**Fall of Singapore Reading Questions**

Read the article below and answer the questions that follow:

[The Fall of Singapore in WWII - History Skills](https://www.historyskills.com/classroom/modern-history/mod-fall-of-singapore-reading/)

1. What significance did the fall of Singapore in 1942 hold in World War II?
2. How long had Britain been at war with Nazi Germany by 1941?
3. Why did Winston Churchill believe overseas territories were vulnerable?
4. Why was Singapore considered a vital economic resource for England's war effort?
5. What was the main objective of the Singapore Strategy?
6. What natural disadvantage did Singapore have in terms of defense?
7. Which two British battleships were destroyed by Japanese air raids in December 1941?
8. On what date did the Japanese begin their invasion of Malaya?
9. Who was the commander of the Japanese forces during the invasion of Malaya?
10. How were the invading Japanese forces split during the invasion?
11. By early January 1942, which location near Singapore had the Japanese reached?
12. On what date did Japanese troops begin landing on Singapore Island?
13. Who was the British commander in Singapore who surrendered to the Japanese?
14. How many British, Australian, and Indian troops were estimated to have been captured by the Japanese?
15. Where were many of the captured prisoners put to work, where they faced brutal conditions?
16. How many prisoners are estimated to have died during the construction of the Burma-Siam Railway?
17. What was the impact of the fall of Singapore on British prestige?
18. Which countries did the Japanese capture in the months following the fall of Singapore?
19. How long did the Japanese occupation of Singapore last?

**Paragraph Writing**

Based upon what you have learnt in the reading, answer the question below in paragraph format (Topic Sentence, Explanation, Evidence, Concluding Sentence):

*Why was the fall of Singapore a* [*significant*](https://www.historyskills.com/historical-knowledge/significance/) *event in WWII?*