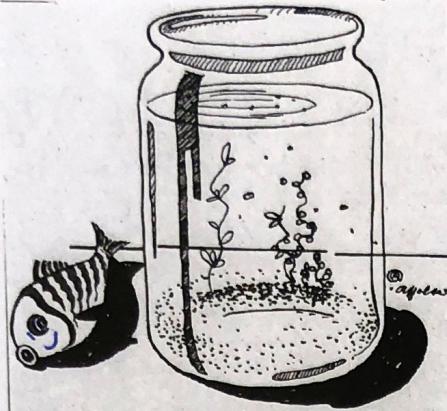
c) D Day

D-Day took place on the 6 of June 1944. It describes the landing of British, American and Canadian Troops in Normandy. The battle was very bloody with big losses for the Allied, but eventually lead to the liberation of France and the end of the war in Europe.

d) Vichy Régime

The Vichy régime describes the southern part of France, which was not occupied by the Germans, because the government cooperated with the Nazis.

2. Study the cartoon below. Explain carefully and thoroughly (gründlich) the context it was drawn in and explain what it means! 4pts / 3



Er wollte seinen Lebensraum erweitern
Affolter, Schweizer Satirezeitschrift "Nebelspalte" 1940.

Context: Hitler was advancing towards the east. He hadn't experienced major setbacks during this time. His first setback occurred when he failed to invade Moscow. The whole eastern campaign was meant to get new Lebensraum for the Germans, because they (thought they) had too little space for all Germans to live in.

concept of fish → refers to cartoon!

The conditions and circumstances in Russia were not suitable for Germans to live in. It was not usable as Lebensraum. The dead fish can also be a symbol for the heavy German losses around Stalingrad. The war in Russia was about power and not Lebensraum.

3. Define the term **Appeasement** and explain how it influenced the outbreak of WW II.

4pts / 2

Appeasement is a strategy in which you give your opponent everything he wants, as long as it is not too unreasonable. It also includes letting your enemy do whatever he wants to do, as long as it is not too extreme.

The Appeasement policy delayed the start of the war massively. Without Appeasement the war would have started when Hitler took the Sudentland or the Ruhr.

? The war would have probably been shorter, if the British had reacted more firm to Hitler's actions.

4. The effects of the war were completely different for the USA and the USSR.
Name the differences and explain them.

4pts / 3

USA	USSR
No war on their own territory (with some exceptions). ↳ offence war. Few civilian losses → high morale in the country	Heavy war on their own land. → Defence war ✓ huge civilian losses → this lowered the moral amongst citizens dramatically.
Smaller losses in military personnel ↳ better equipped and trained soldiers lead to smaller losses.	Huge losses in military personnel ↳ The strategy of the USSR included lots of badly trained and equipped soldiers. This was cheaper and in regard to the vast amount of available people more effective.

5. It is common knowledge that the allied bombardment on German cities and the attack with atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki were brutal

acts against humanity. Can they be compared to the Holocaust? Justify your explanation carefully!

2/3 pts / 1

I don't think they can be compared because:

- The size isn't comparable (Holocaust several Millions, bombardment several 100'000 death)
- The bombing was done to end the war, the Holocaust because of ethnical reasons.
- The Holocaust was an organised murder executed in a industrial way.
- The Holocaust included purposefull bad treatment before death, the bombing didn't.

6. Erläutere vier Hauptgründe, welche die Achsenmächte davon abgehalten haben die Schweiz zu besetzen!

4pts / 3

- (Viel)
- Von der Schweiz ging keine militärische Gefahr für Deutschland aus, da die Armee viel zu klein war.
 - In den frühen Phasen des Krieges schützte die Schweiz Deutschland vor einem Angriff Frankreichs im Süden des Reichs.
 - Bankenplatz Schweiz: In der Schweiz konnte Deutschland Gold gegen harte Devisen, welche dringend benötigt wurden, gekauft werden.
 - Die Schweiz als Handelspartner: Die Schweiz stellte Waffen und Präzisionsinstrumente für Deutschland her. Der Handel war gut für Deutschlands Wirtschaft.

7. Erkläre weshalb General Henri Guisan zum Symbol des schweizerischen Widerstandes geworden ist.

3pts / 2

- General Guisan war einer der wenigen, welche einen grossen und ausgeschlagenden Plan im Falle eines dunkelsten Angriffs gehabt hatten. Dieser Plan, das Reduit, hätte vermutlich nicht funktioniert, stützte aber das Gemeinschaftsgefühl und den Durchhaltewillen der Schweizer. General Guisan arbeitete sehr stark mit Symbolik: Das Reduit wurde auf der Rüti-Wiese präsentiert.
- Guisan weigerte sich gegen die Demobilisierung. Er wollte sich nicht "kampflos" ergeben. Er prägte den schweizerischen Kampfgeist. Er wollte den Menschen eine Möglichkeit geben, sich zu verteidigen. hegrenzwicht zu BR

8. Current Affairs: What are the main accusations in the current Impeachment against President Trump?

2pts / 2

President Trump was accused of keeping back military aid (which was already confirmed by the parliament) to the Ukraine. In a telephonecall Trump supposedly asked the prime minister of the Ukraine to start investigations against Joe Biden, Trump's political opponent and his son Hunter. Else he would not send the money.