

Name: _____ Date: _____

Arsenal of Democracy: A College-Level WWII Synthesis Quiz

Evaluate the geopolitical shifts, complex legislative maneuvers, and multi-ethnic social dynamics that redefined the American state during the 1940s.

1. Which of the following best analyzes the significance of the 1941 Atlantic Charter in the context of American grand strategy prior to formal belligerency?

- A. It established a bilateral trade agreement that effectively bypassed the Neutrality Act of 1937.
- B. It articulated a vision of post-war self-determination and collective security, aligning US interests with British war aims.
- C. It served as the formal military alliance treaty for the invasion of North Africa.
- D. It was primarily a domestic propaganda tool to reduce the influence of the America First Committee.

2. The _____, established by Executive Order 8802, represented a watershed moment in federal intervention against racial discrimination in the defense industries.

- A. Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC)
- B. Office of War Information (OWI)
- C. National War Labor Board (NWLB)
- D. War Production Board (WPB)

3. The Supreme Court's ruling in *Korematsu v. United States* (1944) held that the compulsory exclusion of Japanese Americans was unconstitutional but permitted under 'emergency' military necessity.

- A. True
- B. False

4. How did the 1944 Bretton Woods Conference fundamentally reconfigure the global economic hierarchy?

- A. By returning all Allied nations to a strict, decentralized gold standard.
- B. By creating a customs union that eliminated all tariffs between the US and the USSR.
- C. By establishing the IMF and World Bank, pegging global currencies to the US dollar.
- D. By mandating the immediate decolonization of British and French territories to ensure free trade.

5. In the 'Double V' campaign, African American activists advocated for victory over fascism abroad and victory over _____ at home.

- A. Isolationism
- B. Communism
- C. Jim Crow/Racism
- D. Economic Depression

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6. The 'Bracero Program' was a bilateral agreement between the US and Mexico to address labor shortages in the agricultural sector during the war years.

- A. True
- B. False

7. Which operation, characterized by complex deception via 'Operation Fortitude,' was essential for the success of the Normandy landings?

- A. Operation Torch
- B. Operation Bodyguard
- C. Operation Husky
- D. Operation Market Garden

8. The _____, passed by Congress in 1944, aimed to prevent a post-war depression by providing veterans with education subsidies and low-interest mortgage loans.

- A. Selective Service Act
- B. Servicemen's Readjustment Act
- C. Taft-Hartley Act
- D. Wagner Act

9. Synthesize the impact of the 'Zoot Suit Riots' in Los Angeles (1943). What does this event reveal about the home front?

- A. The seamless integration of minority youth into the war effort.
- B. The successful application of the Good Neighbor Policy within domestic borders.
- C. Tensions between wartime 'patriotism' codes and the cultural identity of Mexican-American youth.
- D. The effectiveness of the Office of Price Administration in regulating clothing materials.

10. The Manhattan Project's Trinity Test in New Mexico was the first time a plutonium-based implosion device was successfully detonated.

- A. True
- B. False