**European History Essential Questions   
World War One – Cold War**

1. **Explain how Europe was affected after WWI.** 
   1. Russian Revolution – Russian people were demanding peace, land, and bread, so Czar Nicholas was overthrown. Russia became communist and renamed the Soviet Union (USSR).
   2. Treaty of Versailles – Treaty that ended WWI and blamed Germany for the War. This led to the rise of Nazism.
   3. World Wide Depression – A period of low economic growth; Germany was most impacted.
2. **How did the Treaty of Versailles contribute to the outbreak of WWII?**
   1. The Treaty of Versailles contributed to the outbreak of WWII because it blamed Germany for WWI, Germany had to pay reparations, Germany lost its territory, Germany could not rebuild its military, the League of Nations was formed, and new countries were established.
3. **What were the causes of the holocaust, and how did it impact Europe?**
   1. Causes – Adolf Hitler blamed the Jews for a poor economy. He placed Jewish people in Ghettos around Germany and Poland (present-day). They were then transported to concentration camps and even death camps.
   2. Most of the Jewish population in Europe was wiped out after WWII.
4. **What were the causes of WWII?**

Explain 🡪

* 1. Treaty of Versailles
  2. Rise of Nazism
  3. Failure of appeasement
  4. Failure of the League of Nations

1. **Explain how the Cold War impacted the rest of the world.**

Explain 🡪

* 1. Rise of two super powers – USA and USSR
  2. Spread of Communism
  3. Spread of Democracy
  4. In 1961 Berlin Wall is built to separate East and West Berlin
  5. Iron Curtain – Splits Western Europe (Democratic) and Eastern Europe (Communist)
  6. NATO – Military alliance to stop the spread of communism, formed by the USA
  7. Warsaw Pact – Military alliance formed by the USSR
  8. Arms Race – Both countries were competing for the most nuclear weapons

1. **How did the collapse of the Soviet Union lead to the end of the Cold War and German reunification?**
   1. The Berlin Wall falls in 1989 and Germany is reunified under a democratic government in 1990. The Soviet Union collapses in 1991 due to a weak economy because of military spending. This led to the end of the Cold War.