Name

_____

Date _____

You have three maps, one for each of the Axis Powers' invasions in the lead up to World War II. Why and when did the Axis powers attack these nations or regions? On each map, draw an arrow from the invasion, mark the year of the attack, and list below the reasons for each invasion.

Africa map: arrow from Italian Somaliland to Abyssinia, 1935. Italy invaded Abyssinia (a.k.a. Ethiopia) because Mussolini wanted to (a) gain access to Abyssinia's natural resources, (b) get restore Italian prestige after Italy's failed attempt to invade in 1896 and (c) unite his people behind a common cause.

Europe map: arrow from Germany to western Poland, 1939. Germany invaded Poland because Hitler wanted more land for the German people, and land between the different parts of Germany and occupied by those the Germans considered inferior was an obvious candidate. Some of Poland had also been a part of the Prussian empire, which preceded Germany, in the past, serving as an additional pretext.

Asia map: arrow either from Japan to Manchuria in 1931, or to the rest of China in 1937. Japan invaded the Chinese province of Manchuria in 1931, and the rest of China in 1937, because it sought access to the region's natural resources and land in which its growing population could expand (You can accept either invasion for this question.)