

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Arsenal of Democracy versus The Pacific Front: A 5th Grade History Challenge

Evaluate the strategic balance between domestic production and frontline combat through this comprehensive unit review or summative assessment.

1. Which specific labor group, often overlooked at the time, was the primary focus of the Executive Order 8802, which banned discrimination in the defense industry?

Answer: B) African Americans

Pushed by leader A. Philip Randolph, this order was a major step toward civil rights by ensuring African Americans could work in high-paying war industry jobs.

2. The 'Code Talkers' used during the Pacific Campaign primarily utilized the Navajo language because it was unwritten and complex to outsiders.

Answer: A) True

The Navajo language had no written alphabet and was so difficult to learn that it provided an unbreakable code for U.S. Marines to communicate safely.

3. General Douglas MacArthur utilized a strategy called _____ to bypass heavily defended islands and move closer to mainland Japan.

Answer: B) Island Hopping

Island hopping allowed U.S. forces to save lives and resources by only attacking strategically important islands while 'skipping' others.

4. What was the primary purpose of the 'Victory Gardens' planted by millions of families across the United States?

Answer: C) To reduce the pressure on the national food supply

By growing their own produce, civilians ensured that farm-grown crops could be sent to soldiers fighting overseas.

5. The Tuskegee Airmen were the first African American military aviators in the United States Armed Forces.

Answer: A) True

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

The success of the Tuskegee Airmen proved that African Americans were highly skilled pilots and eventually led to the desegregation of the military.

6. The top-secret program led by J. Robert Oppenheimer to develop the atomic bomb was known as the _____.

Answer: B) Manhattan Project

The Manhattan Project was a massive research and development undertaking that produced the first nuclear weapons.

7. Under Executive Order 9066, which group was forced into internment camps, despite many of them being U.S. citizens?

Answer: B) Japanese Americans

Prompted by fear and prejudice after Pearl Harbor, the U.S. government forcibly relocated over 120,000 Japanese Americans to remote camps.

8. The United States used 'Blackout' drills along its coasts to make it harder for enemy submarines to see the silhouettes of ships.

Answer: A) True

Cities practiced turning off all lights at night so that German U-boats could not use city glows to target American merchant vessels.

9. The 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the most decorated unit in U.S. history for its size, was composed of _____ soldiers.

Answer: A) Nisei (Japanese-American)

While many of their families were in internment camps, these Nisei soldiers fought heroically in Europe, demonstrating extreme courage and patriotism.

10. At the Potsdam Conference in 1945, what was the primary focus of the leaders regarding the future of Japan?

Answer: C) Demanding an immediate and unconditional surrender

The Potsdam Declaration warned Japan that the alternative to surrender was 'prompt and utter destruction.'