

## Period 6 Reading Guide

### Reading #1: "The Most Recent Century"

Between Chapters 19 & 20

HTS: Periodization, Causation

#### Focus Questions

1. What are the challenges for historians when studying the history of the 20th century?
2. How do the major events of the 20th century (i.e. the World Wars, Russian & Chinese Revolutions, etc.) represent change & continuity in world history?

#### Key Terms

None for this reading

### Reading #2: "The First World War: European Civilization in Crisis, 1914-1918"

Chapter 20

HTS: Causation, CCOT

#### Focus Questions

1. What were the long-term and short-term causes of World War I? To what extent were the long-term causes related to the major developments of the 19th century?
2. What new technologies were used during World War I? How did these technologies change the nature of warfare?
3. To what extent was World War I a global war?
4. What were the major outcomes of World War I? Consider the war's impact on women, politics of Europe, the Middle East, etc.

#### Key Terms

Triple Alliance  
self-determination  
League of Nations

Triple Entente  
Treaty of Versailles

Archduke Franz Ferdinand  
genocide

## Reading #3: "Revolutions in Russia, Mexico, & China"

Website

HTS: Contextualization, Comparison

### Focus Questions

1. What were the causes and effects of the Russian Revolution? Did the revolution ultimately achieve its goals?
2. What were the causes and effects of the Mexican Revolution? Did the revolution ultimately achieve its goals?
3. What were the causes and effects of the Chinese Revolution? Did the revolution ultimately achieve its goals?
4. How were the revolutions in Russia, Mexico, and China caused by the experiences of these nations in 19th century? Hint: You may have to use your notes from Period 5.

### Key Terms

Vladimir Lenin  
Five-Year Plans  
Mexican Constitution (1917)  
Mao Zedong

Bolsheviks  
collectivization  
Sun Yatsen

Joseph Stalin  
Porfirio Diaz  
Chinese Civil War

**Reading #4: "Democracy Denied: Comparing Italy, Germany, and Japan"**

Chapter 20

Pages: HTS: Causation, Comparison

**Focus Questions**

1. How did fascism challenge the traditional European ideas of democracy, capitalism, and liberalism?
2. What were the causes of the rising popularity of fascism in Germany after World War I?
3. How did Japan's experience in the 1920s and 1930s compare to that of Germany? Look for similarities and differences.

**Key Terms**

Benito Mussolini  
Kristallnacht

Adolf Hitler

Nuremburg Laws

**Reading #5: "A Second World War"**

Chapter 20

HTS: Causation, Comparison

**Focus Questions**

1. What were the causes of World War II in Asia?
2. What were the causes of World War II in Europe? How were they similar to the causes of World War II in Asia? How were they different?
3. To what extent was World War II a total war?
4. What were the major outcomes of World War II? Consider the war's impact on women, world politics, etc.

**Key Terms**

Manchukuo  
blitzkrieg  
United Nations

Pearl Harbor  
total war  
World Bank/IMF

Hiroshima/Nagasaki  
Holocaust

**Reading #6: "Recovery of Europe"**

Chapter 20

HTS: Causation, Comparison

**Focus Questions**

1. How was Europe able to recover from the devastation of World War II?
2. How was the economic recovery of Japan similar to the recovery of Europe? How was it different?

**Key Terms**

Marshall Plan

European Union (EU)

NATO

**Reading #7: "Toward Freedom: Struggles for Independence"**

Chapter 22

HTS: Causation, Contextualization

**Focus Questions**

1. How was the decline of the European empires different from the decline of previous empires?
2. What were the causes for the end of colonial empires? Consider external pressure (international events) and internal weakness (challenges from within colonies).

**Key Terms**

None for this reading

**Reading #8: "Comparing Freedom Struggles"**

Chapter 22

HTS: Causation, Contextualization

**Focus Questions**

1. What events led to India gaining their independence from Great Britain?
2. What events led to South Africa gaining their independence from Great Britain?  
What events led to Africans gaining control over South Africa in 1994?
3. How do the experiences of Indian and South African independence movements support the larger context of global independence movements? See Reading #6 for context.

**Key Terms**

Indian National Congress  
Afrikaner  
African National Congress

Mohandas Gandhi  
Boer War  
Nelson Mandela

Muhammad Ali Jinnah  
apartheid