

# Turning Points of World War II

## Major Events (Turning Points)

1942 → **Battle of \_\_\_\_\_ (USA vs Japan naval battle)**

- Naval battle fought mainly by \_\_\_\_\_
- Stopped Japan's military growth in Pacific

1942 → **Operation Torch (Allies invade North Africa)**

- Destroyed/neutralized \_\_\_\_\_ German/Italian troops
- Removed oilfields from Axis Powers

1943 → **Operation Husky (Allies invade Sicily)**

- Lead to \_\_\_\_\_ surrender two months later

## Major Events (Turning Points)

1944 → \_\_\_\_\_ (Normandy Invasion)

- Largest \_\_\_\_\_ invasion in history
- Victory gave Allies control of coast of France, allowing them to now push into mainland Europe

1944 → **Germany launched V2 Flying Bombs**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Missiles launched against England, France, Belgium

1944 → **Battle of the \_\_\_\_\_ (German Attack)**

- Germany's last offensive attack to divide Allied forces (unsuccessful)

# Ending of World War II

### Major Events (Ending)

**1945 → Operation Plunder (Allies cross the \_\_\_\_\_)**

- Allies began final assault on Germany
- Important barrier (physical and psychological) for both sides

**1945 → Russians Reach Berlin**

- The \_\_\_\_\_ (Russian army) assembled one of the largest concentrations of military ever seen to exact revenge on Germany
- Final step in defeating the \_\_\_\_\_ and ending World War 2

### Major Events (Ending)

**1945 → \_\_\_\_\_ Captured**

- Mussolini tried to flee to \_\_\_\_\_ to hide after Italy was being captured by Allied forces
- He was caught and shot on the spot

**1945 → Hitler held up in bunker under headquarters in Berlin**

- Hitler committed suicide by taking a \_\_\_\_\_ and shooting himself in the head
- Soon after, Germany fully surrendered, ending war in \_\_\_\_\_

### Major Events (Ending)

**May 8, 1945 → \_\_\_\_\_ Celebrated**

- Many European countries celebrate V.E. Day (Victory in Europe Day), marking the anniversary of the end of the war in Europe

**1945 → \_\_\_\_\_ declares war on Japan**

- Japan attacked Russian warships, starting the \_\_\_\_\_ War

### Major Events (Ending)

**August 6, 1945 → \_\_\_\_\_**

- U.S. dropped atomic bomb on Hiroshima
- Wanted to force a quick surrender from Japan
- \_\_\_\_\_ Japanese were killed

**August 9, 1945 → \_\_\_\_\_**

- U.S. dropped atomic bomb on Nagasaki
- Further force a quick surrender from Japan
- Wanted to keep Soviets out of Japan by displaying military power
- \_\_\_\_\_ Japanese were killed

### **Major Events (Ending)**

**August 14, 1945** → \_\_\_\_\_ **Surrender**

- After the deployment of the new, terrible weapons (atomic bombs) and Russia entering the war against them, Japan chose to surrender

**September 2, 1945** → Japan officially surrenders,  
\_\_\_\_\_

### **Major Events (Ending)**

**Let's reflect on the the turning points  
and final events that ended the Second  
World War....**