

Feedback Report

Student: **Bad Student** Assignment: **History WWII Essay** File: **Bad History Essay.pdf**

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Overall Feedback

The essay identifies several key factors that contributed to World War II but needs to develop a clearer, more consistent argument about the extent to which World War I was the main cause. Focus revision on providing specific historical evidence and analyzing the connections between World War I and other contributing factors.

ENCOURAGEMENT

You have identified important historical factors, and the next step is to deepen your engagement with them through more specific evidence and analysis.

PRIORITY IMPROVEMENTS

1. Strengthen the thesis statement to directly address 'to what extent' and maintain this focus throughout the essay.
2. Integrate specific historical evidence (dates, names, statistics, treaties, events) to support all claims and move beyond general descriptions.

NEXT STEPS

1. Before drafting again, create an outline where each point is a specific claim supporting your thesis, and list the evidence you will use for each claim.
2. For every piece of evidence you include, write at least two sentences explaining how it supports your argument and connects back to your thesis.

Feedback by Criteria

UNDERSTANDING OF THE DEMANDS OF THE QUESTION

AREAS FOR GROWTH

["The essay identifies World War I and other factors as potential causes but does not engage deeply with the nuanced phrase 'to what extent'. The argument is presented as a simple 'yes, it was a cause' or 'no, it wasn't' rather than exploring the degree of influence." "The essay acknowledges that World War I was a significant factor, but it does not fully explore the complexity of the relationship between the two wars. For example, it mentions the Treaty of Versailles and the League of Nations, but does not analyze how these factors specifically contributed to the outbreak of World War II." "The essay also needs to be more specific in its claims. Instead of saying 'World War I created significant conditions', it should state exactly what those conditions were and how they led to World War II. For example, 'The punitive nature of the Treaty of Versailles led to economic hardship in Germany, which fueled nationalist sentiments and ultimately contributed to the rise of the Nazi Party.'"]

SUGGESTIONS

PRESENTATION OF ARGUMENT

STRENGTHS

- The essay attempts to present distinct points, such as the Treaty of Versailles, the League of Nations, and the Great Depression, as reasons for World War II.

AREAS FOR GROWTH

["The central argument shifts throughout the essay, starting with a dual assertion ('basically the main cause... and also not really') and concluding with a more generalized statement that 'World War I was the cause of World War II'"]

SUGGESTIONS

["Develop a clear overarching thesis statement in your introduction that you will defend throughout the essay. This thesis should take a stance on the 'extent' of World War I's causality."] "Develop each body paragraph to a single, clear argument that supports your thesis. Start each paragraph with a topic sentence that states the main point of the paragraph (e.g., 'The punitive terms of the Treaty of Versailles...')."

HISTORICAL KNOWLEDGE AND USE OF EVIDENCE

["The essay correctly identifies the Treaty of Versailles, the League of Nations, and the Great Depression as relevant historical factors contributing to World War II. For instance, instead of saying 'Germany had to pay money,' specify the reparations amounts and explain *why* this was so destabilizing."] "After making a claim, explain it in detail, providing specific evidence and analysis to support it. For instance, instead of saying 'Germany had to pay money,' specify the reparations amounts and explain *why* this was so destabilizing."]

AREAS FOR GROWTH

["The historical knowledge is superficial and lacks specific details. For example, the essay mentions Germany 'had to pay money' and 'lost land' but does not provide specific figures for reparations or name the territories lost, nor does it detail the specific provisions of the Treaty of Versailles."] "The essay states that 'When reparations were imposed on Germany, it led to economic hardship and political instability.' This is a general statement. The essay's approach is predominantly descriptive, stating what happened without deeply examining *why* it happened or *how* it connected to the question of World War I's causality."

SUGGESTIONS

["Correct the historical errors and include specific details from the Treaty of Versailles to mention the specific reparations imposed on Germany (e.g., 133 billion gold marks)."] "Instead of using descriptive phrases like 'economic hardship' and 'political instability,' directly support your argument. For example, specify that the reparations led to hyperinflation, which contributed to political instability and extremist movements in Germany." "The essay identifies potential causes of World War I (e.g., 'unstable new nations, economic disruption, unresolved territorial disputes') but does not deeply examine how these factors contributed to the war. For each cause, you should ask yourself 'how' and 'why' it contributed. For example, instead of just saying 'The Treaty of Versailles made Germany angry,' explain how the specific terms of the treaty (e.g., territorial losses, reparations) led to anger and why that anger became a significant factor in leading to World War II."]

SUGGESTIONS

["For each cause, you should ask yourself 'how' and 'why' it contributed. For example, instead of just saying 'The Treaty of Versailles made Germany angry,' explain how the specific terms of the treaty (e.g., territorial losses, reparations) led to anger and why that anger became a significant factor in leading to World War II."]

SPELLING/GRAMMAR/PUNCTUATION

["Engage in critical analysis. Discuss how the consequences of World War I (e.g., unstable new nations, economic disruption, unresolved territorial disputes) created fertile ground for other causes like the rise of aggressive dictatorships or the failure of international diplomacy."]

["Most sentences are complete and understandable."]

["There are several grammatical errors, such as run-on sentences ('World War I ended in 1945 and after that countries were still fighting and mad at each other which eventually led to World War II.') and sentence fragments or incomplete sentences ('...and after that countries were still fighting and mad at each other which eventually led to World War II.')."]

["Review each sentence to ensure it is grammatically correct and clearly conveys your meaning. Break up long, complex sentences into shorter, more manageable ones where appropriate."]

["Pay close attention to comma usage, especially in complex sentences. Use the correct separator to introduce a subordinate clause, such as 'Because...'. Proofread your essay carefully for any spelling mistakes. Consider using a spell checker tool, but also read through it yourself to catch errors it might miss."]

Essay with Inline Comments

["Consider using a spell checker tool, but also read through it yourself to catch errors it might miss."]

Essay Question: To what extent was World War I the main cause of World War II?

World War I was basically the main cause of World War II and also not really because a lot of

other stuff happened too. ¹ and after that countries were still fighting

and mad at each other which eventually led to World War II. Many people did not like each other

and there was a lot of conflict going on in Europe at the time.

One of the causes was the Treaty of Versailles which made ^{2 3} Hitler was the leader of Germany and he wanted to

start another war so he could make Germany powerful again. This is why World War II started. If Germany was not mad then World War II might not have happened. Another reason was that the League of Nations did not work ⁴ Countries just ignored it and invaded other places. This shows that people did not really care about peace. Also the Great Depression happened and everyone was poor. ⁵ World War I caused World War II because it happened first and made countries mad at each other. ⁶ Hitler and other leaders wanted power and land so they decided to fight. World War II then started and lasted for a long time and affected many countries. In conclusion, World War I was the cause of World War II because it happened before and caused problems. There were also other causes like Hitler and the economy and the League of Nations. All of these things together made World War II happen and that is why it started.

1 HISTORICAL KNOWLEDGE AND USE OF EVIDENCE

This statement contains a significant factual error regarding the end date of World War I. ' Historical arguments must be built upon accurate factual information. ' Verify and correct the end date of World War I to ensure historical accuracy.

2 HISTORICAL KNOWLEDGE AND USE OF EVIDENCE

This explanation of the Treaty of Versailles' impact on Germany lacks specificity. ' To effectively support the argument, historical evidence needs to be precise and detailed. ' Instead of stating Germany 'had to pay money and lost land,' provide specific examples of reparations or territories ceded to illustrate the impact and Germany's anger.

3 PRESENTATION OF ARGUMENT

This cause-and-effect statement is overly simplistic and lacks depth in explaining the motivations for war. ' Effective arguments require exploring the complexities of historical motivations and avoiding generalizations. ' Expand on the 'revenge' motive by explaining how this anger translated into specific political or military actions that contributed to WWII.

4 ANALYSIS OF QUESTION

This assessment of the League of Nations is descriptive rather than analytical. ' To meet the demands of the question, the essay needs to analyze *why* the League failed and *how* this failure contributed to WWII. ' Provide specific examples of the League's ineffectiveness (e.g., specific crises it failed to address) and explain the direct link between its failure and the outbreak of WWII.

5 PRESENTATION OF ARGUMENT

This is a generalization about economic hardship and war that needs to be more historically contextualized. ' Arguments should be grounded in specific historical circumstances and avoid broad, unqualified statements. ' Connect the Great Depression to Germany's specific economic and political situation, explaining how widespread poverty and anger were exploited by Hitler to gain power and initiate aggression.

6 HISTORICAL KNOWLEDGE AND USE OF EVIDENCE

This phrase is vague and lacks the precision expected in historical analysis. ' Arguments need to be supported by specific historical actors, events, and concepts. ' Replace 'problems with governments and leaders and stuff like that' with specific details about the political instability, ideologies, or leadership decisions that fueled the conflict.

