

**Causes of World War II and World War II Unit  
Assignment #1**

For the Causes of WW II and WW II Unit, students are required to respond to one (1) question every two classes. Each of the questions will require you to make a judgment about a topic that we cover in class.

Each Assignment Must Be:

- Word processed
- A maximum of 500 words
- Edited for mistakes and to ensure clarity

**Due Dates for Assignment #1:** Blocks 1 and 2 Friday February 1, 2008  
Blocks 6, 7, 8 Monday February 4, 2008

Dates (Includes Block and Date):	Topics Covered & Textbook Pages to be Covered By All Students (2007/2008 Textbook)
Block 1,2: Fri Jan. 25 Block 6,7,8: Tue Jan. 29	League of Nations p. 131-138 Spanish Civil War p. 139-142
Block 1,2: Wed Jan 30 Block 6,7,8: Thur Jan 31	Appeasement p. 143-151 Invasion of Poland and Blitzkrieg p. 152-156

**Activity Topics for Assignment #1**

Choose one of the following questions and write a response that meets the criteria in the rubric.

1. Identify and explain the "most important" similarities between the reasons why the League of Nations failed to prevent aggression in Manchuria in 1931 and Abyssinia in 1935. In your introduction, provide background information about both conflicts and then identify why the League did not take action.
2. Historians often refer to the Spanish Civil War as a "Dress Rehearsal for World War II." In your introduction outline the criteria/characteristics that would make a war a dress rehearsal for war. After you have outlined your criteria, answer the following question: Was the Spanish Civil War the "Dress Rehearsal for World War II?"
3. On page <sup>186</sup>~~143~~ in your textbook, read the reasons Britain chose to practice appeasement in their negotiations with Germany in the 1930's. Of the reasons listed, which reason was the "most plausible" explanation why Britain practiced appeasement? Use historical evidence from the appeasement period to support your explanation. You must create criteria for "most plausible" in order to determine which explanation is most plausible.
4. Describe how Germany's Blitzkrieg strategy worked. To what extent was Blitzkrieg an unstoppable military strategy in 1939?

## Marking Rubric

Categories	Incomplete/Does Not Meet Expectations 1	Approaching Expectations 2	Meeting Expectations 3	Exceeding Expectations 4
<b>Important Background Information About the Topic is Outlined in the Introduction (i.e. what has happened in the war up to this point?)</b>	Background information is not included in the assignment	Limited background information is provided, or the information included is not important, or includes some inaccuracies	Background information about topic is provided, but some important information might be missing, or too much information is outlined	All important background information about the topic is included
<b>Criteria For the Topic is Defined and is Sophisticated Enough to Helps Student Make a Reasonable Decision</b>	Criteria is not defined or discussed	Some criteria is included, but it is too simplistic to help student make a reasonable decision	Criteria for the topic is defined, but some of the criteria is not sophisticated enough to help student make a reasonable decision	Criteria for the topic is defined and is sophisticated enough to help student make a reasonable decision
<b>Decision Made in Assignment is Historically Plausible and Supported With Solid Reasoning and Explanation</b>	Decision made is not plausible, and/or reasoning is flawed or explanations are incomplete	Decision made is somewhat plausible, reasoning and explanations are adequate with minor flaws	Decision made is plausible, but reasoning is partially flawed or explanations are too brief	Decision is historically plausible, and is supported by solid reasoning and explanations
<b>Decision is Supported by Relevant and Accurate Evidence</b>	No evidence is present in the writing	Decision is supported by limited evidence, or evidence is irrelevant or inaccurate	Decision is supported by some relevant and accurate evidence	Decision is supported by relevant and accurate evidence
<b>Assignment answers all required sections and is:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Word Processed <input type="checkbox"/> Edited <input type="checkbox"/> Maximum of 500 words	Assignment is incomplete and does not meet requirements for mechanics and organization	Some required sections of the question are incomplete and is either not edited, word processed or surpasses word limit.	Assignment answers all required sections, but is either not word processed, edited or goes over word requirement	Assignment includes all required sections and standards

TOTAL:

/20