

This topic covers the end of World War One and the impact of the Treaty of Versailles. You will then examine the League of Nations and its eventual collapse. Finally, you will analyse the origins and outbreak of the Second World War.

Below is the specification from AQA. This is an important document for when you come to revise.

Part one: Peacemaking

- The armistice: aims of the peacemakers; Wilson and the Fourteen Points; Clemenceau and Lloyd George; the extent to which they achieved their aims.
- The Versailles Settlement: Diktat; territorial changes; military restrictions; war guilt and reparations.
- Impact of the treaty and wider settlement: reactions of the Allies; German objections; strengths and weaknesses of the settlement, including the problems faced by new states.

Part two: The League of Nations and international peace

- The League of Nations: its formation and covenant; organisation; membership and how it changed;
- the powers of the League; the work of the League's agencies; the contribution of the League to peace in the 1920s, including the successes and failures of the League, such as the Aland Islands, Upper Silesia, Vilna, Corfu and Bulgaria.
- Diplomacy outside the League: Locarno treaties and the Kellogg-Briand Pact.
- The collapse of the League: the effects of the Depression; the Manchurian and Abyssinian crises and their consequences; the failure of the League to avert war in 1939.

Part three: The origins and outbreak of the Second World War

- The development of tension: Hitler's aims and Allied reactions; the Dollfuss Affair; the Saar; German rearmament, including conscription; the Stresa Front; Anglo-German Naval Agreement.
- Escalation of tension: remilitarisation of the Rhineland; Mussolini, the Axis and the Anti-Comintern Pact; Anschluss; reasons for and against the policy of appeasement; the Sudeten Crisis and Munich; the ending of appeasement.
- The outbreak of war: the occupation of Czechoslovakia; the role of the USSR and the Nazi-Soviet Pact; the invasion of Poland and outbreak of war, September 1939; responsibility for the outbreak of war, including that of key individuals: Hitler, Stalin and Chamberlain.

Revision sites

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/history/mwh/germany/> - Hitler's beliefs and aims

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/zcqs6fr> - Weimar Germany

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/history/mwh/ir1/> - Treaty of Versailles, Causes of ww2

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/history/video/ir1/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/higher/history/roadwar/appease/revision/1/> -Appeasement

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/guides/z98xi6f/revision> - League of Nations

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/guides/zsf439q/revision/2> - League of Nations