

**I. War between the Fascists and the Socialists, 1920—1922**

Describe life in an Italian town between 1920 and 1922.

What were “punishment expeditions”? How did they impact the political situation in Italy in the early 1920s?

Describe the methods of the Fascists. Who were the Black Shirts?



**II. Increase in Power**

How did Mussolini’s Power increase in each of the following years: 1925, 1926, 1927, 1927? Make a list!

1925

1926

1927

1928

**Discuss among group members:** Which year that was the most important stage of growth of Mussolini’s power? Circle the year above and prepare to explain your answer!

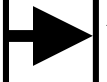


**III. Representing a Fascist State**

What did the rope and axe symbolize? (use picture on page 4)

Why would Mussolini want the fasces to appear on the Italian flag?

What is a dictator? What does it mean that a dictator is often a ‘cult figure’?



**IV. Controlling the People’s Minds**

How did Mussolini control each of the following groups/aspects of Italian society:

Youth

Adults

Religion



## **V. Mussolini controls the people**

Analyze the photographs of the Balilla boys (page 5):  
In what ways are they similar to Boy Scouts and what ways are they unlike Boy Scouts?

Why do you think Mussolini abolished Boy Scout movement in Italy and created Balilla instead?

Define all of the following terms:  
Dopolavoro

Vatican

Lateran Treaty



## **VI. Economic Battles**

What was Mussolini's major economic goal for Italy?

How did Mussolini deal with economic problems?

Describe the 4 major economic battles launched by Mussolini in the 1920s:

“Battle over the Southern Problem”

“Battle for Wheat”

“Battle for Land”

“Battle for births”

## **VII. The end of Mussolini**

Evaluate Mussolini's rule. Defend your position.

*“Judging events coldly, leaving aside all sentimentality, I have to admit that my undying friendship for Italy, and for the Duce, could be added to my list of mistakes... the Italian alliance rendered more service to the enemy than to ourselves. The greatest service Italy could have done to us was to have kept out of the conflict.”* ~ Adolf Hitler

1: What events do you think Hitler had in mind when he wrote ‘the Italian alliance rendered more service to the enemy than to ourselves’?

2: If, as Hitler suggests in the quote, Italy had kept out of World War II, what differences might this have made to Italian history? EXPLAIN.