





Why did World War 2 begin?			
 Conflict	 First World War	 Depression	 Adolf Hitler
<p>Spanish Civil war – different groups within Spain were fighting for control of the country.</p> <p>Japan invaded both Manchuria and China in the 1930s as part of their expansion plans.</p> <p>Italy invaded and took over Ethiopia in 1935.</p> <p>In the late 1930s there were disagreements over the border between the USSR and Japan.</p>	<p>When Germany lost the First World War, they were forced to sign the Treaty of Versailles.</p> <p>This treaty meant that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Germany had to take ‘full responsibility’ for starting the war • Germany had to pay a fine of £6,000,000,000 to the winning countries • Germany had to severely limit the size of their Army and Navy; they were allowed no airships or submarines • Germany lost land to France, Belgium, Denmark and Poland • ‘Anschluss’ (the uniting of German-speaking peoples) was forbidden 	<p>There was a worldwide economic depression – millions of people became unemployed and lost their homes and businesses.</p> <p>In Germany, the situation was worse, and they experienced ‘hyperinflation’: money lost value so quickly that workers had to be paid daily. Eventually it was cheaper to burn money than use it to buy fuel.</p> <p>In this time of difficulty, many people looked for someone to blame. In America, they blamed Communism; in Germany, they blamed the Jews.</p>	<p>Hitler came to power in 1933. He made huge promises to the German people.</p> <p>Promises Hitler made included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jobs for everybody • An end to the depression • A strong and stable government • A ‘1,000-year Reich’ where Germany would rule over Europe • That Germany would reclaim ‘lebensraum’ (living space) from the land which was taken after WWI • To re-build the army and navy

