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# World War II

## STUDY GUIDE

**THE Essential World War II Review**

1939-1945

**Words To Know**

Word	Definition	Significance	Context
Axis	Germany, Italy, Japan	Aggressors	Axis
Allies	United States, Great Britain, Soviet Union, China	Defenders	Allies
Neutrality	Not taking sides	Isolationism	Neutrality
Isolationism	Not taking sides	Isolationism	Isolationism
Neutrality	Not taking sides	Isolationism	Neutrality

**Key Events**

Year	Event	Significance
1939	Germany invades Poland	Starts World War II in Europe
1940	Germany invades France	Germany conquers France
1941	Germany invades the Soviet Union	Germany invades the Soviet Union
1941	Japan attacks Pearl Harbor	Japan attacks Pearl Harbor
1942	United States enters the war	United States enters the war
1943	Stalingrad	Turning point in the Soviet Union
1944	D-Day	Allies invade Normandy
1945	Germany surrenders	Germany surrenders
1945	Japan surrenders	Japan surrenders

**WWII & Main Causes**

- Rise of Hitler in Germany, Mussolini in Italy, and Stalin in the Soviet Union
- Aggression by Japan
- German aggression in Europe, Italy, and Japan
- Japanese aggression in China
- American isolationism

**Should the United States enter the war?**

Pro-Entry Viewpoint	Anti-Entry Viewpoint
1. The U.S. should enter the war to help the Allies.	1. The U.S. should stay out of the war.
2. The U.S. should enter the war to protect its interests in the Pacific.	2. The U.S. should stay out of the war.
3. The U.S. should enter the war to protect its interests in the Atlantic.	3. The U.S. should stay out of the war.

**Japan's Attack on Pearl Harbor draws the U.S. into war**



**War in the Pacific**



- **1941** - Japan attacks Pearl Harbor
- **1942** - Battle of Midway
- **1943** - Battle of Guadalcanal
- **1944** - Battle of Iwo Jima
- **1945** - Battle of Okinawa
- **1945** - Atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki
- **1945** - Japan surrenders

Review Outline  
Everything you MUST Know!!!



# THE Essential World War II Review

## Words To Know

Fascism	Totalitarianism	Appeasement	Isolationism
Dictator	Concentration Camps	Anti-Semitic	Genocide
Embargo	Economic Sanctions	Rationing	Internment
Atomic Weapons	Conventional Weapons	Patriotism	

Date	Aggressive Action	World Reactions
1931	 Japan invades Manchuria	League of Nations condemns action & Japan withdraws from the League
1935	 Italy invades Ethiopia	League of Nations endorses sanctions against Italy but does not enforce them
1936	 Germany Sends troops into the Rhineland	League of Nations condemns the action as a violation of the Treaty of Versailles, but takes no action
1936	 Germany & Italy support fascists in the Spanish Civil War	France, Great Britain & the U.S. refuse to get involved. League of Nations remains neutral
1937	 Japan invades China	Japan is criticized for breaking a peace treaty but, no action is taken to stop them
1938	 Germany annexes Austria	World powers take no action to stop the violation of the Treaty of Versailles
1938	 Germany demands Sudetenland	Munich Pact is signed and Germany is given Czech lands (appeasement)
1938	 Germany invades Poland	Great Britain & France declare war on Germany
1941	 Japan bombs Pearl Harbor	U.S. declares war on Japan

## WW II Main Causes

- **Rise of dictators in Europe (Hitler, Mussolini, & Stalin)** due to World War I Treaty of Versailles & economic depression. Rise of totalitarianism
- **Aggressive Actions**
  - German expansion into Austria, Czechoslovakia &, finally, Poland (1939)
  - Japan starts expansion into Manchuria & China (1930s)

## America pre-War

- **Isolationism**: The US wanted to remain neutral at the start of World War II.
- **1938 - Munich Conference**: leaders of Britain, France, and Italy meet & give in to Hitler's demands for the Sudetenland (Czechoslovakia). = Appeasement
- 1939 - Neutrality Act 1939 (cash & carry)
- 1940 - Lend-Lease Act favors Allies
- **1941 - The Atlantic Charter**: set goals for the post-war world & inspired many of the international agreements that shaped the world after.

### Should the United States enter the war?

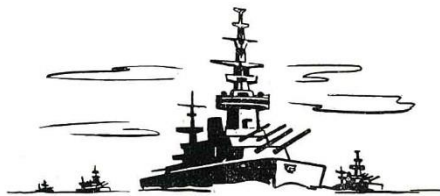
#### Isolationist Viewpoint

- ✓ The U.S. should avoid alliances with other nations
- ✓ The U.S. should focus on issues at home such as the economic depression
- ✓ Complete neutrality was the way to keep the U.S. safe
- ✓ Intervention in a World War would be a mistake just like World War I

#### Interventionist Viewpoint

- ✓ The U.S. should work with other nations to ensure collective security
- ✓ Axis aggressions were wrong and threatened American interests
- ✓ The U.S. should aid its allies who are fighting for Democracy and freedom
- ✓ The U.S. should prepare for war and put pressure on the Axis powers

## Japan's attack of Pearl Harbor draws the U.S into war



## Allies & Axis Powers

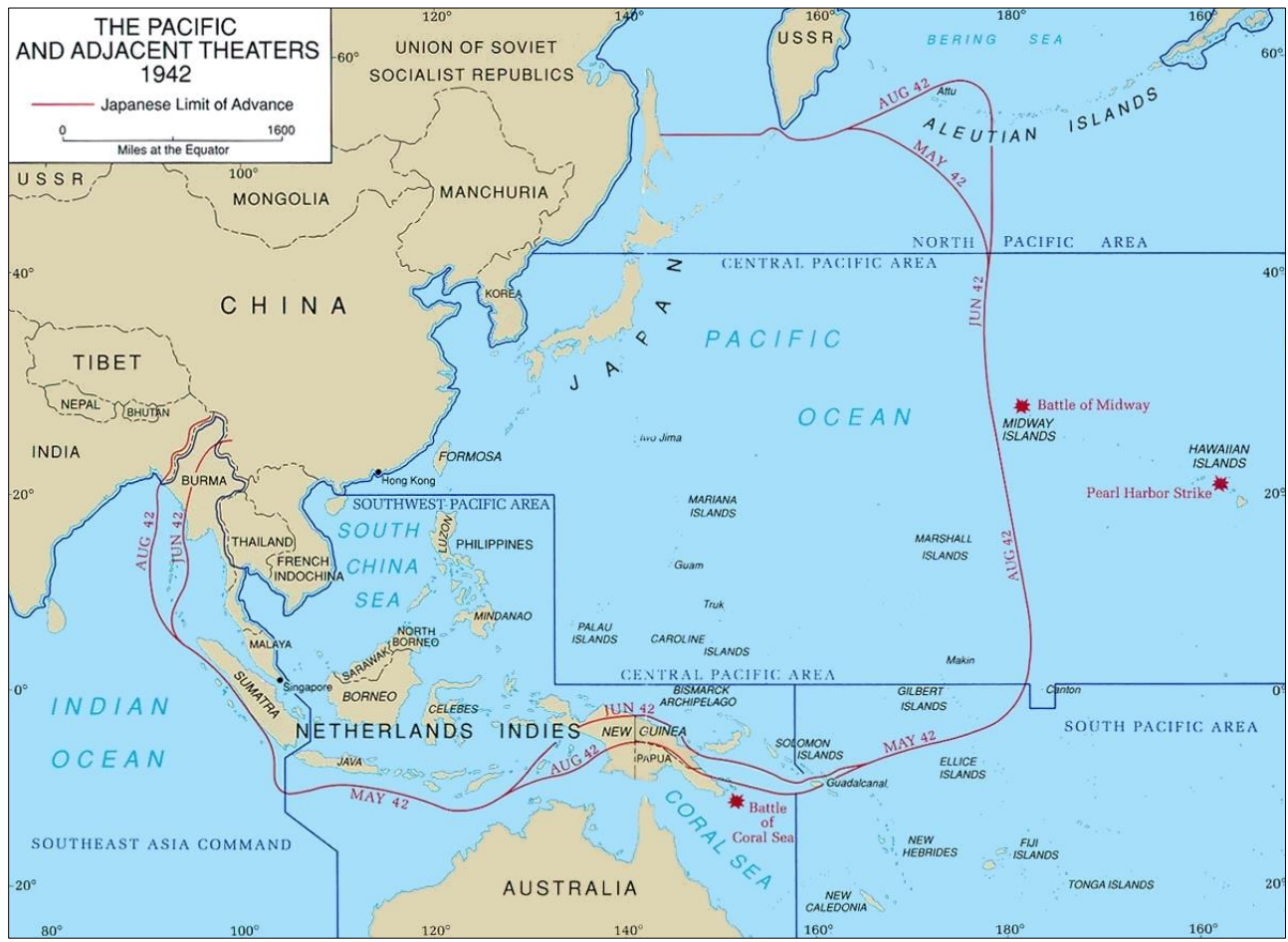
<u>ALLIES</u>	<u>AXIS</u>
Great Britain :: Winston Churchill, Prime Minister	Germany :: Adolf Hitler, Nazi Dictator
France :: Charles de Gaulle, Leader of France not under German control	Japan :: Hideki Tojo, Army General Hirohito, Emperor
Soviet Union :: Joseph Stalin, Communist Dictator	Italy :: Benito Mussolini, fascist dictator
United States :: Franklin D. Roosevelt, President	

## America @ War

- 12/7/1941 Japan attacks Pearl Harbor, Hawaii- brings the US fully into the War.
  - “a date which will live in infamy” (President Franklin D. Roosevelt)
    - **result of economic/trade restrictions limiting Japan’s expansion efforts**
- Weapons: Machine guns, Airplanes/air combat, Submarines, Mines (sea and land), **Radar**, Tanks, Gas
- *Selective Service & Training Act (FIRST PEACETIME DRAFT)*
- “Double V” Campaign- A campaign to defeat Hitler’s racism in Europe & racism in the US; was meant to address the inequality faced by African-Americans YET SERVED THEIR COUNTRY.
- High levels of voluntary military enlistment – numbers rose dramatically after the US entered the war
- **Tuskegee Airmen -group of African-American military pilots**
- Fighting the war on multiple fronts – the US was at war with Japan & Germany/Italy; the war in Europe was mainly fought on land, & the war in the Pacific was fought both at sea & on land
- The Manhattan Project- secret US project to build an atomic bomb.



# War in the Pacific



- Chester W. Nimitz – commander of the U.S. Navy & Allied land & sea forces in the Pacific
- **Island hopping campaign:** to take control of the Japanese Islands by taking one island at a time to cut off supplies to Japanese troops located on larger islands. **Goal** was to get a position/establish military bases close enough to Japan to attack.
  - Douglas MacArthur – commander of the U.S. Army in the Pacific
- **The Navajo Code Talkers** : Native Americans were recruited to send encrypted messages in their native language (Navajo) as an unbreakable code that the Japanese could not understand
- **Battle of Midway (TURNING POINT IN PACIFIC)**
  - After the battle, Japan's shipbuilding & pilot training programs were unable to keep pace in replacing their losses, while the U.S. steadily increased output in both areas.
- **Bataan Death March** –Philippines (1942) after Japanese took control; it was a forcible transfer of 75,000 American & Filipino prisoners of war; there were high fatalities due to physical abuse & murder
- **President Harry Truman (1945-1953)** –decides to drop Atomic Bomb (Nuclear Bomb) to prevent an invasion of Japan, save American soldiers lives & shorten the war. (Enola Gay-B-29 bomber dropped “Little Boy” on Hiroshima Aug. 6, 1945). “Fat Man” dropped on Nagasaki August 9, 1945 –leads to **JAPAN’S SURRENDER!!** (little Boy and fat Man are the informal names that were given to these 2 bombs)
  - **Dropping the bomb led to the beginning of the arms race with the Soviet Union**

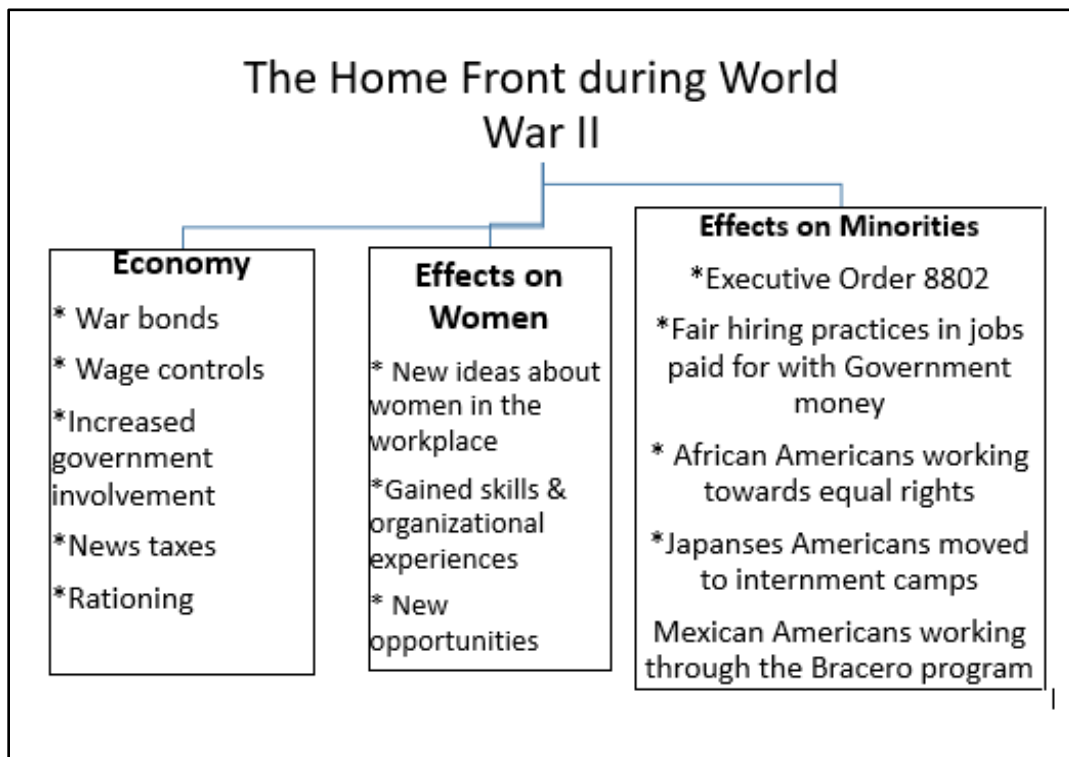


## War in Europe

- *Battle of Stalingrad (turning point-put Germany on defensive in Europe for rest of the war)*
- **Operation Overlord (Normandy Invasion)** - US, Britain, & Canada launch an invasion into France= leads to the liberation of France & eventual invasion into Germany & downfall of Nazis.
  - **D-Day- June 6, 1944-** day chosen for Normandy Invasion.
- Dwight Eisenhower – commander of Allied forces in Europe for the D-Day Invasion
- George Patton – colorful & celebrated tank commander for the Third Armored Division who spearheaded the final attack into German
- **Vernon J. Baker** –1997-He is the only living African American WW II veteran to earn the Medal of Honor

## The Holocaust

- ❖ Nuremberg laws – anti-Semitic legal persecution of Jews in Germany
- ❖ Kristallnacht (Night of Broken Glass) a series of attacks against Jews throughout Germany. & Austria in Nov. 1938
- ❖ "Final Solution" - genocide of Jews
- ❖ Auschwitz – Main concentration camp
  - **Allied forces freed people from concentration camps. Only after the liberation of these camps was the full scope of Nazi horrors (atrocities) exposed to the world.**



## Life @ Home during the war

- Volunteerism –Americans made bandages, knitted socks, collected books, & enrolled in the Red Cross
- **Purchase of war “Victory” bonds & defense stamps to provide \$ for the war.**
- **Rationing – as part of the war effort, the government rationed many foods**
  - Citizens encouraged to plant **“Victory Gardens.”**  
To provide their own fruits & vegetables

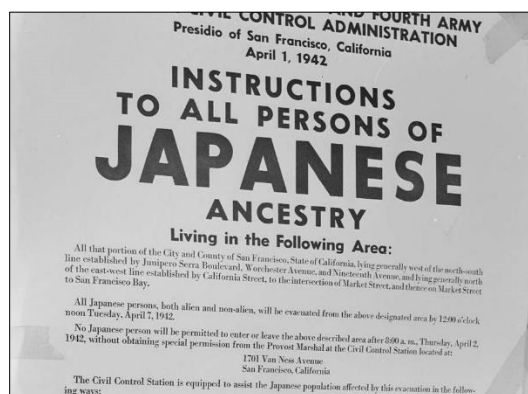
- **Women & minorities were able to work in roles traditionally reserved for non-minority men in peacetime – had to give up the job after the war**



- **Rosie the Riveter**” - symbol of the working woman during WWII ,
- Women’s Army Corps (WACS) & the Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES)
  - Military NEEDED Nurses, secretaries, clerical workers, etc....
- **Bracero Program**- THE US allowed Mexican immigrants to bypass US immigration laws to come to work (especially on farms) in the US DURING WWII, growth of the Sunbelt



- **National War Labor Board** re-created in 1942 to address issues of pay inequality due to race & gender discrimination and to mediate any labor disputes in an effort to maintain and maximize wartime production
- **Office of War Information** (1942) - Served to educate the American people about the war through radio, films, newspapers, posters and photographs. Warned Americans against the dangers of unguarded talk which could compromise national security



- **Executive Order 9066:** FDR gave an order authorizing the internment (imprisonment) of Japanese Americans
- **Japanese internment (Korematsu v. US)** - **US Supreme Court rules that Japanese-Americans can be forced to camps because of military urgency-not race. Violation of 4th & 14th amendment rights but, upheld by the Supreme Court on the grounds America was at war**

## Post World War II: Looking to the future

- US becomes a global leader because of WWII
- The United Nations created April 1945
  - Nuremberg Trials: International Military Council created to try Nazi war criminals.
  - After WW II immigration- mainly Hispanics (Bracero Program) & Asians.





**TEKS:**

7a - identify reasons for U.S. involvement in World War II, including Italian, German, and Japanese dictatorships and their aggression, especially the attack on Pearl Harbor;

7b - evaluate the domestic and international leadership of Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry Truman during World War II, including the U.S. relationship with its allies and domestic industry's rapid mobilization for the war effort;

7c - analyze the function of the U.S. Office of War Information;

7d - analyze major issues of World War II, including the Holocaust; the internment of German, Italian, and Japanese Americans and Executive Order 9066; and the development of conventional and atomic weapons;

7e - analyze major military events of World War II, including the Battle of Midway, the U.S. military advancement through the Pacific Islands, the Bataan Death March, the invasion of Normandy, fighting the war on multiple fronts, and the liberation of concentration camps;

7g - explain the home front and how American patriotism inspired exceptional actions by citizens and military personnel, including high levels of military enlistment; volunteerism; the purchase of war bonds; Victory Gardens; the bravery and contributions of the Tuskegee Airmen, the Flying Tigers, and the Navajo Code Talkers; and opportunities and obstacles for women and ethnic minorities.

13b - analyze the causes and effects of changing demographic patterns resulting from legal and illegal immigration to the United States.

17a - describe the economic effects of World War II on the home front such as the end of the Great Depression, rationing, and increased opportunity for women and minority employment;

26f - discuss the importance of congressional Medal of Honor recipients, including individuals of all races and genders such as Vernon J. Baker, Alvin York, and Roy Benavidez

**Released Test Questions:**

2013:61, 48, 60, 28, 10

2014:35, 17, 42, 6, 68, 54, 59

2015: 50, 10, 45, 7, 4

2016: 52, 37, 30, 47, 28

2017: 32, 57, 68, 6

2018: 49, 28, 65, 14, 16

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