America and the World
Chapter 11, Section 1
The Interwar Period

- The treaty that ended WWI, along with the economic depression that followed, contributed to the rise of antidemocratic governments in both Europe and Asia.
- Strong dictatorial rulers took control of the governments of Italy, USSR, Japan, and Germany.
America Turns to Neutrality

Despite Roosevelt’s emphasis on internationalism, most Americans felt that they did not want to be involved in another war in Europe.
World War II Begins

Chapter 11, Section 2
“Peace in Our Time”

- European nations tried to prevent war by giving in to Hitler’s demands.

British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain with Hitler, 1937.
From left to right: Chamberlain, Daladier, Hitler, Mussolini, and Ciano pictured before signing the Munich Agreement, which gave the Czechoslovak border areas to Germany.
In late 1937, Hitler stepped up his call for the unification of all German speaking people. He first annexed Austria and the Sudetenland.
The War Begins

- On September 3, 1939, after Germany invaded Poland, France and Britain declare war.
- By June 1940, Hitler had conquered Norway, Denmark, Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands, and France.
Britain Remains Defiant

- Disregarding the bombing of London and other major cities, Britain’s Winston Churchill stood firm against the threat of Nazi invasion.
Winston Churchill

“Even though large tracts of Europe have fallen... we shall not flag or fail... We shall defend our island, whatever the cost may be, we shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; we shall never surrender.”

- quoted in *Freedom from Fear*
A German photograph of a Heinkel III dropping its bombs during the Battle of Britain
FDR Supports England

- Despite the Neutrality Act of 1939, which proclaimed the US neutral, FDR supported the British with a destroyer-for-bases deal.
The Isolationist Debate

- In the midst of a debate about whether America should remain neutral, FDR was elected to a third term.
Edging Toward War

- Roosevelt and Congress continued to support the British through the Lend-Lease Act and the idea of a hemispheric defense zone.