

THE WORLD WARS

(60 minutes)

EPISODE I: TRIAL BY FIRE

Slums of Vienna (0-9 mins.)

1. Discuss what Winston Churchill describes the world wars and this time period as.
2. Why would Hitler's mask not seal while he was under a gas attack during W.W.I?
3. How many people die worldwide as a result of the World Wars?
4. In Hitler's younger years, what did he want to become? Did his dream of becoming a success in this profession work out for Hitler?
5. What event is going to change his life?
6. Why was Hitler not accepted into the Austria army?
7. What does Germany give Hitler that he has always wanted?
8. Why was the German army considered the best in the world at this time?
9. Discuss what impact the German military training has on Hitler.

After viewing: What does the German military give Hitler that he has always wanted? Why do you think this is important for Hitler at this point in his life?

Hitler on the front lines (15-19 mins.)

10. What battle front is Hitler stationed along during W.W.I? How was he received by other troops?
11. Discuss the position Hitler is assigned to by the military during the war.

After viewing: Describe Hitler's encounter with the British private during the war. Why is this encounter considered one of the big "what ifs" in history?

Trial by Fire shapes other future totalitarian leaders (28-33 mins)

12. What was the secret weapon shipped to Russia, and who sent it?
13. Where does Lenin get money to start his revolution in Russia, and how much was it?
14. Who greets Lenin at the train station when he returned to Russia?
15. When and how does Lenin seize power in Russian?

16. What military position did Mussolini have during World War I?

17. What was the political position Mussolini personally maintained before the war broke out in 1914? How did that change after the war?

After viewing: Did Germany's plan to end the fighting on the eastern front work? What long-term impact does this decision have on the rest of the world?

Years of war mold Hitler (51-54mins)

18. Discuss how years of trench warfare transformed Hitler.

19. How many times did Hitler escape death during the war?

20. What starts to become routine for Hitler and his fellow soldiers in the trenches?

21. Discuss the new gas that is going wound Hitler.

After viewing: What does Hitler discover about himself during the war?

Hitler's reaction to the end of the war (100-102mins.)

22. What wounds was Hitler recovering from in the hospital?

23. Discuss Hitler's reaction to the end of W.W.I.

After viewing: Describe Hitler's new mission in life.

German Workers Party (114- 127 mins.)

24. What job is Hitler given by the government after the war?

25. Discuss the German Workers Party's political ideology.

26. While spying on the German Workers Party, what does Hitler discover?

27. What prediction does Hitler make about Germany at this time?

28. Hitler is promoted to what position within the German Workers Party?

29. What is new name of this party? What is the symbol that Hitler created for this party?

30. How does Mussolini come to power in Italy in 1922?

31. When and how does Hitler try to seize power in Germany for the first time?

32. What is Hitler charged with by the government after he attempted to seize power? What does he do while he is in prison?

33. Discuss Hitler's ideology outlined in Mein Kampf.

EPISODE II: RISING THREAT

Great Depression (0-8 mins)

34. When does the Great Depression hit?

35. How does Hitler use the depression to his advantage?

36. Who did Hitler see as the world's enemy?

37. What does Hitler promise the people?

After viewing: How does the depression change the Nazi party?

Hitler comes to power (12-16 mins)

38. Hitler is given what position within the German government?

39. Why did the government give Hitler this position?

40. In 1934, what happened during the Night of Long Knives?

After viewing: What does Hitler now need to do to expand his power?

Hitler rebuilds (22-33 mins.)

41. Why does Hitler have to rebuild Germany in complete secrecy? What are these new factories disguised as?

42. What act of aggression does Mussolini make to expand his nation's power in 1935?

43. Discuss Hitler's impression of Mussolini.

44. Why do these two individuals need each other?

45. What act of aggression does Hitler implement in 1936?

After viewing: Discuss what Hitler learned about Britain and France after he completed this act of aggression in 1936.

Japan on the Rise (33-36 mins)

46. Who does Japan invade in 1937? Who is responsible for this invasion? What position is he given in Japan?

47. What alliance does Japan join?

After viewing: What do these new allies all have in common?