Crash Course European History: Viewing Guide
Episode 38: WWII

Terms to know from this episode:
● Nazi-Soviet Non-Aggression Pact
● Blitzkrieg
● Lebensraum
● phony war
● Battle of Britain
● Operation Barbarossa
● Winston Churchill
● Battle of Stalingrad
● Franklin Delano Roosevelt
● Manhattan Project
● Hiroshima & Nagasaki

1. For context, describe briefly how either Hitler or Stalin came to power. Pack as much specificity into one sentence as you can.

2. Who were the two strange bedfellows?

3. Who declared war on Germany 2 days after the invasion of Poland?

4. Where did hundreds of thousands of British and French soldiers get trapped by invading German soldiers and have to be evacuated by the British navy and small British crafts?

5. After invading the Netherlands, Belgium and France, where was Germany’s next target?

6. Was aerial bombing effective in breaking the resolve of British civilians?

7. Beginning in June 1941, German soldiers began an invasion of ___________________________.

8. As the German army swept through Eastern Europe, what routinely happened to literate captives, to prevent them providing leadership in a future resistance?

9. In December 1941, what did Japan do?

10. “Britain and the USSR individually produced more weaponry, tanks, and other material than ____________________________ in every year of the war.”
11. Stalin wanted a European western front to draw pressure off the Axis attack on the Soviet Union, but __________________________, insisted on focusing on the southern Mediterranean and the Middle East, which was flush with __________________________.

12. The battle of __________________________ led to the death of about 2 million people and eventually resulted in a Soviet victory. It was a major turning point in the war.

13. __________________________, then president of the United States, finally insisted on the cross-Channel invasion of France in Normandy, which began in June 1944.

14. On May 7th, 1945, Germany surrendered. The next day was celebrated as “Victory Europe” Day or __________________________.

15. The codename for the secret development of the atom bomb was __________________________

16. On August 6, 1945, an atom bomb was dropped on __________________________. On August 9th, a second bomb was dropped on __________________________, and by August 15th __________________________ had surrendered.

17. What is different about the type of fighting that happened in WWII compared to the type of fighting that happened in WWI?