#### Study Guide Chapter 26: Europe Between the Wars

For each of the statements below, write a short paragraph. Each paragraph should be 3-5 sentences long.

- a. Rewrite the statement in your own words, borrowing only key words or phrases
- b. Give at least one example (e.g., person, event) that supports the statement, providing specific detail about the example
- c. Explain how your example supports your statement.

#### **Concept:** The conflicting goals of the peace negotiators in Paris pitted diplomatic idealism against the desire to punish Germany, producing a settlement that satisfied few.

1. The Versailles settlement, particularly its provisions on the assignment of guilt and reparations for the war, hindered the German Weimar Republic's ability to establish a stable and legitimate political and economic system.

**Concept:** The ideology of fascism, with roots in the pre–World War I era, gained popularity in an environment of postwar bitterness, the rise of communism, uncertain transitions to democracy, and economic instability.

2. Fascist dictatorships used modern technology and propaganda that rejected democratic institutions, promoted charismatic leaders, and glorified war and nationalism to lure the disillusioned.

3.	Mussolini and Hitler rose to power by exploiting postwar bitterness and economic instability, using terror and manipulating the
	fledgling and unpopular democracies in their countries.

 Franco's alliance with Italian and German fascists in the Spanish Civil War — in which the Western democracies did not intervene — represented a testing ground for World War II and resulted in authoritarian rule in Spain from 1936 to the mid-1970s.

# **Concept:** The Great Depression, caused by weaknesses in international trade and monetary theories and practices, undermined Western European democracies and fomented radical political responses throughout Europe.

5. World War I debt, nationalistic tariff policies, overproduction, depreciated currencies, disrupted trade patterns, and speculation created weaknesses in economies worldwide.

6. Dependence on post–World War I American investment capital led to financial collapse when, following the 1929 stock market crash, the United States cut off capital flows to Europe.

7. Despite attempts to rethink economic theories and policies and forge political alliances, Western democracies failed to overcome the Great Depression and were weakened by extremist movements.

## **Concept:** In the interwar period, fascism, extreme nationalism, racist ideologies, and the failure of appeasement resulted in the catastrophe of World War II, presenting a grave challenge to European civilization.

8. French and British fears of another war, American isolationism, and deep distrust between Western democratic, capitalist nations, and the communist Soviet Union allowed fascist states to rearm and expand their territory.



### **Concept:** Science and technology yielded impressive material benefits but also caused immense destruction and posed challenges to objective knowledge.

9. The challenge to the certainties of the Newtonian universe in physics opened the door to uncertainty in other fields by undermining faith in objective knowledge, while also providing the knowledge necessary for the development of nuclear weapons and power.

### **Concept:** During the 20th century, the arts were defined by experimentation, self-expression, subjectivity, and the increasing influence of the United States in both elite and popular culture.

10. New movements in the visual arts, architecture, and music demolished existing aesthetic standards, explored subconscious and subjective states, and satirized Western society and its values.