



## Using Computerized Concept Mapping to Teach Social Studies

**Objective:** To teach students to develop concept maps for comprehension of social studies material.

### Setting and Materials:

**Settings:** Computer lab or classroom where each student has access to a computer

### Materials:

- Inspiration software available at: <http://www.inspiration.com/Inspiration>
- Social Studies Text Book
- Paper Content Organizer

### Content Taught

Social studies content is taught. Computerized concept mapping offers students a different way than traditional note taking to interact with and learn content.

### Teaching Procedures

1. Give students the paper cognitive organizer to fill in during discussion of text.
2. Display and complete the identical cognitive organizer on a projector as discussion progresses.
3. After completing the chapter, have students convert content material from the paper-and-pencil cognitive organizer worksheet into the outline template of the Inspiration 6 software.
4. Have the students select the diagram function and convert their outline into a cognitive organizer.
5. Have students print out and view one copy of their cognitive organizer and one outline of the content material.
6. Allow students opportunities to study from the cognitive organizer and ask comprehension questions throughout discussions (e.g., Who were the two major powers at the conclusion of World War II?).

### Evaluation

Students are given teacher created content knowledge test based on the content being taught.

**Lesson Plan Based on:**

Boon, R. T., Burke, M. D., Fore, C. I. I. I., & Hagan-Burke, S. (2006). Improving student content knowledge in inclusive social studies classrooms using technology-based cognitive organizers: A systematic replication. *Learning Disabilities: A Contemporary Journal*, 4, 1-17.

**Sample and Blank Paper Organizer**

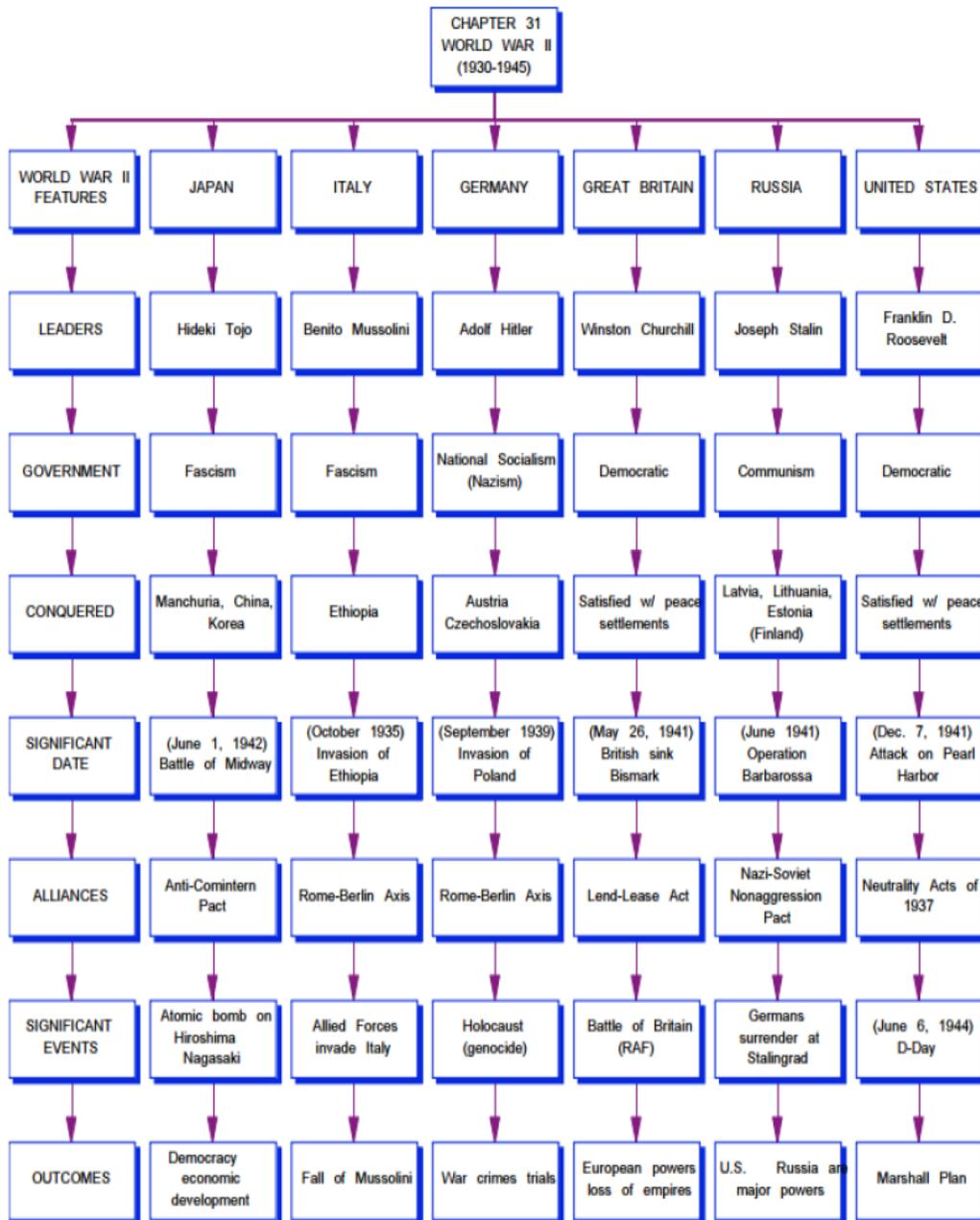
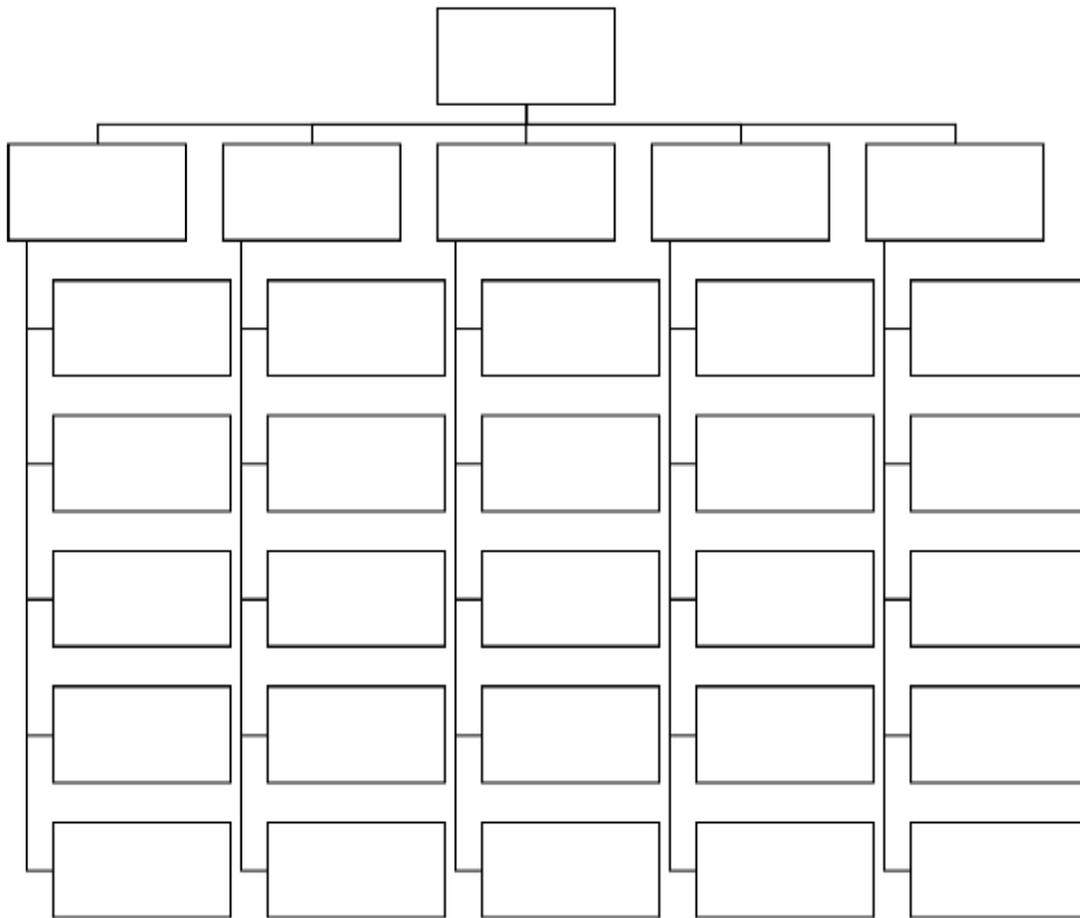


Figure from (Boon, Burke, Fore, & Hagan-Burke, 2006)



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