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Although it looks peaceful in this image, which is online via the Library of Congress, the Borodino battlefield was a vicious place for everyone involved in the September 7, 1812 battle. About one hundred years later, Sergei Mikhailovich Prokudin-Gorskii took this picture (circa 1911). Borodino was the gateway to Napoleon's goal of capturing Moscow. Many, many men died as a direct result of that unrealized objective.

Outside of England, British men and ships were fighting against <u>Napoleon</u> and his forces.

<u>Horatio Nelson</u> destroyed the French fleet near Alexandria, Egypt in <u>August of 1798</u>. Known as the "<u>Battle of the Nile</u>," during which the French ship *L'Orient* famously <u>exploded</u>, <u>Nelson</u> (among other things) denied Napoleon his dream of conquering India.

Then, on the 21st of October, 1805, Nelson's brilliant naval-battle tactics <u>defeated</u> a combined French and Spanish <u>fleet</u> at <u>Cape Trafalgar</u>. (Follow the "defeated" link for an animated battle recreation.) Mortally wounded from a <u>musket shot</u>, <u>Nelson died</u> aboard <u>his ship</u>,the <u>HMS Victory</u>.

Despite such setbacks, however, Napoleon's kingdom grew.

In an effort to conquer Britain (an objective which continued to elude him), Napoleon concluded a <u>treaty with</u> <u>Russia</u> even as his marriage to Josephine (reportedly his one true love) ended and his own reputation began to suffer.

Attempts at <u>peace</u> were <u>short-lived</u>. The treaty with Russia was soon tossed-aside.

<u>Well before</u> 1812, when he <u>invaded</u> the Russian Empire with his <u>Grande Armée</u> of 600,000 men, Napoleon was himself a <u>bonafide Emperor</u>. (Approximately 270,000 of those Russia-invading troops were French; the rest were from allied countries or subject powers.)

Napoleon was sure many more victories were in his future, including in the land of the Tsars.

Russia, however, employed a scorched-earth policy, usually with bloody (but indecisive) results. No matter the lives lost, on both sides, Napoleon pushed-on while the Tsar pushed-back.

Then ... following the horrific Battle of Borodino, Napoleon and his men <u>captured</u> (and <u>largely burned</u>) Moscow (on <u>14 September 1812</u>).

Still ... Tsar <u>Alexander I</u> and his forces refused to give up.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/NAPOLEONIC-WARS-Vanity-Fair

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/NAPOLEONIC-WARS-Vanity-Fair



NAPOLEONIC WARS





Napoleon - A Portrait of France's Emperor

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons. PD View this asset at:

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Horatio Nelson - Wounded at the Battle of the Nile

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Painting owned by the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London. Image online, courtesy

Map of Europe 1798: Egyptian Campaign

Map image from the <u>U.S. Military Academy's Map Collection</u>. Online, courtesy USMA. PD

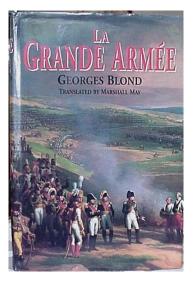
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Battle of the Nile Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons. PD View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Battle-of-the-Nile</u>

Explosion of France's L'Orient - Battle of the Nile Image online, courtesy the <u>tate.org</u> website. PD View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Explosion-of-France-s-L-Orient-Battle-of-the-Nile











Map of Europe in 1806

Map image from the <u>U.S. Military Academy's Map Collection</u>. Online, courtesy USMA. View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Map-of-Europe-in-1806</u>

<u>Napoleon's Treaties: Map of Europe in 1807</u> Map image from the <u>U.S. Military Academy's Map Collection</u>. Online, courtesy USMA. View this asset at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Napoleon-s-Treaties-Map-of-Europe-in-1807

La Grande Armee- Georges Blond

Image online, courtesy <u>amazon.com</u> website. View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/La-Grande-Armee-Georges-Blond</u>

Defending the Great Empire: Map of Europe in 1808

Map image from the <u>U.S. Military Academy's Map Collection</u>. Online, courtesy USMA. View this asset at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Defending-the-Great-Empire-Map-of-Europe-in-1808

<u>Map of Europe in 1809</u> Map image from the <u>U.S. Military Academy's Map Collection</u>. Online, courtesy USMA.

View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Map-of-Europe-in-1809

<u>Map of Europe in 1812</u> Map image from the <u>U.S. Military Academy's Map Collection</u>. Online, courtesy USMA. View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Map-of-Europe-in-1812</u>











<u>France's Territory: Monarchy v Empire</u> Map image, described above, online courtesy U.S. Military Academy. View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/France-s-Territory-Monarchy-v-Empire</u>

Napoleon Bonaparte Nearing Moscow

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons. PD View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Napoleon-Bonaparte-Nearing-Moscow

Painting: France Destroying Moscow by Fire

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons. PD View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Painting-France-Destroying-Moscow-by-Fire</u>

Napoleon at the Kremlin - The Invasion of Moscow Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons. PD View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Napoleon-at-the-Kremlin-The-Invasion-of-Moscow

Admiral Horatio Nelson - Death Aboard HMS Victory Clip from <u>The Battle of Trafalgar</u>. View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Admiral-Horatio-Nelson-Death-Aboard-HMS-Victory



Grande Armee - Napoleonic Conquests

This video clip, from <u>the Discovery Channel</u> series on <u>Conquerors: Napoleon Bonaparte /</u> <u>Alexander the Great</u>, is directed by Nigel Maslin and Robert Marshall. It is narrated by Larry Lewman. Copyright, Discovery Communications, all rights reserved. Clip provided here as fair use for educational purposes and to acquaint new viewers with the program. View this asset at:

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