

**APUSH—Kind**  
US Involvement in WWII

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Event/Battle	Date	Location	Significance
Germany invades Poland	Sept 1, 1939	Polish-German border	Following non-aggression treaty with Soviet Union, German troops invade Poland. England and France declare war on Germany. Soviets invade Poland from East.
Germany's blitzkrieg takes western Europe	March-June 1940	Western Europe	Denmark, Norway, Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, and France crushed by German offensive
Battle of Britain	Fall 1940	Great Britain	German bombers ruin British cities in attempt to obtain British surrender before U.S. entry. Britain's breaking of German code ("Ultra") helps overcome air attacks.
U.S. enacts draft bill	Sep 1940	D.C.	Registration of all men between 21 and 35. Limit of 900,000 men in time of peace.
Destroyer for Bases deal	September 1940	D.C. and London	U.S. transfers 50 old destroyers to Britain in exchange for use of eight British Atlantic bases.
Lend-Lease plan	Nov 1940	Washington D.C.	U.S. would "lend" military equipment to cash-strapped Britain.
Germany invades Russia	June 1941	Polish-Russian border	Germany begins two-front war with invasion of Russia. Germans halt 15 miles from Moscow in December 1941.
Atlantic Charter	Aug 1941	North Atlantic	FDR and Churchill agree to war aims, self-determination, and condemnation of Nazism.
Japan attacks Pearl Harbor	Dec 7, 1941	Hawaii	361 Japanese warplanes attack American airfields and shipyards, disabling 19 ships, destroying 200 planes, and killing over 2300 men. Southeast Asia, Hong Kong, Malaya, Philippines soon fall to Japan.
FDR asks for war on Japan	Dec 8, 1941	D. C.	Congress approves entry into war. Germany and Italy declare war on U.S.
Battle of Coral Sea	May 1942	South Pacific	Carrier-based U.S. planes halt Japanese advance on Australia.
<b>Midway</b>	June 1942	Central Pacific	Threat on Hawaii ended as four Japanese aircraft carriers are sunk.
Allies attack Germans in North Africa	Nov 1942	North Africa	Huge Allied landing forces Germany to retreat to Tunisia, where they are surrounded by British and American forces.
Guadalcanal	Feb 1943	Solomon Islands, South Pacific	Americans take first island in start of island-hopping strategy.
<b>Germans surrender at Stalingrad</b>	Feb 1943	Central Russia	Germans surrender after fierce hand-to-hand fighting and huge casualties for each side.
Allies invade Sicily	July 1943	Sicily	In largest amphibious invasion in history, over 250,000 American & British troops land. Germans & Italians escape to mainland of Italy.
Italy surrenders	Sept 1943	Italy	Although Italian troops quit fighting Allies, Germans continue in fierce fighting. Rome finally surrenders on June 4, 1944.
<b>D-Day Invasion</b>	June 6, 1944	Normandy coast of France	Allies use 4600 ships to invade German-held France. Suffering heavy casualties, the Allies were able to retake Paris in August.

Battle of Leyte Gulf	Oct 1944	Pacific east of Philippines	60 Japanese ships in largest naval battle in history.
Battle of the Bulge	Dec 1944	French-German-border	German counteroffensive almost succeeds in retaking Belgium but is crushed with Allied reinforcements.
Tokyo Bombing Raids	March 1945	Tokyo, Japan	American bombers destroy 250,000 buildings and kill 83,000 in massive fire-bombing.
<b>Russians take Berlin</b>	April 1945	Berlin, Germany	Russians take German capital after house-to-house fighting. Hitler commits suicide.
V-E Day	May 7, 1945	Europe	German government issues unconditional surrender to Allied forces.
Okinawa	April to June 1945	Southern tip of Japan	Fighting from caves and bunkers, Japanese inflict 80,000 losses on Americans. Over 30 American ships are sunk by Japanese suicide missions.
MacArthur retakes Philippines	July 1945	Philippine Islands	After Manila's fall to Americans in May, Japanese surrender here after inflicting 60,000 American casualties.
<b>Hiroshima</b>	Aug 6, 1945	Japan	180,000 killed, wounded, or missing after atomic bomb is dropped. Two days later Soviet Union enters war against Japan.
Nagasaki	Aug 9, 1945	Japan	Second bomb is dropped after Japanese delay surrender. 80,000 killed or missing.
V-J Day	Sept 2, 1945	Tokyo Bay	Japan surrenders with one term: the emperor must retain his throne.

Conference	Date	Participants	Historical Highlights
Molotov-Ribbentrop Treaty	Aug 23, 1939	Germany & Soviet Union	Hitler and Stalin sign non-aggression pact which meant the Soviets would not intervene if Poland were invaded. Hitler later invaded Russia (June 22, 1941)
Atlantic Conference	Aug 1941	Great Britain & US	FDR & Churchill approve the Atlantic Charter which supported self-determination, a new permanent system of general security (a new League of Nations), and the right of people to regain governments abolished by dictators.
Casablanca Conference	Jan 1943	Great Britain & US	FDR & Churchill agree to step up Pacific war, invade Sicily/Italy & insist on Germany's unconditional surrender
Teheran Conference	Nov 1943	Great Britain, Soviet Union & US	Allies agree to launch attacks from Russia on the east at the same time as US and Great Britain attack from west.
Yalta Conference	Feb 1945	Great Britain, Soviet Union & US	Stalin agreed: to free elections for Poland after the war; the Soviets would attack Japan 3 months after collapse of Germany; & Soviets receive territory in Manchuria & several islands
San Francisco Conference	April 22, 1945	50 Nations	United Nations Charter approved establishing a Security Council with veto power for the Big Five powers (US, Great Britain, France, China, and Soviet Union) and a General Assembly.
Potsdam Conference	July 1945	Great Britain, Soviet Union & US	Pres. Truman met with Stalin and Churchill and agreed that Japan must surrender or risk destruction. Atomic bomb successfully tested on July 16 and then dropped on Hiroshima on August 6, 1945.