

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Arsenal of Democracy: 8th Grade US in WWII Strategy Quiz

Evaluate the logistics of the Manhattan Project and the strategic shift from isolationism to global intervention for your next classroom unit assessment.

1. Which specific economic policy shifted the United States from strict neutrality to becoming the 'Arsenal of Democracy' by providing military aid to Britain and China?

Answer: B) The Lend-Lease Act

The Lend-Lease Act allowed the U.S. to supply war materials to Allied nations without immediate payment, effectively ending technical neutrality before the Pearl Harbor attack.

2. The secret American research program tasked with developing the first nuclear weapons was known as the _____.

Answer: C) Manhattan Project

The Manhattan Project was the massive, clandestine scientific and military effort that resulted in the atomic bombs used on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

3. True or False: Executive Order 9066, which led to the internment of Japanese Americans, was justified by the Supreme Court in the case Korematsu v. United States.

Answer: A) True

In 1944, the Supreme Court ruled that the detention of Japanese Americans was a 'military necessity' and therefore constitutional during wartime.

4. The 'Double V' campaign was a movement during WWII that advocated for:

Answer: B) Victory over fascism abroad and Victory over racism at home

Launched by the Pittsburgh Courier, this campaign emphasized the struggle of African Americans fighting for democracy abroad while facing Jim Crow laws at home.

5. The _____ was a pivotal 1942 naval battle where US cryptanalysts broke Japanese codes, allowing the Navy to sink four enemy carriers.

Answer: A) Battle of Midway

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Midway is considered the turning point in the Pacific theater because it severely crippled the Imperial Japanese Navy's offensive capabilities.

6. True or False: The United States joined the League of Nations immediately after WWII to ensure future global peace.

Answer: B) False

The U.S. never joined the League of Nations; instead, it became a founding member of the United Nations in 1945.

7. How did the Navajo Code Talkers contribute uniquely to the American war effort in the Pacific?

Answer: B) They used their native language to create an unbreakable oral code

The Navajo language's complexity and lack of a written form made it impossible for Japanese cryptographers to decipher, ensuring secure military communications.

8. During the war, the US government used _____ to control the distribution of scarce goods like gasoline, rubber, and canned meat.

Answer: B) Rationing

Rationing ensured that essential resources were prioritized for military use while maintaining a fair distribution among civilians at home.

9. True or False: The Zoot Suit Riots in Los Angeles were a series of conflicts between sailors and Mexican-American youths, highlighting wartime racial tensions.

Answer: A) True

The 1943 riots were sparked by white servicemen who viewed the flamboyant 'zoot suits' as unpatriotic wastes of fabric during wartime rationing.

10. Which conference featured the 'Big Three' leaders—Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin—discussing the post-war reorganization of Europe and the division of Germany?

Answer: B) The Yalta Conference

The Yalta Conference in February 1945 was critical for planning the end of the war and setting the stage for the Cold War through agreements on Soviet influence in Eastern Europe.