STANFORD HISTORY EDUCATION GROUP

READING LIKE A HISTORIAN



Appeasement (10.8.2)

Background:

British Prime Minister Chamberlain's policy of appeasement was controversial at the time and has been debated by historians and policymakers ever since the Munich Agreement. Chamberlain met with German leader Adolph Hitler numerous times to discuss Germany's aggressive foreign policy toward her European neighbors. The Munich Pact, signed by both countries, established an understanding that Hitler would not seek to acquire any additional territory for Germany. Those who felt that Hitler and Germany should be dealt with more firmly criticized Chamberlain and the Munich Pact.

Prompt:

Was appeasement the right policy for England in 1938?

Task:

In a well thought out essay:

- Write a claim in response to the prompt.
- Support your claim by using at least four pieces of evidence from the documents, background reading, and research on why appearement was considered the better policy at the time.
- Be sure to explain how the evidence you have chosen supports your claim
- Incorporate an additional piece of evidence that argues against your claim and use your evidence to counter that opposing claim.