**Internet Research Worksheet**

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| Topic under investigation: | Second Sino-Japanese War |

1. Who was involved?

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| **Individual’s or group’s name:** | **Short description of this person or group:** |
| Hirohito | Emperor of Japan who ruled through the Second World War. |
| Japanese nationalists | Individuals who wanted Japan to become a global empire. |
| Japanese military leaders | Powerful figures during the late 1920s and early 1930s who gained control over the government and advocated for imperial expansion. |
| League of Nations | International organization that tried to intervene in Japan's aggression against China. |
| Lytton Commission | Commission sent by the League of Nations to investigate the Mukden Incident. |
| Hitler's Germany | Ally of Japan after signing the 'Anti-Comintern Pact' in 1936. |
| Mussolini's Italy | Joined the 'Anti-Comintern Pact' in 1937, aligning with Japan and Germany. |

1. What were the main events and when did they occur?

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| **Date:** | **Title of event:** | **Short description of this event:** |
| 1894–95 | First Sino-Japanese War | Japan invaded Korea and took control of Taiwan. |
| 1904 | Russo-Japanese War | Japan defeated Russia and took control of parts of Manchuria. |
| 1926 | Ascension of Hirohito | Hirohito became the emperor of Japan. |
| 1931 | Mukden Incident | Explosion at a Japanese-owned railway in southern Manchuria leading to Japan's invasion of Manchuria. |
| Early 1932 | Occupation of Manchuria | Japan established the puppet state of Manchukuo. |
| November 1936 | 'Anti-Comintern Pact' | Japan signed an alliance with Hitler's Germany. |
| July 1937 | Start of Second Sino-Japanese War | Japan launched a full-scale invasion against China. |
| December 1937 to January 1938 | Nanjing Massacre | Japanese soldiers killed between 200,000 to 300,000 Chinese civilians. |
| December 1941 | Attack on Pearl Harbor | Japan's multi-pronged attack across the Pacific, targeting the US naval base at Pearl Harbor. |

1. Where were the important locations?

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| **Name of city, country or location:** | **Short description of this location:** |
| Korea | Invaded by Japan during the First Sino-Japanese War. |
| Taiwan | Taken control by Japan after the First Sino-Japanese War. |
| Manchuria | Region where Japan took control after the Russo-Japanese War and later fully invaded following the Mukden Incident. |
| Shanghai | Bombed and occupied by Japanese forces in 1932. |
| Nanjing (Nanking) | Chinese city where the horrific massacre by Japanese soldiers took place in 1937-38. |
| Pearl Harbor | US naval base in Hawaii attacked by Japan in December 1941. |

1. What new words or phrases do you need to understand?

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| **Word or phrase:** | **Short description of this word or phrase:** |
| Meiji Restoration | Period in the late 19th century when Japan rapidly modernized. |
| 'Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere' | Empire of Japan's proposal for Asian countries to work together against Western nations, but in reality, it was a cover for Japan's imperial ambitions. |
| Manchukuo | Puppet state established by Japan in Manchuria. |
| 'Anti-Comintern Pact' | Agreement between Japan, Germany, and later Italy against the Communist International. |
| Second Sino-Japanese War | Full-scale war launched by Japan against China in 1937. |
| Nanjing Massacre | Brutal killing of Chinese civilians by Japanese soldiers in Nanjing. |

**Paragraph Writing**

Based upon what you learnt in your research, answer the following question in paragraph format (Topic Sentence, Explanation, Evidence, Concluding Sentence):

*Why did Japan seek to create the Greater East Asian Co-Prosperity Sphere?*