

Name _____ Period _____ Date _____

Photographs as History The Path to World War II

We will be looking at photos taken before World War II and analyzing them. This is one way historians research the past, as photos can provide information that enriches our historical understanding. The caption for each photo is provided below. On a separate piece of paper, answer **each** of the questions for **each** photograph.

- 1.) Are there people in the photograph?
- 2.) What are they doing?
- 3.) What expressions are on their faces? What is their body language?
- 4.) What objects are in the photograph?
- 5.) Where was the photo taken?
- 6.) Where is the photographer standing in relation to the subject (above, below, in front of, beside, etc.)? How would the picture change if he or she was standing in a different place?
- 7.) Is this photo spontaneous or posed? How can you tell?
- 8.) What is the general mood of the photograph? How can you tell?

Photo 1:

Adolf Hitler, age 25, on his release from Landesberg Prison, on December 20, 1924. Hitler had been convicted of treason for his role in an attempted coup in 1932 called the Beer Hall Putsch. This photograph was taken shortly after he finished dictating "Mein Kampf" to deputy Rudolf Hess. Eight years later, Hitler would be sworn in as Chancellor of Germany, in 1933.

Photo 2:

A Japanese soldier stands guard over part of the captured Great Wall of China in 1937, during the Second Sino-Japanese War. The Empire of Japan and the Republic of China had been at war intermittently since 1931, but the conflict escalated in 1937.

Photo 3:

Japanese aircraft carry out a bombing run over targets in China in 1937.

Photo 4:

Japanese soldiers involved in street fighting in Shanghai, China in 1937. The Battle of Shanghai lasted from August through November of 1937, eventually involving nearly one million troops. In the end, Shanghai fell to the Japanese, after over 150,000 casualties combined.

Photo 5:

First pictures of the Japanese occupation of Peiping (Beijing) in China, on August 13, 1937. Under the banner of the rising sun, Japanese troops are shown passing from the Chinese City of Peiping into the Tartar City through Chen-Men, the main gate leading onward to the palaces in the Forbidden City. Just a stone's throw away is the American Embassy, where American residents of Peiping flocked when Sino-Japanese hostilities were at their worst.

Photo 6:

Japanese soldiers execute captured soldiers with bayonets in a trench as other Japanese soldiers watch from rim.

Photo 7:

Chinese General Chiang Kai-shek, right, head of the Nanking government at Canton, with General Lung Yun, chairman of the Yunan provincial government in Nanking, on June 27, 1936.

Photo 8:

On February 5, 1938, a Chinese woman surveys the remains of her family, all of whom met death during Japanese occupation of Nanking, allegedly victims of atrocities at the hands of Japanese soldiers.

Photo 9:

Buddhist priests of the Big Asakusa Temple prepare for the Second Sino-Japanese War as they wear gas masks during training against future aerial attacks in Tokyo, Japan, on May 30, 1936.

<p>Photo 10: Italian Fascist leader Benito Mussolini, center, hands on hips, with members of the Fascist Party, in Rome, Italy, October 28, 1922, following their March on Rome. This march was an act of intimidation, where thousands of fascist Blackshirts occupied strategic positions throughout much of Italy. Following the march, King Emanuele III asked Mussolini to form a new government, clearing the way towards a dictatorship.</p>
<p>Photo 11: Four Italian soldiers taking aim in Ethiopia in 1935, during the Second Italo-Abyssinian War. Italian forces under Mussolini invaded and annexed Ethiopia, folding it into a colony named Italian East Africa along with Eritrea.</p>
<p>Photo 12: Italian troops raise the Italian flag over Macalle, Ethiopia in 1935. Emperor Haile Selassie's appeals to the League of Nation for help went unanswered, and Italy was largely given a free hand to do as it pleased in East Africa.</p>
<p>Photo 13: In Spain, loyalist soldiers teach target practice to women who are learning to defend the city of Barcelona against fascist rebel troops of general Francisco Franco during the Spanish Civil War, on June 2, 1937.</p>
<p>Photo 14: Three hundred fascist insurgents were killed in this explosion in Madrid, Spain, under the under the five-story Casa Blanca building, on March 19, 1938. Government loyalists tunneled 600 yards over a six-month period to lay the land mine that caused the explosion.</p>
<p>Photo 15: An insurgent fighter tosses a hand grenade over a barbed wire fence and into loyalist soldiers with machine guns blazing in Burgos, Spain, on September 12, 1936.</p>
<p>Photo 16: German-made Stuka bombers, part of the Condor Legion, in flight above Spain on May 30, 1939, during the Spanish Civil War. The black-and-white "X" on the tail and wings is Saint Andrew's Cross, the insignia of Franco's Nationalist Air Force. The Condor Legion was composed of volunteers from the German Army and Air Force.</p>
<p>Photo 17: Scores of families are seen taking refuge underground on a Madrid subway platform, on December 9, 1936, as bombs are dropped by Franco's rebel aircraft overhead.</p>
<p>Photo 18: Aerial bombing of Barcelona in 1938 by Franco's Nationalist Air Force. The Spanish Civil War saw some of the earliest extensive use of aerial bombardment of civilian targets, and the development of new terror bombing techniques.</p>
<p>Photo 19: Following an aerial attack on Madrid from 16 rebel planes from Tetuan, Spanish Morocco, relatives of those trapped in ruined houses appeal for news of their loved ones, January 8, 1937. The faces of these women reflect the horror non-combatants are suffering civil struggle.</p>
<p>Photo 20: A Spanish rebel who surrendered is led to a summary court martial, as popular front volunteers and civil guards jeer, July 27, 1936, in Madrid, Spain.</p>
<p>Photo 21: A fascist machine gun squad, backed up by expert riflemen, hold a position along the rugged Huesca front in northern Spain, December 30, 1936.</p>
<p>Photo 22: Solemnly promising the nation his utmost effort to keep the country neutral, U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt is shown as he addressed the nation by radio from the White House in Washington, September 3, 1939. In the years leading up to the war, the U.S. Congress passed several Neutrality Acts, pledging to stay (officially) out of the conflict.</p>