**World War II**

1. Another Great War
* **Nonaggression Pact –**
* To Hitler, Soviet Communism was the ultimate evil – Did not want to fight a two-front war at this time
* Agreed that they would divide Poland
* **September 1, 1939 –**
* **Allied Powers –**
* **Axis Powers -**

B. Lightening War

* **September 3, 1939 –**
* **Blitzkrieg –**

C. Phony War

* **September 17, 1939 –**
* **Sitzkrieg –**
* **1940 –**

D. Fall of France

* Similar to WWI the Germans invaded France through Belgium
* **Maginot Line –**
* Germans were able to avoid invading along the Maginot Line
* **June 14, 1940 –**
* **June 22, 1940 –**
* **Charles de Gaulle –**

E. Battle of Britain

* When France surrendered only Great Britain stood against the Nazis
* **Winston Churchill –**
* **Battle of Britain –**
* Results in the bombing of major British cities with the hope of crushing British morale – Destroyed over 1 million homes and killed 50,00 people
* Civilians became a legitimate target
* **Luftwaffe -**
* **Royal Air Force (RAF) –**
* **Operation Sea Lion –**

**Two Reasons it Failed:**

* **Radar –**
* **Enigma –**

F. Axis Forces Invade Africa

* British resistance caused Hitler to change his strategy
* Mussolini and Hitler invaded North Africa
* **Erwin Rommel (Desert Fox) –**

G. Hitler Invades the Soviet Union

* **Operation Barbarossa –**
* Soviet Union was not prepared for war
* Germany won many quick battles
* Hitler believed that the Japanese would invade the Soviet Union from the east – never happens
* **Battle of Leningrad –**
* Cost 1.5 million Soviet lives – But the city refuses to surrender
* Instead of surrendering, the Russian winter set in
* Hitler’s invasion of the Soviet Union was a major mistake