

CHAPTER 20 QUESTIONS – Collapse at the Center

Direction: Answer the questions in their entirety . . . make sure you address all parts to each question. (you can answer these questions on your own piece of paper)

1. In what ways were the world wars and the Great Depression motors of global change in the history of the twentieth century? (982)
2. What aspects of Europe's nineteenth-century history contributed to the First World War? (983)
3. In what ways did World War I mark new departures in the history of the twentieth century? (986)
4. In what ways was the Great Depression a global phenomenon? (990)
5. In what ways did fascism challenge the ideas and practices of European liberalism and democracy? (994)
6. What was distinctive about the German expression of fascism? What was the basis of popular support for the Nazis? (997)

CHAPTER 20 BIG PICTURE QUESTIONS

Direction: Answer the questions in their entirety . . . make sure you address all parts to each question. (you can answer these questions on your own piece of paper)

1. What explains the disasters that befell Europe in the first half of the twentieth century?
2. To what extent did the two world wars settle the issue that caused them? What legacies to the future did they leave?
3. In what ways did Europe's internal conflicts between 1914 and 1945 have global implications?
4. **Looking Back:** In what ways were phenomena of the first half of the twentieth century – world wars, the Great Depression, fascism, the Holocaust, the emergence of the United States as a global power – rooted in earlier times?

WHAT'S THE SIGNIFICANCE?

Etty Hillsum: A Dutch Jewish woman (1914–1943) who was murdered in the Holocaust. Her letters provide a remarkable record of her inner life during the difficult period of Nazi occupation, casting light on the possibilities of human transformation even amid the most horrendous of circumstances.

European Economic Community: The EEC (also known as the Common Market) was an alliance formed by Italy, France, West Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg in 1957 and dedicated to developing common trade policies and reduced tariffs; it gradually developed into the European Union.

fascism: Political ideology marked by its intense nationalism and authoritarianism; its name is derived from the fasces that were the symbol of magistrates in ancient Rome. (*pron.* FASH-iz-uhm)

Great Depression: Worldwide economic depression that began in 1929 with the New York stock market crash and continued in many areas until the outbreak of World War II.

Hitler, Adolf: Leader of the German Nazi Party (1889–1945) and Germany's head of state from 1933 until his death.

Holocaust: Name commonly used for the Nazi genocide of Jews and other “undesirables” in German society; Jews themselves prefer the term *Shoah*, which means “catastrophe,” rather than Holocaust (“offering” or “sacrifice”).

Marshall Plan: Huge U.S. government initiative to aid in the post–World War II restoration of Europe that was masterminded by U.S. Secretary of State George Marshall and put into effect in 1947.

Mussolini, Benito: Charismatic leader of the Italian fascist party (1883–1945) who came to power in 1922. (*pron.* ben-EE-toe moos-oh-LEE-nee)

NATO: The North Atlantic Treaty Organization, a military and political alliance founded in 1949 that committed the United States to the defense of Europe in the event of Soviet aggression.

Nazi Germany: Germany as ruled by Hitler and the Nazi Party from 1933 to 1945, a fascist state dedicated to extreme nationalism, territorial expansion, and the purification of the German state.

New Deal: A series of reforms enacted by the Franklin Roosevelt administration between 1933 and 1942 with the goal of ending the Great Depression.

Revolutionary Right (Japan): Also known as Radical Nationalism, this movement in Japanese political life ca. 1930–1945 was marked by extreme nationalism, a commitment to elite leadership focused around the emperor, and dedication to foreign expansion.

total war: War that requires each country involved to mobilize its entire population in the effort to defeat the enemy.

Treaty of Versailles: 1919 treaty that officially ended World War I; the immense penalties it placed on Germany are regarded as one of the causes of World War II. (*pron.* vare-SIGH)

Woodrow Wilson/Fourteen Points: President of the United States from 1913 to 1921 who was especially noted for his idealistic approach to the end of World War I, which included advocacy of his Fourteen Points intended to regulate future international dealings and a League of Nations to enforce a new international order. Although his vision largely failed, Wilson was widely respected for his views.

World War I: The “Great War” (1914–1918), in essence a European civil war with global implications that was marked by massive casualties, the expansion of offensive military technology beyond tactics and means of defense, and a great deal of disillusionment with the whole idea of “progress.”

World War II in Asia: A struggle essentially to halt Japanese imperial expansion in Asia, fought by the Japanese against primarily Chinese and American foes.

World War II in Europe: A struggle essentially to halt German imperial expansion in Europe, fought by a coalition of allies that included Great Britain, the Soviet Union, and the United States.