**7th Grade Social Studies Second Semester Exam Review Questions – Answer Key**

**Industrialism, Nationalism, & Imperialism Unit**

1. Where did the Industrial Revolution start? Why did it start there?

The Industrial Revolution began in England because of the large population that lived there and abundance of natural resources; industrialization needed these resources to thrive.

1. What are some positive impacts of the Industrial Revolution?

This sparked Europe to be ahead of the rest of the world in regards to industrialization. They were inventing new ways of producing goods, creating jobs for factory workers and owners, growth in new cities and amenities in those cities, more money for growing families, and a growing middle class

1. What are some negative impacts of the Industrial Revolution?

Child labor, unfair working hours and conditions, pollution, urbanization, poor living conditions, low wages

1. What two continents were negatively affected by imperialism? Why?

Africa and Asia were greatly affected by imperialism because many countries in both continents were colonies or protectorates. Europeans believed that countries in both Africa and Asia were inferior, needing Europe’s ideas and technology to become “civilized”.

1. What was the main idea of Kipling’s “White Man’s Burden”?

Europeans main goal in imperializing was to “help” non-Europeans – bring them peace, food, technology, and ending many diseases. The imperialist country would agree with this poem.

1. What was the response of Harrison’s “Black Man’s Burden”?

Europeans main goal in imperializing was to destroy the Africans’ lives and land. They killed their hopes and dreams, and treated the colonists horribly. The area being taken over would agree with this poem. The response is in disagreement to Kipling’s “White Man’s Burden.”

1. What is nationalism? What causes it?

Pride in one’s country or ethnic group, it is caused by people uniting together for a common goal; it creates a sense of unity and identity where people want to support the cause or country. However, it can pull countries or groups of people apart, can cause revolts within countries, sense of competition leads some groups of countries to feel better than others.

**World War I Unit**

1. What were the MAIN causes of World War I? Explain briefly how each one contributed to the start of the war.

M: Militarism-the build-up of weapons caused countries to want to use them to demonstrate their power.

A: Alliances-the promise to defend one another turned a small conflict between two nations into a world war because all sides came to the aid of another country.

I: Imperialism-the goal to get more land and build the best empire encouraged countries to pick wars with weaker countries.

N: Nationalism-the pride in your country showed how powerful your country was and to be the most powerful meant you needed to show it by winning a military conflict.

1. What was the “spark” that started World War I?

Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife, Sophia

1. Describe trench warfare. Why was it used? What was life like in the trenches?

Trench warfare was used for armies to defend themselves from enemies under attack from heavy machine guns, artillery, tanks, etc. Life was brutal in the trenches. Soldiers were in close contact with each other, causing the spread of diseases (trench foot), and were cold, wet, and extremely dirty.

1. What two events caused the United States to join World War I?

The interception of the Zimmerman Note and the sinking of the *Lusitania*

1. What was the Treaty of Versailles? What were the terms of the agreement?

The Treaty of Versailles was the peace agreement between the Allied Powers that was signed to end World War I. It was a major cause of WWII because it punished Germany for WWI by forcing them to give up territory, reduce their military, and pay reparations for war damage.

**Between Wars & World War II Unit**

1. What was the Great Depression? How did it start?

The worldwide economic downturn of the 1930s that started with the crash of the U.S. Stock Market in 1929

1. How did the Great Depression spread worldwide?

The Great Depression spread worldwide due to the collapse of international trading, cutbacks in jobs of overseas, increased poverty, increased unemployment worldwide

1. How did the Great Depression lead to the rise of fascism and dictators like Mussolini and Hitler?

Many countries were weak and in need of a strong leader to get them back on their feet economically, politically, and socially. Mussolini and Hitler both came to power at a time with Italy and Germany were weak. Hitler was a strong, charismatic leader that came to power because he was Germany’s “last hope” in restoring Germany to its former glory. Mussolini preached an extreme form of nationalism and held mass rallies, causing Italians to follow in his ways.

1. What were the underlying causes of World War II? What was the direct cause (event that started the war)?

The underlying causes of WWII included the rise of fascist dictators, Treaty of Versailles, the Great Depression, failure of appeasement, American isolationism, and growing nationalism. The event that started the war was Hitler’s invasion of Poland on September 1, 1939.

1. Explain the significance of each of the following:

Nuremberg Laws: Restriction of all rights/privileges for the Jews and other groups in Nazi Germany

Pearl Harbor: US entry into WWII in the Pacific  
D-Day: major battle in Normandy, France; was the beginning of the end of WWII in Europe  
Bombing of Hiroshima & Nagasaki: the surrender of Japan to the United States; ending WWII in the Pacific

1. What was the Manhattan Project? What did it lead to?

U.S. secret project to develop the atomic bomb located in Los Alamos, New Mexico. It lead to the atomic bomb being dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki by the United States. It lead to the eventual surrender of Japan to the Allied Powers, and the end of WWII in the Pacific.

1. Who made the decision to drop the atomic bombs? WHY did he make that decision?

President Harry Truman made the decision to drop the bombs; he made this decision because he knew it was the only way to end the war in the Pacific (causing the Japanese to surrender)

**Cold War Unit**

1. Describe the Space Race. Who achieved early “victories” in the race? What was the “ultimate prize”?

The space race was the competition between the United States and the Soviet Union to launch into outer space. The Soviet Union achieved early victories in the race by launching the satellite *Sputnik* into space. The ultimate prize was to land a human on the moon.

1. What was the Iron Curtain?

An invisible barrier that cut off and isolated areas under Soviet control

1. Why was this conflict known as a “cold war”?

There was no actual fighting involved in this war. It was a series of verbal threats between the United States and the Soviet Union.

1. What were the “hot spots” within the Cold War?

Vietnam, Korea, Cuban Missile Crisis

1. Describe the Arms Race. Who was involved? What was race fought over? How did it impact the Cuban Missile Crisis?

The arms race was the competition between the Soviet Union and the U.S. in the area of military weapon systems. This impacted the Cuban Missile Crisis because it set the stage for both countires to move those missiles (Turkey to the United States, Cuba to USSR) in an attempt to make the other country cower down. In the end, it was the closest the world ever came to nuclear war; both countries removed their missiles.

1. Why was NATO created? Why was the Warsaw Pact formed?

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization was created to protect countries from falling to communism all over the world and protect non-communist countries and their interests. The Warsaw Pact was formed by the Soviet Union after WWII to attempt to spread communism around the world.

1. When and how did the Cold War come to an end?

The Cold War ended with the collapse of the Soviet Union. Gorbachev gave up power and Russia was restored to its former self as a nation. The Berlin Wall came tumbling down which symbolized the end of the Cold War. The United States was left as the sole superpower.

**New Nations Emerge Unit**

1. Why was India partitioned in 1947? How was it partitioned? What was Gandhi’s desire for the region?

India was partitioned in 1947 because of religious differences that led to a political division. It was partitioned by Hindu-dominated India and Muslim-dominated Pakistan. Gandhi used nonviolent protesting because he wanted to achieve Indian independence for the region. He attempted to do this through civil disobedience.

1. What was apartheid? When was it created? Why?

Apartheid is the system of racial separation in South Africa, designed to create a fully segregated society. It was created in 1948 to legally separate white and blacks in South Africa.

1. Describe South Africa under apartheid.

Many racist ideas of the ruling minority (whites) were adopted into laws. This caused nonwhites to be treated poorly and unfairly in South Africa.

1. What is civil disobedience? How does civil disobedience lead to changes in government?

Civil disobedience is the refusal to comply with certain laws or follow government orders as a peaceful form of political protest to bring attention to a perceived injustice and force change. This leads to changes in government because of the way

1. Why was the country of Israel created?

The Jews wanted their own independent state apart from the Arabs. However, this only caused greater turmoil between the two nations and the fighting still occurs today.

1. What is Zionism?

The Jewish movement to establish a homeland in Palestine

1. What do the Israelis want? What do the Palestinians want? Why does this continue to cause conflict today?

The Israelis want to become an independent nation, restoring their homeland in Palestine. The Palestinians want their land back, because they do not believe that the Israelis are legally occupying Palestinian land. The conflict continues to be a problem today because the ethnic groups are not able to come to an agreement on land distribution in the Middle East.