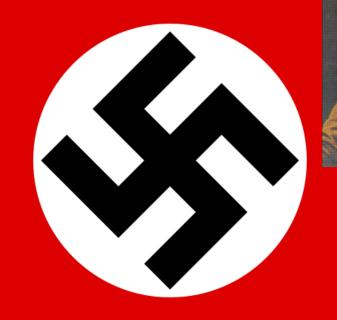


What is Fascism?

I can define the political ideology of fascism and compare and contrast ideals in fascism to those in communism.





Entry Task: Questions

- Why do you think dictators were able to rise to power after WWI?
- What was Europe like after WWI ended?
- What side was Italy on during WWI (winning or losing?)?
- What government is ruling Germany? What Treaty did they sign?
- How did that treaty effect Germany?

The Context

- A worldwide economic depression
 - Inflation causes economic crisis in Germany
 - Economic crisis in France, America and Britain
 - US responds with FDR's new deal & focus on America
 - France & GB focus on themselves & will ignore signs of aggression
 - Italy & Germany will become totalitarian dictatorships

Fascism Rises in Europe

- Fascism: A militant political movement that emphasized loyalty to the state and obedience to a leader
 - Leader has complete authority
 - Sometimes emphasizes the greater importance of an ethnic group

What is Fascism?

- A political ideology that focuses on
 - 1 party rule with 1 supreme leader
 - extreme nationalism or loyalty to ones country
 - Obedience and loyalty to an authoritarian leader/dictator
 - Militarism as the definition of a country's strength
 - Censorship & Indoctrination (youth trained from a young age)
 - Economy under state control



• Fasces - Symbol of Fascism, representing strength through unity (throwback to the Roman Empire)

Fascism VS Communism

- Hated each other
- Supporters:
 - Fascist = business leaders, wealthy landowners, & lower middle class
 - Communist = Urban workers & farmers
- Economic Differences:
 - Fascists preserved capitalism
 - Communist = Gov't controls (command economy)
- Similarities:
- Censorship, secret police, propaganda, totalitarian leader, & intense nationalism

Video clip

- What is Fascism?
 - Video (first 3 minutes)

Is it fascism

- Use the characteristics of fascism to determine if its an example of fascism
- Read each case & as a group decide if its an example of TOTALLY, MOSTLY, SOMEWHAT, or a NON-FASCIST STATE
 - Once you have decided, write down why you classified it the way you did

Case 1-Almost totally

- Aspects of fascism:
- 1 supreme leader & one political party
- Total control over society
- Gov't owns major businesses
- Political prisoners
- NOT fascism:
- No talk of violence or military conquests

Case 2-Somewhat

- Aspects of fascism:
- 1 supreme leader
- Censorship & obedience required
- Building up military
- NOT fascism:
- Assembly of religious leaders have a say (can veto laws & get leader out of power)
- Has a Parliament
- Religious law is supreme (they can veto laws passed if they go against religious law)

Case 3-Not fascism

- Aspects of fascism:
- NOT fascism:
- Political & religious freedoms

How does Fascism compare?

	Democracy with Capitalism	Communism	Fascism
Ruled by?	Elected leader (president/ prime minister)	Dictator	Dictator
Individual Rights?	Individual freedoms are protected by law	No individual rights—given up for collective benefit	No individual rights State is supreme
Thought about role of classes?	Free trade Majority rules, but minority rights are protected. All people can vote	Working class should unite and overthrow the upper class to move toward a classless society	Rejects the idea of class conflict in favor of class collaboration for the good of the state - even if unequal (mediated by state)