3.3.1 Why was the Spanish Civil War significant for International Relations?

- allows Germany to test out its few military capabilities (when he is successful it increases Hitler’s confidence as well as his popularity in Germany)
- provided a cover for other acts of aggression (distraction) for Hitler’s other actions in Europe
- brings Germany and Italy closer together (important when Hitler attempts the invasion of Austria (Anschluss) in 1938 (Mussolini doesn’t stop him) (with the Rome-Berlin Axis in 1936 (Hitler now successfully separated Italy from France and Britain) (big blow for Britain and France) (makes the Stresa Front redundant) (full military alliance in 1939 Pact of Steel)
- Hitler hoped to win Spain’s support (they also want to encircle France) (this is not entirely achieved since Spain remains neutral in WWII
- the impact of the bombing of Guernica (creates debate)
  - helped to encourage policy of appeasement (giving in to aggression to avoid war at all cost)
  - others felt that this highlighted the need to use force to stand up to aggression
- 1st indirect confrontation between communism and fascism internationally (indirectly through other countries)
- Hitler is even more convinced that Britain and France won’t intervene against aggression
- Helps explain appeasement since after seeing the bombing of Guernica countries didn’t want to fight a war

3.3.2 Anti-Comintern Pact (1936/1937)
- there is also the formation of the Anti-Comintern pact (1936/1937)
- in 1936 Germany and Japan agree to work together against the Comintern (Comintern is the Soviet agency set up to spread communism worldwide)
- they would not make any pacts with USSR
- Germany would recognise Manchuko (Manchuria) as owned by Japan (against what the League said showing how Germany was going against what the members of League thought even though Germany was no longer in League)
- They agreed to not to help USSR if it attacked any one of the 2 this is important since they are already planning against USSR
- in 1937 Italy also joins
- These were the 3 countries that had left League showing how they were almost creating another small League of their own and accepting Manchukuo showed how they were going against the League
- These were the 3 countries that allied together in WW2 showing how this pact was the start of the creation of alliances
3.4.2 The Plebiscite

- he fixed the minimum age at of voting at 24 so young Nazis would not be able to vote
- Hitler was enraged when he heard about the plebiscite plan
- he feared that Schuschnigg would win the plebiscite
- on 11/12 March 1938 the German army invaded Austria (after the approval of Mussolini) (on the pretext that they were going to make sure their were no issues with the plebiscite and make sure that it was fair)
- arrests began immediately of the enemies of the Nazis
- in the city of Vienna alone 76,000 people were arrested after the invasion
- on 12 March 1938 Hitler himself went into Austria
- he went to his own home town of Linz where he was greeted by cheering crowds
- the German troops controlled the plebiscite (April 1938) (99.75% went for the Anschluss) (the plebiscite was held in Germany and in Austria)

3.4.3 effects

- no reaction from Britain and France since they thought Treaty of Versailles was too harsh and they didn’t want to go against wishes of Austrian people (99.75% vote was pro Anschluss)
- British PM Chamberlain felt that Austrians & Germans had right to be united (Anschluss)
- Hitler got the troops and resources he wanted
- got more land
- was able to unite the German speakers (Austria has the largest population of German speakers outside Germany) (one of his 4 aims) (went against the treaty of Versailles)
- was able to defy treaty of Versailles (one of his 4 aims)
- was able to see that Britain and France weren’t going to stop Hitler breaking the ToFV since didn’t want to go to war
- Czechoslovakia was surrounded on 3 fronts by Germany (for a future takeover)

3.5 Appeasement 1933-1939

- a policy aiming to prevent aggressors from starting wars by finding out what they really want and giving in to demands which seem reasonable
- a policy of trying to satisfy demands to avoid conflict in war
- in WW1 Britain and France gave into the demands of Japan Italy and Germany
- the British and French gave into Hitler’s demands until 1939 (main example Sudetenland)
had been part of Austro-Hungarian Empire
the Sudeten Germans are led by Konrad Henlein
among them there is an active Nazi party led by Konrad Henlein
they claimed that they were being badly treated
they wanted the Sudetenland to be handed over Germany
Czech President Benes refuses to hand it over because they are natural mountainous border defences and there are natural resources he also doesn’t want other minorities to claim land (is prepared to fight)
Once had this part relatively easy to take rest since SL had border defences for Czech

3.6.3 Reaction of Britain and France

Britain believes that Germany is justified in wanting to unite Germans
France has a treaty with Czechoslovakia but Daladier (French Premier) doesn’t want to go to war (appeasement) (what Czechs to make concessions)
Britain sends a representatives to Czechoslovakia (biased to Sudeten Germans)
Benes realises that he doesn’t have British/French support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early September 1938</td>
<td>tension rose Henlein (leading Sudeten German politician in Czechoslovakia) ordered local Nazis to attack Czech and Jewish refugees, negotiations between Sudeten Germans and Prague broke off. People people started to fear war.</td>
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<tr>
<td>15th September 1938</td>
<td>Chamberlain and Hitler meet at Schleswig-Holstein (agreed to give key parts of the Sudetenland to be annexed by Germany (no force/ plebiscite held) Hitler has moderated his demands (Now needs French and Czech and British government approval)</td>
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<tr>
<td>18th September 1938</td>
<td>France agrees to the plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>21st September 1938</td>
<td>Benes realises he must agree</td>
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<tr>
<td>22nd September 1938</td>
<td>2nd meeting of Hitler and Chamberlain at Bad Godesberg (Hitler now demands all of Sudetenland by 1st October (Czechs must withdraw by 1st October if not it would be taken by force and he argued) (Hitler's argument was about the mistreatment of Germans by Czechs in the Sudetenland) (Chamberlain doesn't agree and goes back to prepare for war.</td>
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<tr>
<td>26-27th September 1938</td>
<td>Horace Wilson (from Britain) sent to negotiate with Hitler (failed)</td>
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