

## Review Sheet for Modern World History – Terms Defined

African National Congress – a nationalist group formed in 1912 to seek greater political rights for blacks in South Africa
Annex- to add territory to an existing country
Apartheid- South Africa’s government policy of racial segregation and white supremacy
Appeasement- the policy of giving in to the demands of an aggressor in order to maintain peace
Arms Race – The build- up of nuclear weapons during the Cold War between the US and the USSR
Battle of Britain - “The Blitz” German air force’s massive bombing of British factories, airfields, seaports, and cities. British victory.
Battle of Midway – A World War II naval battle that allowed the United States to reestablish its naval superiority in the Pacific
Battle of Stalingrad – a turning point in World War II during the spring and summer of 1942, 600 German planes bombarded the city, enveloping it in flames and killing about 40,000 civilians. The people of Stalingrad would not abandon their city. The Soviets fought to protect their city. The German commander begged Hitler to let his freezing, exhausted army withdraw. Hitler refused, finally in February 1943, the last German troops in Stalingrad surrendered. The Soviet victory marked a turning point in the war in Eastern Europe as the Soviet troops began to move westward.
Battle of the Bulge – a 1944-45 battle in which Allied forces turned back the last major German offensive of World War II
Berlin blockade – On June 24, 1948, Soviet troops blocked all railroads, and waterways linking West Berlin to the Western zones. This cut off food and other supplies for the two million West Berliners. Within two days, however, American and British cargo planes were flying in supplies to West Berlin. Working around the clock, even in rough weather, the Berlin airlift flew more than two million tons of food, fuel, medicine, and machinery into West Berlin. Stalin saw that the blockade had failed, and he ended it in May 1949.
Berlin Wall – 1961 East Germans built a wall to separate East and West Berlin, it symbolized a world divided into rival camps. West Berlin was Democratic and East Berlin was Communist
Bolshevik – a group of Russian Revolutionary Marxists who took control of Russia’s government in November 1917; a follower of the Marxist movement led by Lenin
Bombing of Hiroshima – August 6, 1945 US dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima, a Japanese city, between 70,000-80,000 instantly died
Civil War in China before WWII – Communists led by Mao defeat Nationalists led by Jiang Jieshi. The Nationalists flee to Taiwan
Cold War – the term applied to the period of extreme tensions and hostility between the United States and the Soviet Union in the years following World War II
Creation of a Jewish State (Israel) – based on the Balfour Declaration, the UN divided Palestine into a Palestinian and Jewish state on May 14, 1948
Cuban Missile Crisis – the 1962 confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union, when President Kennedy secured the removal of Soviet nuclear missiles from Cuba

Cultural Revolution in China – Mao Zedong’s campaign (1966-1968) to purge China of traditional cultures, ideas, and institutions
Détente – a relaxing of tensions between nations
Domino Theory – the belief that if one nation comes under Communist control, its neighboring nations will also come under Communist control
Event that started WWII – Germany invaded Poland; September 1, 1939
Fascism- an ideology that stresses nationalism and dictatorship and places that strength of the state above the welfare of individual citizens
Franz Ferdinand – The archduke of Austria who was assassinated by Gavril Princip, a Serbian nationalist. This event began World War I.
Final Solution – Hitler’s program of systematically killing the entire Jewish population
Five Year Plan – one of a series of ambitions created by Stalin to direct the industrialization and economic reorganization of the Soviet Union
Genocide – the systematic destruction of an entire people
Great Depression – the severe economic slump that followed the collapse of the stock market in 1929
Korean War – the conflict (1950-1953) between Communist North Korea and non-Communist South Korea, in which a UN army, largely made up of American forces, fought on the side of South Korea. The 38 <sup>th</sup> parallel divides communist North Korea from democratic South Korea
Kristallnacht – “Night of Broken Glass”- the night of November 9, 1938 in which the Nazi storm troopers attacked Jewish homes, businesses, and synagogues throughout Germany
League of Nations – an organization of nations established in 1920 to promote world peace
Manhattan Project- the code name for the effort to develop atomic bombs for the United States during World War II
Marshall Plan – the European recovery Program through which the United States provided aid to Western Europe after World War II
Militarism – the policy of glorifying war and readying armed forces for conflict
NATO – the North Atlantic Treaty Organization; a mutual defense pact formed in 1949 by the United States and major Western European countries, which operates under the premise that an attack against one member will be considered an attack against all
Nazi-Soviet Pact – a 1939 agreement between Hitler and Stalin that resulted in Germany’s invasion of Poland and gave the Soviet Union territory in Eastern Europe
Nelson Mandela – Head of the African, National Congress in South Africa and prominent leader against apartheid
Nuremberg Trials – the trials, beginning in 1945, of surviving leaders of Nazi Germany
Propaganda – news and information designed to influence people’s beliefs or actions
Rasputin – Self-described holy man who advised Russian czarina Alexandra
The Great Purge – a campaign of terror in the Soviet Union during the 1930s, in which Joseph Stalin sought to eliminate all Communist party members and other citizens who threatened his power
Third World Nations – the developing nations of Africa, Asia, and Latin America
Totalitarianism – a state in which government leaders are given complete authority over the lives of citizens

Truman Doctrine – the American foreign policy, as stated in 1947 by President Truman, of aiding any country that requested help in resisting communism
Trench Warfare- a form of warfare in which opposing armies fight each other from trenches dug in the battlefield in the Western Front it resulted in a stalemate
Treaty of Versailles- the settlement made with Germany at the end of WWI that called for territorial changes, reparations, and German demilitarization
United Nations – an international peace-keeping organization founded in 1945 to provide security to the nations of the world
USSR- Union of Soviet Socialist Republic formed after the Russian revolution
Vietnam War – the war between Communist North Vietnam and non-Communist South Vietnam following the withdrawal of the French colonial government; resulted in the formation of a united Communist nation in 1975
Vladimir Lenin – Leader of the Bolsheviks who controlled the government after the Russian Revolution
Warsaw Pact – a mutual-defense pact formed in 1955 by the Soviet Union and seven Eastern European countries
Western Front – stalemate
Winston Churchill’s “Iron Curtain” speech – During the Cold War, the boundary separating the Communist nations of Eastern Europe from the mostly democratic nations of Western Europe
Yalta Conference – The “Big Three” leaders of the US, Britain, and the Soviet Union met at the Soviet sea resort of Yalta to discuss post-war Europe. Stalin agreed to join the war against Japan and to hold free elections in Eastern Europe. Stalin never hosted free elections in Eastern Europe