

Name _____ Date _____

CHALLENGES

1. The attack on what nation marked the beginning of World War II?

2. How many more Russian troops were involved in the attack on Finland than the Finnish army had?

3. What were two groups of Russians that Hitler especially wanted killed?

4. Why did the Germans need a quick victory at Leningrad and Moscow?

5. How had the Great Purge hurt the Russian army?

6. Why did the Germans have to bring food to their troops?

7. What did Stalin tell Churchill he needed in the way of planes and tanks each month?

8. What port was used by England and the United States to supply Russia?

9. Who were the leaders of Russian forces at Stalingrad?

10. How many German troops were forced to surrender at Stalingrad?

UNDERLINE or HIGHLIGHT the text where you found your answer.

Name _____

Major Events of World War II

Below is a summary of the major events of World War II. Use the terms in the box at the bottom of the page to fill in the blanks.

Adolf Hitler started World War II in 1939 when he (1) _____ Poland. Some (2) _____ say, however, that the war actually (3) _____ in 1931 with Japan's seizure of Manchuria. Hitler made a huge (4) _____ in the (5) _____ of 1941. He attacked the Soviet Union, thinking a quick (6) _____ was likely. The terrible Russian winter and the (7) _____ of the Russian people proved him wrong. At Stalingrad, the Germans (8) _____ a disastrous defeat from which they never (9) _____.

The year 1942 saw the war turn in (10) _____ of the Allies. In addition to Stalingrad, the Germans were (11) _____ in North Africa and the Japanese lost the important Battle of Midway in the Pacific.

By 1943, the (12) _____ had taken Sicily and Italy. Then, on June 6, 1944, they came (13) _____ at Normandy in France. This marked the beginning of the (14) _____ for Nazi Germany. Slowly, the Allies (15) _____ through France and into Germany itself.

At Christmas, 1944, Hitler attempted one final (16) _____ move. This was the famous (17) _____ of the Bulge. It failed, and the war in Europe ended a few (18) _____ later. Hitler killed himself on April 30, 1945, and Germany (19) _____ on May 8.

The Japanese (20) _____ to fight until August. They did not surrender until atomic bombs were (21) _____ on the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

advanced	dropped	offensive
Allies	end	recovered
ashore	favor	suffered
Battle	historians	summer
began	invaded	surrendered
continued	mistake	toughness
defeated	months	victory