Chapter 19

Section 1  America and the World
Click the Speaker button to listen to the audio again.
Why It Matters

After World War I, Europe was unstable. Fascists led by Benito Mussolini seized power in Italy, and Adolf Hitler and the Nazis took control of Germany. Meanwhile, Japan expanded its territory in Asia. As the Nazis gained power, they began a campaign of violence against Jews. When Germany attacked Poland, World War II began. The United States clung to neutrality until Japan attacked Pearl Harbor.
1931
- Japan invades Manchuria

1932
- Bonus Army arrives in Washington, D.C.

1933
- Franklin Delano Roosevelt inaugurated
- Hitler appointed chancellor of Germany

1935
- First Neutrality Act passed

1936
- Hitler reoccupies Rhineland
- Spanish Civil War begins

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**1937**
- Neutrality Act limits trade with all warring nations

**1938**
- Munich Conference appeases Hitler

**1939**
- SS *St. Louis* denied permission to dock in United States
- World War II begins with Hitler’s attack on Poland

**1940**
- Roosevelt makes “destroyers-for-bases” deal with Britain
- France falls to the Nazis

**1941**
- Japan attacks Pearl Harbor
- Roosevelt and Churchill coauthor Atlantic Charter
In the years following World War I, aggressive and expansionist governments took power in both Europe and Asia.

Key Terms and Names
- Benito Mussolini
- fascism
- Vladimir Lenin
- Joseph Stalin
- Adolf Hitler
- Manchuria
- Neutrality Act of 1935
- internationalism
The Rise of Dictators

• The treaty that ended World War I and the economic depression that followed contributed to the rise of dictatorships in Europe and Asia.

• Italy developed the first major dictatorship in Europe.
The Rise of Dictators (cont.)

• In 1919 **Benito Mussolini** founded Italy’s Fascist Party. ↓

• **Fascism** was a kind of aggressive nationalism. ↓

• Fascists believed that the nation was more important than the individual, and that a nation became great by expanding its territory and building its military. ↓

• Facists were anti-Communist. ↓

• Backed by the militia known as Blackshirts, Mussolini became the premier of Italy and set up a dictatorship.
The Rise of Dictators (cont.)

• In 1917 the Bolshevik Party, led by Vladimir Lenin, set up Communist governments throughout the Russian empire. 

• The Russian territories were renamed the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in 1922. 

• The Communists set up a one-party rule.
The Rise of Dictators (cont.)

- By 1926 **Joseph Stalin** had become the new Soviet dictator. 
- In 1927 he began a massive effort to industrialize the country. 
- Millions of peasants who resisted the Communist policies were killed.
The Rise of Dictators (cont.)

• After World War I, the political and economic chaos in Germany led to the rise of new political parties. 

• The **Nazi Party** was nationalistic and anti-Communist.

• **Adolf Hitler**, a member of the Nazi Party, called for the unification of all Germans under one government.

• He believed certain Germans were part of a “master race” destined to rule the world.
The Rise of Dictators (cont.)

- He wanted Eastern Europeans enslaved.
- He felt Jews were responsible for many of the world’s problems.
- In 1933 Hitler was appointed prime minister of Germany.
- Storm troopers intimidated voters into giving Hitler dictatorial powers.
The Rise of Dictators (cont.)

- Difficult economic times in Japan after World War I undermined the country’s political system.
- Many Japanese officers and civilians wanted to seize territory to gain needed resources.
- In 1931 the Japanese army, without the government’s permission, invaded the resource-rich Chinese province of Manchuria.
- The military took control of Japan.
The Rise of Dictators (cont.)

Discussion Question

What dictatorships were established in Europe and Asia after World War I?
Italy developed the first major dictatorship in Europe, with Benito Mussolini as its leader. In 1917 the Bolshevik Party, led by Vladimir Lenin, set up Communist governments throughout the Russian empire. The Russian territories were renamed the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in 1922. The Communists set up a one-party rule. By 1926 Joseph Stalin had become the new Soviet dictator. In 1933 Adolf Hitler was appointed prime minister of Germany. Storm troopers intimidated voters into giving Hitler dictatorial powers. In 1931 the Japanese army, without the government’s permission, invaded the resource-rich Chinese province of Manchuria. The military took control of Japan.
America Turns to Neutrality

• The rise of dictatorships in Europe and Asia after World War I, the refusal of European countries to repay war debts owed to the United States, and the Nye Committee findings that arms factories made huge profits caused Americans to support isolationism.
America Turns to Neutrality (cont.)

• Many Americans wanted to avoid international commitments.

• Congress passed the Neutrality Act of 1935 making it illegal for Americans to sell arms to any country at war.

• Congress passed the Neutrality Act of 1937, which continued the ban of selling arms to countries at war and required warring countries to buy nonmilitary supplies from the United States on a “cash and carry” basis.
America Turns to Neutrality (cont.)

- President Franklin D. Roosevelt supported **internationalism**.

- Internationalists believe that trade between nations creates prosperity and helps to prevent war.
America Turns to Neutrality (cont.)

• Japan aligned itself with Germany and Italy, and these three countries became known as the **Axis Powers**.

• After Japan launched a full-scale attack on China in 1937, Roosevelt authorized the sale of weapons to China, saying that the Neutrality Act of 1937 did not apply, since neither China nor Japan had actually declared war.
What factors led many Americans to support isolationism after World War I?

The rise of dictatorships in Europe and Asia after World War I caused Americans to support isolationism. Isolationist ideas increased when most debtor nations stopped paying their war debts during the Great Depression. The Nye Committee found evidence that arms factories made huge profits, creating the impression that these businesses influenced the United States to enter World War I.
Checking for Understanding

Define Match the terms on the right with their definitions on the left.

B  1. a national policy of actively trading with foreign countries to foster peace and prosperity

A  2. a political system headed by a dictator that calls for extreme nationalism and racism and no tolerance of opposition

A. fascism

B. internationalism
Explain why isolationism was strong in the United States in the early 1930s.

Isolationism was strong because of unpaid European war debts and the belief that arms manufacturers influenced the United States to enter World War I.
Global Connections  What events caused President Roosevelt to become more of an internationalist?

The Japanese invasion of China caused Roosevelt to become more of an internationalist.
Interpreting  Why did antidemocratic governments rise to power in postwar Europe and Asia?

Antidemocratic governments rose to power because of unhappiness with the terms of the Treaty of Versailles and worldwide economic depression.
Analyzing Visuals

Analyzing Art  Study the Spanish Civil War era propaganda poster reproduced on page 587 of your textbook. Without being told the phrase, how would you be able to discover the poster’s meaning?

A cruel claw-like hand is trying to grasp the country. The colors of the Italian flag are superimposed on the hand.