

Why did the World go to war again in 1939?

Today I will practise:

- **Explanation skills:** identifying the reasons (causes) of an event
- **Evidence skills:** identifying the author's message in contemporary sources

TASK: Answer the following questions, using full sentences. Use the sentence starters provided, or come up with your own. Remember to use subheadings.

Subheading: The Treaty of Versailles

1. Why would France in particular want the treaty to be harsh on Germany?
France would want the treaty to be particularly harsh on Germany because...
2. Which term of the Treaty of Versailles would Germany hate the most? Why?
Germany would hate that.... They would hate this because...
3. How could the Treaty of Versailles lead to a future war?
The Treaty could lead to another war because...

Challenge Box:

What is the message of Sources A and B?

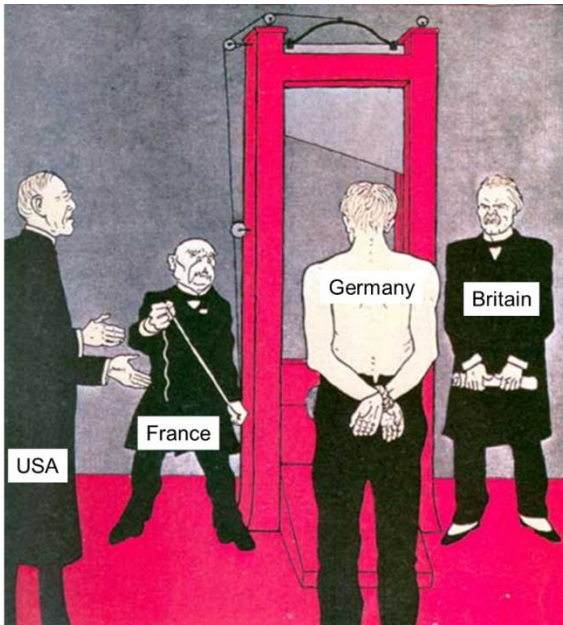
Answer in full sentences.



Source A
(left)

*The message
of Source A
is...*

DER TAG!



Source B (left)

The message of Source B is...

Subheading: The Failure of the League of Nations

4. Why do you think other countries in the league, like Britain and France, didn't stand up to Italy and Japan in the 1930s?

Countries like Britain and France didn't stand up to Italy and Japan because...

5. How could the league's lack of action encourage others to go to war?

The League's lack of action may have encouraged others because...

6. Which of Mussolini's 'friends' might be encouraged by the fact that Mussolini wasn't punished for invading Abyssinia (Ethiopia)?

I think _____ may have been encouraged by lack of action towards Mussolini.

Challenge Box:

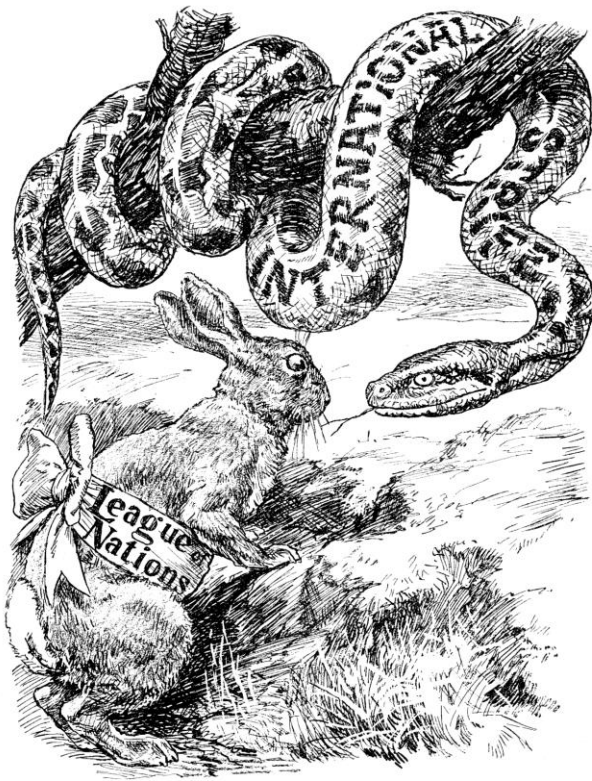
What is the message of Sources C and D?

Answer in full sentences.

Source C (right)

The message of Source C is...





Source D (left)

The message of Source D is...

Subheading: Hitler's actions

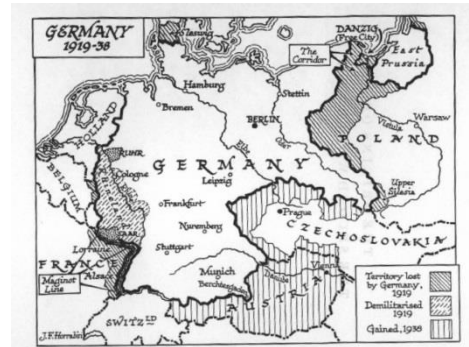
TASK: stick in the map. Then listen to the newsflashes. Every time that Hitler invades a country, colour in that country and add the date.

7. What important document did Hitler 'tear up' by his actions?

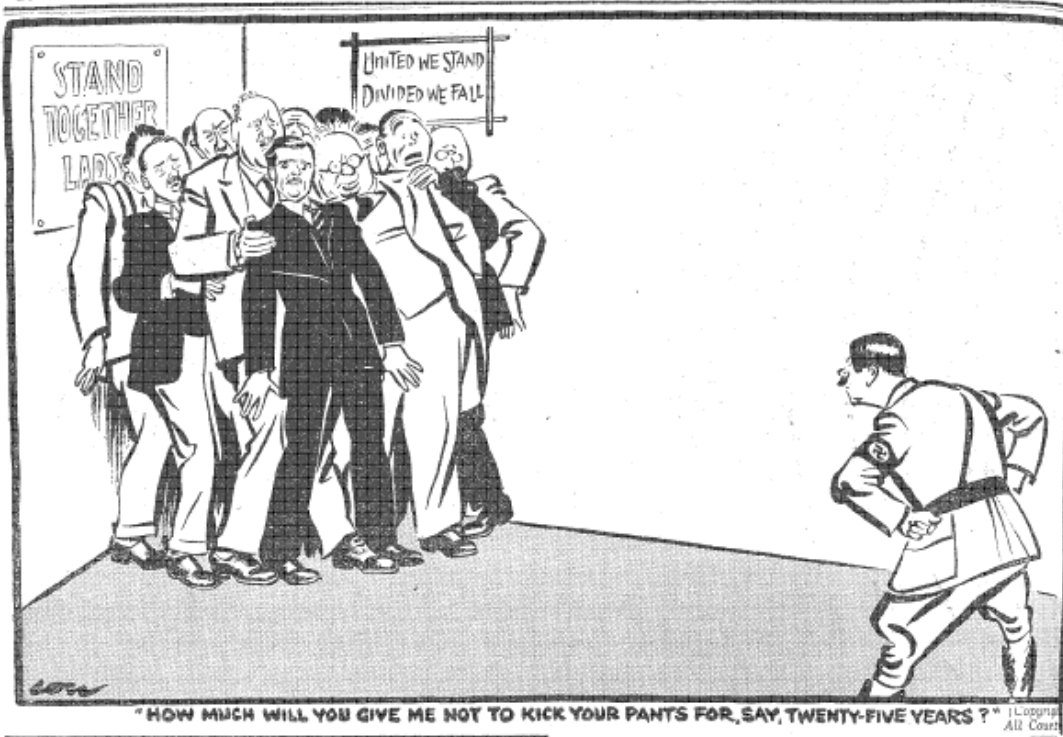
By invading several countries, Hitler effectively 'tore up'...

8. Why do you think Britain and France let him do it?

Britain and France didn't stop Hitler at first because...



Challenge Box: *The message of Sources E and F is...*



Source E
(left)



Source F
(left)

Subheading: The policy of appeasement

Sort these reasons into: 'arguments for' and 'arguments against' appeasement

1 Appeasement made Germany too strong: Appeasement allowed Germany to grow stronger as it took over other countries. From Austria it gained soldiers, gold and iron ore. From Czechoslovakia, it gained coal and weapons factories.	2 A powerful Germany could act as a buffer against Communism: Many politicians were more frightened of Communism than they were of Hitler. They were happy to let Germany get stronger so it could keep the Russian Communists away.
3 British people needed time: In 1938, the British were not ready to fight a war over Czechoslovakia, which they thought of as 'far away' - on the other side of Europe. Yet by 1939, public opinion had turned in favour of going to war to stop Hitler.	4 Appeasement encouraged Hitler to be more aggressive: The more he got away with, the more Hitler thought Britain and France would never put up a fight. His confidence grew until he pushed too far.
5 Germany deserved a fair deal: Many people felt that Germany had been treated unfairly by the Treaty of Versailles. They thought it was right that Germany should get back some of the land it lost in 1919.	6 Appeasement scared Stalin: When he saw that Britain would not go to war over Czechoslovakia, Stalin became convinced that Britain would not help the USSR if it were attacked. He therefore signed the Nazi-Soviet Pact with Hitler, agreeing to divide Poland instead of trying to resist German advances.
7 Hitler could not be trusted: After every move, Hitler said he did not want to take over countries – but he had broken his word before.	8 We must avoid another war at all costs People remembered the horror of the First World War. They were determined that there should not be another war like it:
9 Britain's army needed time to prepare: British generals advised Chamberlain that if war was inevitable, it would be better to play for time so that more planes and weapons could be built. Britain spent a massive amount on armaments in 1938 and 1939, especially on new technology like radar and Spitfire aeroplanes.	