

Quaestio: _____

Fighting on the Eastern Front

Nazi-Soviet Nonaggression Pact

- ⊙ Despite _____ opposition between fascism and communism, Hitler and Stalin signed the _____ in August of 1939, promising not to attack each other
- ⊙ Secretly, they also agreed to split _____ Europe between themselves
- ⊙ Securing peace with the _____ allowed Hitler to focus on the Western Front

The Pact is Broken

- ⊙ After Hitler's setbacks with Britain, he turned back to focusing on the East
- ⊙ June 1941- Hitler launched **Operation** _____, a blitzkrieg against the Soviet Union, whose troops were more numerous but less _____
- ⊙ Nazis pushed 500 miles into the Soviet Union, but the Soviets followed a _____ strategy, burning and destroying their own cities rather than letting the Germans take them

The Siege of Leningrad

- ⊙ Autumn 1941- Hitler put Leningrad (aka St Petersburg) under _____, meaning the city was surrounded and _____ from outside support
- ⊙ Hitler wanted to starve the 2.5 million inhabitants into a surrender, bombing food warehouses
- ⊙ About 1 million people died over the winter, but the city _____, and Hitler pushed toward Moscow

The Tide Turns at Stalingrad

- ⊙ Summer 1942- German forces move to take Stalingrad, a large _____ city on the Volga River that produced military supplies
- ⊙ Stalin was determined to defend the city named for him, and Hitler was determined to take it
- ⊙ After bombing from the air, German troops entered the city, but were held off by the Soviets in a drawn-out and deadly _____, which the Nazis called a Rattenkrieg (_____ War)
- ⊙ Winter 1942- The Soviets launched a counter-attack and surrounded the 250,000 German troops, but Hitler refused to let them _____
- ⊙ As the Russian _____ took its toll, the starving and freezing Germans surrendered, and most of the 90,000 surviving Nazi soldiers died in Soviet _____
- ⊙ The Battle of Stalingrad was considered the most significant battle of what the Russians call "The Great _____ War" marking the key turning point toward Nazi _____

Visualizing Stalingrad

As part of your homework tonight, either write a poem or create a drawing on the back of this paper that captures what you felt while reading the primary source account of the Battle of Stalingrad