

Appeasement: How the Appeasement of Hitler Delayed World War II

Evan Phillips

Junior Division

Individual Website

Process Paper Word Count: 414

Website Word Count: 1072

I chose my topic by first researching Kristallnacht. I then couldn't find any debate or diplomacy about it, but I still wanted my topic to be something related to World War II. After doing more research I came across Appeasement, mainly the Munich Agreement. My thesis statement is: "I believe that this is peace for our time," Neville Chamberlain said after he returned from the signing of the Munich Agreement in 1938, between Germany, Italy, France, and Great Britain. Chamberlain believed that diplomacy amongst countries would stop Hitler's desire to conquer Europe. Despite debates against appeasement, the Munich Agreement was still signed, giving Germany the Sudetenland, or the German-speaking part of Czechoslovakia. Although the Munich Agreement was believed to prevent war, Germany still ignored the pact and very quickly conquered the rest of Czechoslovakia.

I first started researching about appeasement by reading books to get some background information, before researching finer details. I found a lot of information on websites such as the Churchill Archives, and the Library of Congress. Most of my sources were websites, but I did get information from books too. It was a lot easier to find the exact information I needed through websites, rather than books, as there are features to scan an entire website for certain keywords. It was also easier as my parents were very busy, so I was not able to go to libraries or other places with books, but finding a website required no traveling.

I had originally wanted to do a documentary, but I couldn't find enough background footage to do so, so I then decided to make a website. I had created it by first getting all the information onto the website, then making it functional (navigating from page to page). After I had done all that, I then tried to make it look better and easier to read, rather than a bunch of walls of text. The hardest part about making the website was formatting all the text boxes, images, videos, and buttons to go to the next page and back. The website maker was also not working well on my school account, which made it harder to work on the website efficiently.

My topic relates to the annual theme of Debate and Diplomacy as the Munich Agreement itself was diplomacy, and there were multiple opinions on the appeasement of Hitler, one major person who apposed appeasement being Winston Churchill. Although proclaimed a success to stop WWII, in the end, Hitler ignored the entire document and had his eyes set on world domination.