

Grade 10: History

Course: Modern European History Honors

Modern European History

“Beneath a Scarlet Sky” by Mark Sullivan

Before reading: Read a summary of World War II that covers the relationship between Germany and Italy at the beginning of the war, and after the Italians surrender in September 1943, about eight months prior to the collapse of Nazi Germany.

Consider the following questions prior to engaging the book, and independently prepare 3-4 sentence answers for each prior to the first full day of class in September:

1. Character Analysis: How does Pino Lella evolve throughout the story? What are the key events that shape his character?
2. Historical Context: How does the historical setting of World War II Italy influence the events and characters in the story?
3. Moral Dilemmas: What moral dilemmas does Pino face, and how does he resolve them? Do you agree with his decisions?
4. Courage and Heroism: In what ways does the novel explore the concepts of courage and heroism? Provide examples from the text.
5. Personal Reflection: How did the story affect you personally? Did it change your perspective on any historical events or human experiences?
6. Author's Purpose: What do you think Mark Sullivan's purpose was in writing this novel? How effectively does he achieve it?