

Geography Concepts: World at War

Reasons We Fight: Geopolitics & Culture

Why do We Fight?

"I learned about war and conflict in school. I understand it now because I have children."

-Mrs. Hamlow

Conflict boils down to 3 issues:

Land

Resources

Ideas

“But I was there first!”: LAND!



Germany's
Geopolitical
situation
at the
End of
WWI

Barbezat, D., Cast, D., Erhardt, A., Ingrao, C.W., & White, G.W. (2014). Europe. In *World Book Advanced*. Retrieved from <http://worldbookonline.com/advanced/article?id=ar186660>

“But I need it!”: RESOURCES!



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“But He called me stupid!” : IDEAS

Cultural Geography & National Identity

NOUN

A sense of a nation as a cohesive whole, as represented by distinctive traditions, culture, and language:

(Oxford Dictionary)

What does it mean to be an American?



1930's German Culture: IDEAS!

Order- meetings start & trains run on time! Agendas are set.

Responsibility- follow through with commitments!

Achievement- goal oriented – strive for perfection

Industrious- hard work

Thrifty- save money & spend wisely

Don't admit inadequacy- not self deprecating

Love music, art, beer- have festivals to celebrate mastery of arts

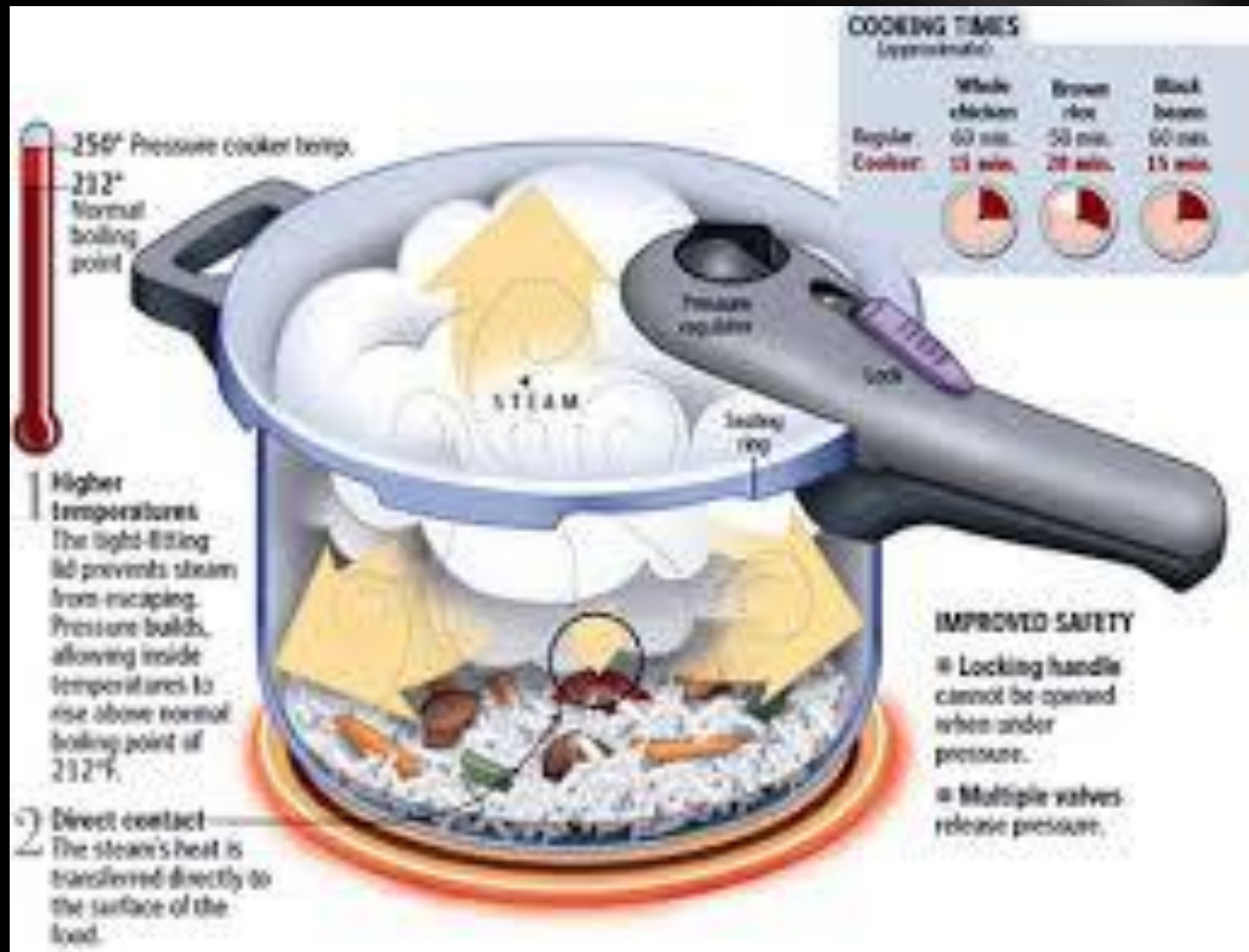
Feudal Values-Don't challenge authority- Leaders lead, followers follow.

Strong Sense of Social Responsibility- call each other out on trespasses (of peers, not leaders) everyone tows the line

People are serious- don't joke around in business or with strangers

Strong Catholic and Christian religious roots- don't work on Sundays

Take Land, Resources, Ideas and then add PRESSURE...



Nazis Create Economic Stability: RESOURCES



Nazi Restore Cultural Pride: IDEAS



Nazis restore
Resources & Ideas
To fully restore
Germany-What are
they still missing?

Desire for Racial Purity: IDEAS!

Social Darwinism

*Jews, Gypsies, Homosexuals,
Handicapped or mentally ill Germans-
anyone not "pure Aryan" was
eliminated.*



eth·no·cen·trism  [eth-noh-sen-triz-uh m]  [Show IPA](#)

noun

1. *Sociology* . the belief in the inherent superiority of one's own ethnic group or culture.
2. a tendency to view alien groups or cultures from the perspective of one's own.

Did Hitler Invent Anti-Semitism?

Information: Anti-Semitism

- Semite- term comes from Biblical story of Noah (Shem was Noah's son - his descendants were called Semites.)
- Hatred spans thousands of years
 - Not permitted citizenship in Rome
 - Black Death Middle Ages- blamed for poisoning wells (really fleas on rats)
 - Catholic Crusades killed Jews and Arabs alike- Jews killed Jesus (God) & Arabs devalued him. Still a source of tension today.
 - Russian Pogroms
 - Hindus in India rejected them
 - US- Blacks, Catholics & Jews were discriminated against

SPECIAL NOTES:

- Being Jewish signifies religion and/or ethnicity
- Secular Jew vs. Devout Jew (wide spectrum of beliefs & practices)

Jewish Cultural Values- IDEAS!

Information: Intellectual- very learned- reading, memorizing, study, dialogue

Love to ask questions. Will often answer a question with another question.

Language- Hebrew- They read “backward”

Basis for religion is the Bible-Old Testament Only (Torah) & Talmud (additional laws & traditions)

Strict dietary laws & washing customs

Clothing- often stand out, men cover heads, have long hair

Don't work Friday night to Saturday night (Sabbath)

Wisdom: But Why were the Jews so hated?

- Centuries of homelessness- their nation state was created right after WWII
- Refusal to assimilate
- Identity as “God’s chosen people”

Big Idea:

Conflicts occur because of 3 basic desires:

Land

Resources

Ideas

What conflicts have you seen in your life, your school or the news that have roots in one, two or three of these issues?

The Wave

What is Geopolitics?

The term **geopolitics** reflects the connection between power and interests, strategic decision-making, and geographic space.

- geographic space (Land)
- natural resources (Resources)
- people pursuing individual and or collective interests (Ideas)

Conflict over IDEAS!

