1. Explain who Mussolini was.

Mussolini was the founder of fascism (actually coined the phrase) and Prime Minister of fascist Italy. He was allied with Hitler during WWII.

2. List some characteristics of fascism.

Under fascism the state is considered absolute and individuals are only important with regard to how they serve the state. The state makes decisions for its citizens and requires absolute obedience to the leader. It is extremely nationalistic and promotes expansionism.

3. What was Mussolini’s next goal after establishing order and describe how he carried that goal out.

Mussolini’s goal was to expand, which he did by invading Ethiopia. The emperor of Ethiopia (Selassie) was exiled and individuals who were against the Italians were killed.

4. Describe what life was like for the indigenous people of Ethiopia after the Italians took over.

After the Italians took over the country, the emperor was exiled. An attempted assassination against the new marshal failed and approximately 30,000 younger, well-educated individuals were executed. This treatment did not pacify the country and the Italians incorporated a less harsh system of government. The Italians implemented a public works project for the first improved road system in Ethiopia. The Italians put laws into place that made it illegal for races to mix in any way. Favoritism was shown to those that did not support the exiled leader. The Ethiopians continued to resist the Italians.

5. Even though Mussolini took away civil rights and ruled absolutely for many years, he was very popular with many Italians. Explain some of the reasons why.

-improved the economic situation in Italy
-helped the Italians to be proud of their country again
-made Italy a strong power in Europe

6. Using the link below, read the sources and answer the question, “Why did the League of Nations fail with respect to Ethiopia?” Refer to at least three sources, use at least one quote, and indicate if your source is a primary source. http://www.johndclare.net/league_of_nations6b.htm

This should differ from student to student depending on documents chosen.