Crisis of Democracy in the West

1919-1939

The Western Democracies

* Enlightenment thinkers had encouraged the idea that problems could be solved through reason. The Industrial Revolution bolstered this confidence. World War One shattered the sense of optimism.

Make Sure you Can Answer...

- * How did the postwar world try to ensure the peace?
- * What challenges faced Britain, France, and the United States?
- * How did the Great Depression affect western Nations?

Make Sure You Can Define...

- * Locarno agreements
- * Kellogg-Briand Pact
- * IRA
- * Commonwealth of Nations
- * Leon Blum
- * Maginot Line
- * New Deal
- * general strike

Postwar Problems

- Britain, France, and the U.S. had settled issues as the Paris Peace Conference and hoped to spread democracy
- * Many problems lay just below the surface...
 - * Finding jobs for returning veterans
 - * Huge debt owed by nations
 - * Fear of communism
 - Europe was unsatisfied with the peace settlement

Pursuing Peace

- * Spirit of Locarno: Several nations signed treaties which settled Germany's borders.(Sudentland)
- * Almost every nation in the world signed onto the Kellogg-Briand pact in which they promised to "renounce war as an instrument of national policy"
- * Several powerful nations, including Germany and the USSR joined the League of Nations

Recovery and Collapse

- * Europe's economy was becoming stronger, but only in some countries
- * The United States became the world's leading economy, as investment capital was helping to rebuild Europe.

A Dangerous Imbalance

- * Lots of goods had been produced during the war, when demand for raw material was high. After the war the demand was gone, so prices fell. Good for consumers, but bad for suppliers of raw materials.
- * Workers were also being paid higher wages, which had in turn raised the price of manufactured goods.

The Crash

- * In the U.S. many investors had bought stocks on margin.
- * Bankers called in their loans, which people could not pay, so stock prices crashed, eliminating the fortunes of many investors.

Disaster

- * The stock market crash led to the Great Depression.
 - American Banks stopped lending money and called in loans
 - * Businesses closed, putting people out of work
 - * As people were out of work, they could not afford to buy goods, which led to more closings, and more people out of work.

Global Impact

- * People across the world lost jobs and wages
- Many people lost faith in their governments
- * Communists saw the Great Depression as proof that their system was the best

Britain in the Postwar Era

- Britain had lost most of its overseas shipping due to German U-Boat attacks
- Britain was deeply in debt
- Many factories were out of date
- * Unemployment was high, and general strikes were common

Economics and Politics

- * The bad economy led to political struggles between the Labour Party, who promoted a gradual move to socialism, and the conservative party, who had a fear of communism.
- * Coalition governments were formed and helped some people, but many were still unemployed.

Irish Independence

- * Irish leaders had been promised home rule, but the British had not given it to them.
- Violence erupted as Irish battled British resulting in many civilians being killed
- * In 1922 southern Ireland was granted independence while Northern Ireland remained under British control.

Britain and the World

- * Britain worked with Canada, New Zealand, Australia, and South Africa to establish self-government within the British Empire
- * Britain and France disagreed over Germany, as Britain wanted to relax the punishments, while France wanted to continue the harsh treatment.

France Pursues Security

* France had suffered many losses due to World War I, but their industry recovered better than Britain's

Coalition Governments

- * As many different parties competed for power, France was ruled by a series of coalition governments
- * French Socialist Leon Blum satisfied some on the left, but not the radicals

The Maginot Line

- * France spent lots of time and resources building up a defensive front against Germany, called the Maginot Line
- France built up their military and worked for alliances.
 They also called for strict enforcement of the
 Versailles Treaty

Prosperity and Depression in the U.S.

- * The U.S stayed out of the League of Nations in attempt to remain isolated from world problems
- * The U.S. limited the number of immigrants allowed to enter the country
- * Leaders did not want the government to interfere in business, however the Great Depression brought about changes

The New Deal

- * Franklin D. Roosevelt was elected President in 1932, promising a New Deal for Americans.
- * The Federal government became more involved in people's everyday lives
- * Social Security was established, and many the suffering was eased for many people.

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A Culture in Conflict

* "Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold; Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world, the blood dimmed tide is loosed, and everywhere The ceremony of innocence is drowned" –William Butler Yeats

Make Sure You can Answer...

- * What new ideas revolutionized science and thought?
- * What artistic and literary trends emerged in the 1920s?
- * How did women's lives change after World War One?

Make sure you can define...

- * Marie Curie
- * T.S. Eliot
- Virginia Woolf
- * James Joyce
- * Cubism
- * Dada
- * Bauhaus
- * Jazz Age
- * Stream of consciousness
- * flapper

New Views of the Universe

- Radioactivity- Marie Curie and other scientists discovered some atoms spontaneously released charged particles.
 - * Their work showed that radioactivity could change atoms of one element into atoms of another element
 - This work proved that atoms were not solid and indivisible

Relativity

- Albert Einstein argued that space and time measurements are not absolute, and some of the factors that determine them are unknown
- * Einstein's theory made some uncomfortable with the realization that the universe might be impossible to understand
- * http://www.boston.com/bigpicture/2009/12/hubble_s pace telescope advent 1.html

The Mind

- * Sigmund Freud
 - Suggested that the unconscious mind drives human behavior
 - * Pioneered psychoanalysis
 - * Analyzed ways to treat mental illness

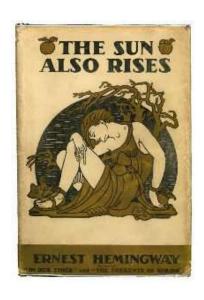
The New Literature

* Literature reflected the loss of faith in society, as poets such as T.S. Eliot published *The Wasteland*, and Ernest Hemingway wrote *The Sun Also Rises*.

The Wasteland

* APRIL is the cruellest month, breeding Lilacs out of the dead land, mixing Memory and desire, stirring Dull roots with spring rain

The Sun Also Rises



Literature of the Inner Mind

- * As Freud's ideas became popular, writers experimented with stream of consciousness
- * To the Lighthouse and Mrs. Dalloway were both written by Virginia Woolf explored the inner thoughts of people as they went through their daily lives
- * James Joyce explored the inner mind of a hero who remained asleep in Finnegan's Wake

Finnegan's Wake Excerpt

* riverrun, past Eve and Adam's, from swerve of shore to bend of bay, brings us by a commodius vicus of recirculation back to Howth Castle and Environs. Sir Tristram, violer d'amores, fr'over the short sea, had passencore rearrived from North Armorica on this side the scraggy isthmus of Europe Minor to wielderfight his penisolate war: nor had topsawyer's rocks by the stream Oconee exaggerated themselse to Laurens County's gorgios while they went doublin their mumper all the time: nor avoice from afire bellowsed mishe mishe totauftauf thuartpeatrick: not yet, though venissoon after, had a kidscad buttended a bland old isaac: not yet, though all's fair in vanessy, were sosie sesthers wroth with twone nathandjoe. Rot a peck of pa's malt had Jhem or Shen brewed by arclight and rory end to the regginbrow was to be seen ringsome on the aquaface. The fall (bababadalgharaghtakamminarronnkonnbronntonnerronntuonnthunntrova rrhounawnskawntoohoohoord-enenthurnuk!) of a once wallstrait oldparr is retaled early in bed and later on life down through all christian minstrelsy.

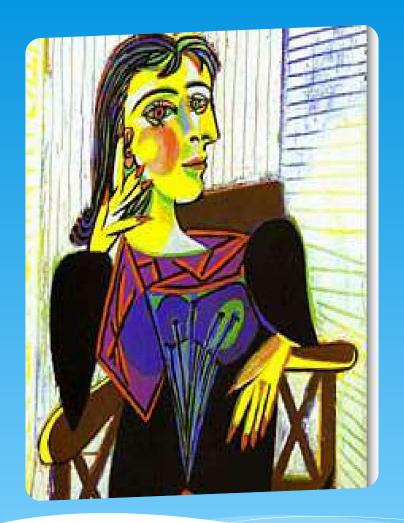
Modern Art

* Artists in the post World War One World did not try to reproduce the real world, instead they explored dimensions of color, line, and shape



Henri Matisse Still Life with a Marble Table

Matisse outraged the public with bold use of color and odd distortions



Pablo Picasso

Portrait of Dora Maar (cubism)

Dora Maar was a Yugoslavian photographer and Picasso's mistress during the war years in the twenties and thirties.



Dadism- "Dada is life without discipline or morality-we spit on humanity"

Hans Arp

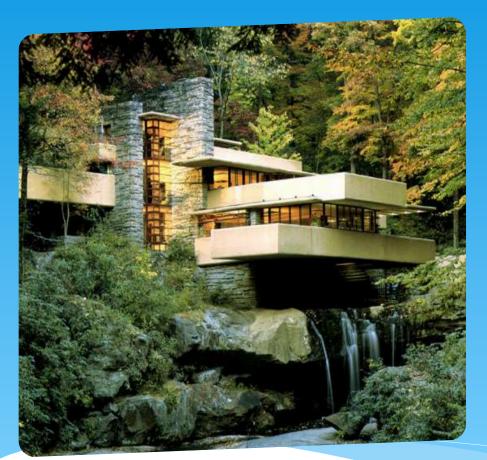
Untitled (Collage with Squares Arranged according to the Laws of Chance



Surrealism

The Persistence of Memory

Salvador Dali



Architecture also reflected the time, as seen by buildings designed by those from the Bauhaus school

This house was designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, and American who reflected the Bauhaus belief that the function of a building should reflect its form.

Popular Culture

- New technologies like the radio helped create a new culture
- * Affordable automobiles were now prevalent throughout America
- * Movie stars became famous as popular culture celebrities
- * Jazz music became popular as musicians like Louis Armstrong were played on the radio



Louis Armstrong

Jazz music blended African rhythms with western instruments

Fascism in Italy



Make sure you can answer...

- * How did Conditions in Italy favor Mussolini's rise to power?
- * How did Mussolini reshape Italy?
- * What were the values and goals of fascism?

Make Sure You can define...

- * Black Shirts
- * Il Duce

Rise of Mussolini

- * Italy had expected to gain territory as a result of World War One, but the Paris peace treaties did not give them any.
- * Peasants began to revolt, inspired by the Russian Revolution.
- * Returning veterans faced unemployment, and the government was in chaos

A fiery Speaker

- * Mussolini was the son of a blacksmith and a teacher, during the war he began to embrace intense nationalism
- * In 1919 he organized veterans into the fascist party, and gave fiery speeches about reviving Roman greatness
- * He promised to end corruption and replace turmoil with order.

Seizing Power

- * Fascist supporters were organized into combat squads. The people rejected the democratic process in favor of violent action
 - * Broke up socialist rallies
 - * Smashed newspaper offices
 - * Attacked farmers unions

In 1922 the fascists marched on Rome, Victor Emmanuel III, fearing violence, made Mussolini Prime Minister

Mussolini's Italy

- * Italy had become a dictatorship held up by violence and terror
 - Suppressed rival parties
 - Limited the number of voters
 - Rigged elections
 - * Critics were jailed, exiled or killed
 - Secret Police and Propaganda were used

Believe! Obey! Fight!

Economic Policy

- * The State controlled business while allowing capitalism
- * The policy helped production increase, but limited the rights of workers.
- * Workers were not allowed to strike, and their wages were low.

Social Policy

- * All citizens were told that they were only important as a part of the state
- Men were told the greatest honor was to fight on the battlefield
- Women were taught to be wives and mothers, not workers

Youth

- * Fascist Youth groups taught children to obey strict discipline
- * Children were taught the glory of Ancient Rome
- * Children marched in parades chanting "Mussolini is always right!"

What is Fascism?

- * Any authoritarian regime that is not communist
- Fascists rejected the enlightenment ideas
- * Believed democracy led to corruption
 - * Rooted in extreme nationalism
 - * Glorified action, violence, discipline
 - Blind loyalty to the state
 - * Aggressive foreign expansion

Fascism and Communism

Fascism

- Nationalist Goals
- Allied with business leaders and wealthy landowners
 - * Similarities
- Flourished during economic hard times
- Promoted extreme social change with totalitarian rule

Communism

- * Worldwide Revolution
- * Allied with the urban working class

Similarities

Flourished during economic hard times

Promoted extreme social change with totalitarian rule

Rule and Appeal

- Mussolini's totalitarianism became a model for Stalin and Hitler
- Fascism appealed to people because of its promise of a strong stable government
- * Fascism stirred national pride
- * Fascism made government efficient

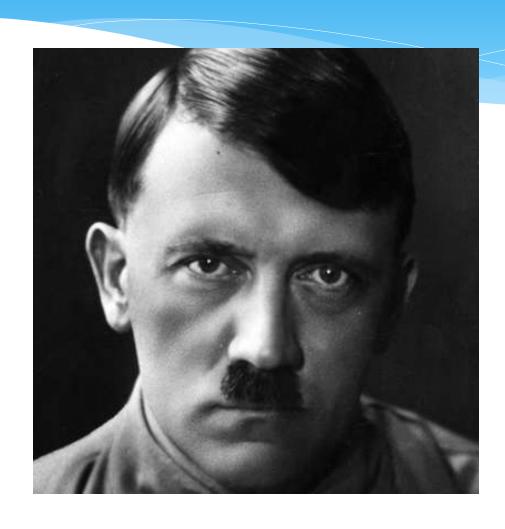
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Hitler and the Rise of Nazi Germany



Make Sure You Can Answer...

- * Why did the Weimar government fail?
- * How did Hitler Turn Germany into a totalitarian state?
- * How did fascist leaders gain power in Eastern Europe?

Make Sure You can Define...

- Ruhr Valley
- * Dawes Plan
- Mein Kampf
- * Third Reich
- * Gestapo
- Nuremberg Laws
- * Kristallnacht
- * Nicholas Horthy
- * Joseph Pilsudski
- * Concentration camp

Struggles of the Weimar Republic

- * After World War One and the abdication of Kaiser William III, Germany adopted a parliamentary government
- * The Weimar Republic faced big problems such as
 - * Coalition governments were unstable
 - Conservatives longed for a powerful ruler
 - * The Versaiiles treaty was extremely unpopular

More Problems

* Inflation

- When Germany fell behind on reparations payments,
 France took the Ruhr Valley
- * This led to Germany printing so much money, the German mark was devalued. (944,000 for a loaf of bread)
- * The U.S. tried to help with the Dawes plan, but memories of the harsh treatment paved the way for Hitler

Adolf Hitler

- * Born in Vienna, Austria in 1889
- * After fighting in World War One, he became the leader of the National Socialist, or Nazi party

Mein Kampf

- * While in prison for attempting to take power in Germany Hitler wrote Mein Kampf
- * The book outline Hitler's belief in Racial Superiority of the Aryan people, and blamed Germany's loss in World War One on Marxists and Jews
- * Hitler claimed that Germany need to expand, and that other races should bow to the Aryans

Road to Power

- * After Hitler was released many people began to follow him
- * The Nazi party won seats in Germany's legislature, the Reichstag.
- * Many people called for Hitler to become Chancellor of Germany, and he was legally voted into power.
- * Hitler then suspended Civil Rights, eliminated other political parties

Hitler's Third Reich

Economic Policy

- The Nazis began to build housing and highways
- Germany began rebuilding their military, which gave many people jobs
- Big business and labor came under government control

Social Policy

- German Youth were taught racist ideology
- * Hitler Youth were taught absolute loyalty while preparing for war
- Women were taught the only job they were fit for was motherhood

Purging German Culture

- * All art and music were used as propaganda, modern art and music was not allowed
- * Schools taught from a Nazi perspective, burning books that did not agree with Hitler's worldview
- * Christian churches were closed, and only re-opened as a state church
- * Hitler wanted to eliminate all Jews from Germany, many laws were passed discriminating against them

Night of Broken Glass

- * November 9 and 10 1938
- Nazi led mobs attacked Jewish communities all over Germany
- * People were dragged from their homes and beaten, children watched as their homes were burned and parents were beaten.
- * Hitler made the Jewish families pay for the damage.
- * Many Jewish people were then sent to Concentration Camps.

Authoritarian Rule in Eastern Europe

- * Ethnic conflict flared throughout Europe in places like Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary, and Romania
- * Nicholas Horthy became the totalitarian leader in Hungary
- * Joseph Pilsudski became the totalitarian leader in Poland.
- * Both leaders were anti-Semitic

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