

Chapter 19. Rise of Dictatorship and The Second World War

Very Short Questions

Question 1: When did the First World War come to an end?

Answer: The First World War came to an end on November 11th, 1918.

Question 2: What is the name of the book written by Adolf Hitler?

Answer: The name of the book written by Adolf Hitler is "Mein Kampf".

Question 3: What does the abbreviation Nazi stand for?

Answer: The abbreviation Nazi stands for 'National Socialist German Workers'.

Question 4: Why did Adolf Hitler preach extreme hatred against the German Jews?

Answer: Adolf Hitler preached extreme hatred against the German Jews because they were blamed not only for the defeat of Germany in the First World War but for all the ills of Germany.

Question 5: When and by whom was the Munich Pact signed?

Answer: Munich Pact was signed at Munich in Germany in September 1938. It was signed by Hitler and Mussolini on the one side and the Prime Ministers of France and Britain on the other.

Question 6: When did the Second World War begin?

Answer: The Second World War began on 3rd September 1939.

Question 7: When did Japan quit the League of Nations?

Answer: Japan withdrew from League of Nations in the year 1933.

Question 8: What was the purpose of 'New Deal'?

Answer: The purpose of 'New Deal' was to save America from the economic depression of 1929-33.

Question 9: What was the main principle for which the Second World War was fought?

Answer: The main principle for which the Second World War was fought was to make the world safe for democracy.

Question 10: Why did the Nationalist Movement start in China?

Answer: The Nationalist Movement was started in China to overthrow the foreign domination and unite China by ending the rule of the warlords.

Question 11: What is communism?

Answer: A type of government under which means of production are controlled by the State or government, for example USSR.

Question 12: What is capitalism?

Answer: A type of government under which means production are controlled by private individual.

Question 13: What is meant by the term appeasement? Who adopted it towards whom?

Answer: The policy of appeasement means a policy of conciliating an aggressive power at the cost of some other weak country. Britain, America, France all followed the policy of appeasement.

Question 14: Name the countries that formed the Allied Powers.

Answer: Allied Powers: Britain, France and the USA formed the Allied Powers.

Question 15: What is meant by the term 'Cold War'?

Answer: The struggle for power and influence between the two super powers, the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R., is termed as 'Cold War'.

Question 16: What is meant by the term 'Truman Doctrine'?

Answer: Offering aid to all types of nations under direct or indirect communal threat is Truman Doctrine.

Question 17: Why did Britain and France become second rate powers after the Second World War?

Answer: Britain and France although won the War but became second rate powers as they were under stress and strain after the War.

Question 18: To what do you attribute the rise of the USA as a super power after the Second World War?

Answer: The use of atom bombs to crush Japan helped the USA to emerge as a super military and economic power after the Second World War.

Question 19: Name the two power blocks that emerged after the Second World War.

Answer: The two power blocs that emerged after the Second World War were-the American Block and the Soviet Bloc.

Question 20: Name five nations that earned their independence after the Second World War.

Answer: The five nations that earned independence after the Second World War were India, Burma, Sri Lanka, Malaya and Indonesia.

Short Questions – I

Question 1: Define Fascism.

Answer: The word "Fascism", Italian in origin, is the name given to all those political movements which arose after the First World War in Europe, with a view to suppress democracy and socialism on one hand and to establish the dictatorship on the other hand.

Question 2: State two underlying principles of Fascism.

Answer: (i) Fascism was the supporter of one party and one leader.
(ii) The leader was above law. None could challenge his authority.

Question 3: How was the Treaty of Versailles responsible for the Second World War?

Answer: (i) The terms and conditions of the Treaty were very harsh and humiliating.
(ii) Germany was burdened with huge war indemnity. The huge war indemnity brought political instability which gave birth to Nazism.

Question 4: Give two reasons that prompted the armament race before the Second World War broke out.

Answer:

(i) In order to achieve territorial aims, Germany, Italy and Japan began producing fire arms, guns, war-ships, aircrafts and other weapons.
(ii) The Disarmament Conferences and the League of Nations were unable to stop the armament race.

Question 5: When and why was the United Nations Organisation established?

Answer: The United Nations Organisation was established on October 24, 1945 with Headquarters at New York (USA) to save the coming generation from the scourge of war.

Question 6: Name the incident which brought the USA in the Second World War.

Answer: On December 7, 1941, the US Fleet based at Pearl Harbour in Hawaii was attacked by Japan. So, America declared war on Japan, Germany and Italy.

Question 7: What happened to Germany after her defeat in the War?

Answer: After the defeat in the Second World War:

(i) Germany stood dismembered, humiliated and devastated.
(ii) Germany was divided into two parts i.e. the East Germany and the West Germany.

Question 8: What do you know about the Munich Pact of 1939? Which were the five countries involved in this Pact?

Answer: Hitler claimed a part of Czechoslovakia called Sudetenland which was very important because of her industry. Instead of meeting the threat posed by Germany, the Prime Ministers of Britain and France met Hitler and Mussolini at Munich in Germany on 29th and 30th September, 1938, and agreed to Germany's terms without the consent of Czechoslovakia.

Question 9: State two reasons why Britain and France followed a policy of appeasement towards Germany in the 1930s.

Answer: (i) Britain and France thought if genuine grievances of Germany and Italy were removed, they would be satisfied and would not do anything to disturb the peace of the world.

(ii) The policy of appeasement greatly emboldened Germany. Italy and Japan, to plunged the World into another destructive war.

Question 10: What was the issue between Germany and Poland that was a cause of World War Second.

Answer: Hitler was demanding Danzing corridor from Poland as it was inhabited mainly by the Germans. Realizing the danger, Britain and France pledged assistance to Poland against Germany. Germany accused Poland for committing atrocities against Germans living there and it became a cause of World War Second.

Question 11: What is meant by the term 'Axis Powers'?

Answer: During the Second World War Germany, Italy and Japan came to be know as the Axis powers. These were far off countries, but still, they got united to pursue policy of aggression in Europe, Asia and Africa.

Question 12: Why did America drop the atom bomb on the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki?

Answer: The USA dropped atom bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki because:

(i) to take the revenge of the humiliation of the attack on the Pearl Harbour by Japan on December 7, 1941, and

(ii) to liberate the Islands of South West Pacific China, Manchuria and other places from Japanese control and to end the fighting.

Question 13: Why was the Soviet Union described as a Super Power after the Second World War?

Answer: The Soviet Union was described as a Super Power after the Second World War as its empire was greatly expanded. It included half of Poland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania Finland and many parts of Germany. It also became a dominant power in world politics and occupied the position of a leader of the Communist Bloc.

Question 14: What is meant by calling the World as Bipolar after the Second World War?

Answer: The world was called Bi-polar as it was grouped into Capitalist nations (or Democratic Block) headed by the USA and Socialist nations (or Communist Bloc) headed by

the USSR.

Question 15: Mention two consequences of the Second World War.

Answer: (i) The Axis powers Germany, Italy and Japan were defeated at the end of the Second World War.
(ii) The Soviet Union and the USA emerged as the Super Powers.

Question 16: Give two similarities in the foreign policies of Mussolini and Hitler.

Answer: Two similarities in the foreign policies of Mussolini and Hitler were:
(i) Both used diplomacy and force as well as aggression to get what they wanted.
(ii) To increase the prestige and glory of their country in international spheres.

Short Questions – II

Question 1: State two similarities between Fascism and Nazism.

Answer: The two similarities between Fascism and Nazism are:

(i) Negation of democracy and belief in one-party or one-man rule. Both Fascists and Nazis did not allow the rule of any other party.
(ii) Aggressive Nationalism and Imperialistic policies were followed by both the Nazis and the Fascists. They glorified the Nation. They followed an aggressive foreign policy. For example, Italy annexed Abyssinia in 1936 and Hitler occupied Austria and called in the Anschluss or union with Austria.

Question 2: Explain how the ideologies of Fascism and Nazism led to the Second World War.

Answer: The ideologies of Fascism and Nazism were based on one party system and one man rule. The Nazis and the Fascists believed in Totalitarian Government, Aggressive Nationalism (Jingoism), Militarism and Anti-Communism. As such, both Hitler and Mussolini did not allow any other party to operate. The State was supreme and the common people's interests came next to the state. The Fascists and Nazis aimed to gain control of other territories in different degrees to accelerate their economy.

Question 3: How the fear of communism led to the Second World War?

Answer: Fear of communism in the West: All those countries who had weak Governments and were facing various economic problems turned towards communism. There was a fear in the mind of the governments of Western Capitalist Countries (Britain, France and USA) that Communism would spread in their territories. Germany, Italy and Japan took full advantages of this fear and claimed that they were fighting communism. These western powers adopted policy of appeasement which strengthened the Fascist Powers and resulted in the Second World War.

Question 4: What was the immediate cause of the Second World War?

Answer: The Invasion of Poland (Immediate cause): On 1st September, 1939 German Armies marched into Poland. On 3rd September Britain and France declared war

on Germany. Thus the invasion of Poland marked the beginning of the Second World War. The German Armies completed the conquest of Poland in less than three weeks as no aid reached Poland. In spite of the declaration of war however, there was little actual fighting for many months.

Question 5: Explain how the Treaty of Versailles was responsible for the outbreak of the Second World War.

Answer: The Peace Settlement at Paris was made in a spirit of revenge. The Germans felt that too much injustice had been done to them. The victorious powers had deprived Germany of huge tracts of its territory. She was burdened with an immense War Indemnity. It was impossible for a proud German race to forget the consequences of the War, which they had lost so humiliatingly. This fuelled the rise of Nazism in Germany and entered upon a career of aggression.

Question 6: Give an account of acts of Aggression and Policy of Appeasement on which the Second World War broke out.

Answer: Acts of Aggression and Policy of Appeasement: When the acts of aggression began, the aggressed countries, the Soviet Union and many leaders in different countries of the world demanded collective action to defeat the aggressor. However, the Western Governments, instead of resisting the aggressions followed a policy of appeasement with the aggressive powers. Appeasement meant a policy of conciliating an aggressive power at the expense of some other country. But for the western countries' policy of appeasement, fascism could not have survived as long as it did and would not have been able to unleash the Second World War.

Question 7: What was the effect of Japan's Policy of Expansion on the Second World War?

Answer: Japan's Policy of Expansion: After the First World War, Japan increased her resources of army because of industrialization and modern technology. She captured Manchuria in 1931 and invaded China in 1937. She joined the Berlin-Rome-Tokyo Axis and prepared for the Second World War to satisfy her hunger for more territories. In brief, Japan's policy of expansion also created war like situation in 1930s.

Question 8: How did the Japanese invasion of China create conditions for the outbreak of the War?

Answer: In 1931, Japan took over Manchuria, a region of China rich in natural resources. The League of Nations criticized Japan but the attack on Manchuria was a challenge to it. The Japanese ignored their protests and withdrew from the League of Nations in 1933. The Japanese started occupying British and American colonies in China. Britain and France saw this as an opportunity and followed the policy of Appeasement using Japan to weaken China. The same policy was adopted against Germany which led to the outbreak of the second World War.

Question 9: How the U. S. aloofness became a major cause of the Second World War?

Answer: America's aloofness from World politics: After the First World War, USA followed the policy of isolation and remaining away from the politics of world. She did not

join the League of Nations. American aloofness helped the military rulers of Japan and Fascist Governments of Germany and Italy to adopt violent and aggressive attitude and they ignored the League of Nations easily.

Question 10: What was the Rome Berlin-Tokyo Axis? Why did Hitler demand the Danzig Corridor from Poland?

Or

Why did Hitler attack Poland that became a cause for World War.

Answer: Rome, Berlin and Tokyo are the capital cities of Italy, Germany and Japan respectively. Thus, the military alliance among these countries during the Second World War is known as the Rome-Berlin-Tokyo Axis. These three countries together were called the Axis Powers. Hitler demanded Danzig for two reasons:

(i) The city of Danzig was inhabited mainly by the Germans.

(ii) By occupying the Danzig Corridor, he could connect East Prussia with Germany.

Hitler accused Poland for committing atrocities against Germans living there and attacked Poland on 1st September 1939.

Question 11: Discuss in brief about the division of Germany caused by Second World War.

Answer: Division of Germany:

(i) The Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) commonly known as West Germany was administered by U.K., France and U.S.A. with Bonn as the capital.

(ii) The German Democratic Republic (GDR) known as East Germany was administered by the Soviet Union, with East Berlin as the capital.

Question 12: Explain the consequences of the War with reference to the formation of the United Nations.

Answer: Important leaders prioritized internal cooperation over war and sought to end the war. They were also determined to prevent another such war taking place in future. When Second World War was still going on, political leaders of twenty six countries including Franklin Roosevelt and Winston Churchill signed a declaration that discouraged entry into any alliances and that once the war ceased a formal peace keeping organization would be established. This organization that would be called United Nations, will take measures to prevent hostilities between member countries.

Question 13: With the surrender of Japan, the Second World War was finally over. The war had far-reaching consequences. Against this background, write short notes on effect of World War Second on Japan.

Answer: Effect of World War Second on Japan:

(i) Unlike Germany, it was not divided into zones to be governed by conquering forces.

(ii) The American Army was to administer Japan until 1952, by that time the Japanese would resume sole control over their affairs.

(iii) Emperor Hirohito was left on the throne as a Constitutional monarch and the Japanese parliament retained some of its law making powers.

Question 14: With reference to the consequences of the Second World War, discuss the division of the World into two Power Blocks.

Answer: Division of the World into two Power Blocs:

1. England and France:

1. Though England was one of the victors, her status in the International field was lowered.
2. Germany's occupation of France, left her financially ruined, agriculturally and industrially weakened.

2. United States:

1. The production of necessary goods made by US to win the war, brought the US out of the great depression.
2. The US experienced tremendous industrial expansion during war and while Europe was being bombed, no bombs fell on US territory.

3. Rebuilding Europe:

1. Within five years of World War II, much of Europe was rebuilt.
2. Massive foreign aid in the form of grants to individual nations helped rebuild towns and cities.

4. USSR:

1. World War II united the people of the Soviet Union. Its territory had expanded to include most of Eastern Europe.
2. USSR captured half of Poland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Finland and many parts of Germany.

Long Questions

Question 1: In the post World War I scenario, Italy and Germany experienced the rise of dictatorships. In this context, explain any three circumstances that led to the rise of Fascism in Italy.

Answer: (i) Discontentment after the Treaty of Versailles: Italy joined the Allies in the First World War to gain territories of Turkey and Germany. But, by the Treaty of Versailles she could get only Southern Tyrol and Trentino and the coastal regions of Dalmatia. She could not get part of the German and Turkish colonial empire.

(ii) Political instability: Democracy was introduced in Italy for the first time in 1919. Elections failed to give a clear majority to a single party. As a result, Italy was governed by a series of coalition Governments. The different political parties had different policies and programmes and there was no continuity in their places. They were unable to deal effectively with the problems of unemployment, strikes and riots in 1921-22.

(iii) Rise of charismatic men: Leaders like Mussolini in Italy were influential. His speeches praised the past glories of his country and won the faith of their countrymen. Mussolini was called 'Duce' which means the leader.

Question 2: What was common between the foreign policies of Italy, Germany and Japan?

Answer: The following were common between the foreign policies of Italy, Germany and Japan:

- (i) All of them wanted to increase their empires at a rapid speed, so they soon started a series of aggressions in Europe, Asia and Africa.
- (ii) In 1937, they formed the Anti-Communist Pact to fight against Communism.
- (iii) Germany wanted to capture the vast resources and territories of Russia, Japan wanted to increase her influence in China; while Italy wanted to grab a large portion of other European countries.
- (iv) They had intentions to become the first-rate powers of the world.

Question 3: How was the First World War responsible for the rise of Fascism and Nazism in Italy and Germany respectively.

Answer: Rise of Hitler and Nazism in Germany: According to David Thomas, rise of Adolf Hitler and Nazi party in Germany was one of the major causes of the Second World War. Hitler was very ambitious. He glorified the use of force, brutality, war and violent nationalism. He ridiculed socialism, democracy and internationalism. The worst was that Hitler had set out the policy of militarization of Germany. Hitler denounced the Treaty of Versailles and took Germany out of the League of Nations.

Rise of Fascism and Mussolini in Italy: The period (1919–1939) also saw the rise of Fascism under Benito Mussolini in Italy. Fascism did not like democracy, socialism and international peace. They openly advocated war, colonialism and imperialism. Mussolini said 'nations which do not expand cannot exist for long'. He prepared for war. The fascist Government gave training to the youth and infused new spirit in them. Mussolini's policy of aggression gave severe blow to the League of Nations and made war inevitable.

Question 4: State any four factors that led to the rise of dictatorships in Germany and Italy.

Answer: The four factors that led to the dictatorships in Germany and Italy were:

(i) Dissatisfaction of the Peace Treaties: Italy joined the First World War on the side of the allies. Mussolini and for that matter whole of the Italy as dissatisfied with the compensation granted to Italy after the war. Similarly German felt discriminated by the Treaty of Versailles. A large chunk of it occupied and own territories were taken away and share by other European powers. Military sanction were imposed. Adolf Hitler blamed the democratic government for this.

(ii) Economic Factors: Economic conditions in Italy after the war was very bad, war debts and budget deficit cause lots of difficulty. The salaried employees, the farmers and the industrial workers felt the pinch post war inflation. Additionally heavy war penalties were imposed on Germany which made economic recovery impossible and resulted in high rate inflation and unemployment. Nazi ranks swelled by unemployed youth.

(iii) Inefficient and Corrupt Democratic Government: The post war democratic Governments were weak. They could not respond properly to the needs and aspirations of the people. Short lived coalition governments in Italy were unable to tackle the problem faced by the people in their day to day life. Similar was the political scenario in Germany where Weimar republic failed miserably in to tackle economic downfall and ensuing riots.

(iv) Rise of Totalitarian Ideology: In Italy their rose a strong feeling for a strong leader with absolute powers to restore peace and economic stability in Germany highlighting the threat of a communist takeover. Hitler was successful in convincing the people that only Nazism could provide a stable economically viable alternative.

Question 5: How were the foreign policy of Hitler were responsible for the outbreak of Second World War.

Answer: The Foreign Policy of Hitler were responsible for the out break of World War Second in the following ways:

- (i) The main aim was to increase the prestige and glory of their country in international sphere so they followed an aggressive policy of imperialism.
- (ii) Their opposition to Britain, France and the League of Nations.
- (iii) Their help to General Franco to seize power in Spain.
- (iv) After strengthening the armed forces. Hitler defiantly violated one after another the terms of the Treaty of Versailles.
- (v) In 1938, he annexed Austria by force.
- (vi) The Munich Pact signed between Germany, Britain and France.

Question 6: Mention any two causes that led to the Second World War.

Answer: Unjust Treaty of Versailles: It was a dictated treaty and was forced on Germany and her allies. The representatives of Germany were humiliated and forced to sign it. Germany was forced to cede a large part of her territory. Her military strength was reduced. A huge war-indemnity was imposed on her. The treaty ultimately gave rise to Adolf Hitler and his Nazi Party in Germany and went on to become the major cause of the Second World War.

Disunity among Britain and France: The French, apart from a few exceptions, continued to support the treaty which was an object of high esteem for them. To them it was the only guarantee of security. Great Britain and other States did not agree with France which made her feel more and more insecure. France tried to enforce the terms and clauses of the Treaty of Versailles which led to terrible bitterness among the Germans.

Question 7: Why did Hitler invade Poland? State two similarities between Fascism and Nazism.

Answer: The immediate cause was refusal of Hitler's demand for annexation of the port of Danzig to Germany, by Britain followed by France. While this was used as an excuse by Hitler to attack Poland. It was nearly a small initial step to avenge the defeat and unjust treaties which were imposed on Germany in the aftermath of the world war.

It was a prelude to the large territorial ambitions nurtured by Hitler, this was soon to unfold before the entire world. The main reasons, why Germany invaded Poland are listed as follows:

- (i) To negate any military alliance between Poland and other European nations against Germany.
- (ii) To gain a foothold in the territory surrounding Russia.
- (iii) To make known to the world his aversion to the Treaty of Versailles.
- (iv) Hitler despise Chamberlain's guarantee to support Poland in case of an attack by Germany. He attacked Poland to teach Chamberlain a lesson.
- (v) Hitler enter into a pact with Stalin which included a secret clause to divide Poland between them. It was disagreement also which worked as a shield and prompted him to attack Poland.

Question 8: Explain the disasters caused by the Second World War.

Answer: Destruction caused by the Second World War: The Second World War was the most destructive war in history. The main consequences of Second World War are as follows:

1. Jews were picked up and six million of them were exterminated by the Nazis. Millions of people were transferred to concentration camps and killed.
2. People were burnt in gas chambers. There were mass massacres. War prisoners were made to dig mass graves, were shot and then buried in those graves.
3. About 5,00,00,000 (fifty million) people perished in the Second World War. About 15,00,000 civilians were killed in air raids during the war. The two Atom Bombs dropped by U.S. aircrafts, killed about 3,20,000 Japanese men, women and children.
4. Besides the loss of human lives, the economy and material resources of several nations were badly damaged. Several ancient cities and towns were almost completely destroyed. The total cost of the Second World War has been estimated at the staggering figure of \$ 1,384, 9,000,000,000.
5. The use of Atom Bomb by the U.S. was considered by several people an abominable act, not only because of the number of people that the two atom bombs slaughtered but also because of the very use of the new weapons of mass destruction.
6. Anyhow, the prediction of the scientists that the use of the Atom Bomb would lead to a mad race for producing atomic weapons came true. It is not surprising that today there is a race among nations for producing Atom Bombs because of its superiority as a war weapon. The rich and developed nations spend more money in making these bombs today, than for producing or providing medical facilities to its people.
7. **Political damages:**
 - (a) Germany was divided into two parts—East Germany and West Germany. Russia occupied the eastern part and the Western Germany came under the control of Britain, America and France.
 - (b) Fascism met its end in Italy. Democracy was established. Militarism came to an end and African colonies were lost.
 - (c) Military power of Japan was ruined. Democratic Government was set-up.
 - (d) America and erstwhile U.S.S.R. became powerful nations. The world became divided into two blocks i.e., capitalist and socialist.
In the socialist camp two groups emerged:
 - (e) The Socialist Russia.
 - (f) The Communist China.

Picture Based Questions

Question 1: Study the picture given and answer the questions that follow:



- (i) Identify the leader in the picture.
- (ii) State any four factors that led to the rise of dictatorships in Germany and Italy.

Answer: (i) Adolf Hitler.

(ii) Factors that led to the rise of dictatorships in Germany and Italy are:

- (a) Dissatisfaction of the Peace Treaties.
- (b) Economic factors.
- (c) Inefficient and Corrupt Democratic Government.
- (d) Rise of Totalitarian Ideology.