

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Could You Direct the Home Front? 7th Grade WWII Mobilization Quiz

Evaluate the social and economic shifts of the 1940s, from Executive Order 8802 to the secret innovations of the Manhattan Project as a summative assessment.

1. How did the 442nd Regimental Combat Team challenge domestic prejudices during World War II?

Answer: B) They became the most decorated unit despite many members' families being in internment camps.

The 442nd was composed of Nisei (second-generation Japanese Americans) who fought heroically in Europe while their families were often unjustly held in U.S. relocation centers.

2. To prevent defense industry strikes and address discrimination, A. Philip Randolph pressured the government to create the _____.

Answer: C) Fair Employment Practice Committee

Executive Order 8802 established the FEPC to prohibit racial discrimination in the national defense industry, a major step for civil rights during the war.

3. The 'Bracero Program' was an agreement between the U.S. and Mexico to bring Mexican laborers north to solve wartime agricultural labor shortages.

Answer: A) True

With millions of American men serving overseas, the Bracero Program was essential to maintaining the nation's food supply and agricultural economy.

4. What was the strategic purpose of the 'Island Hopping' campaign in the Pacific?

Answer: B) To capture only key islands to set up airbases for a direct move toward Japan.

General Douglas MacArthur and Admiral Chester Nimitz used this strategy to bypass heavily fortified Japanese positions and strike where the enemy was weak.

5. The secret U.S. research program to develop the world's first nuclear weapons was known as the _____.

Answer: B) Manhattan Project

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The Manhattan Project was a massive scientific and industrial undertaking primarily located in Los Alamos, Oak Ridge, and Hanford.

6. The 'Zoot Suit Riots' in Los Angeles during 1943 were primarily caused by disputes over the rationing of fabric and racial tensions.

Answer: A) True

The riots reflected the social friction between white sailors and Mexican-American youths, often sparked by the perception that the voluminous Zoot Suits were 'unpatriotic' due to wool rationing.

7. During the war, the U.S. government used 'Victory Gardens' to accomplish which of the following?

Answer: C) Reduce the pressure on the public food supply and support the war effort.

By growing their own vegetables, civilians ensured that more commercially processed food could be sent to soldiers on the front lines.

8. Native American Marines who used their traditional language to transmit secret messages that the Japanese could not decode were called _____.

Answer: C) Code Talkers

Navajo Code Talkers used a code based on their unwritten language which remained unbroken throughout the entirety of the war in the Pacific.

9. The GI Bill, passed in 1944, was designed to provide veterans with funds for education, housing, and unemployment insurance.

Answer: A) True

The Servicemen's Readjustment Act (GI Bill) was crucial in helping veterans transition back to civilian life and helped build the American middle class.

10. What was the significance of the 1944 Korematsu v. United States Supreme Court decision?

Answer: B) It upheld the government's right to restrict civil liberties during 'military necessity'.

The Court ruled 6-3 that the need to protect against espionage outweighed Fred Korematsu's individual rights, a decision that was much later condemned by historians and the government.