**America in the 20th Century: World War II- The World at War**

1. What happened on December 7, 1941? What was the result?

**Japanese attacked an American Naval Base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii and destroyed much of the fleet there. The next day President Roosevelt asked Congress for a declaration of war.**

2. What was the response of the American people (especially men)?

**Overwhelming support for the war, men enlisted in huge numbers.**

3. What roles did women assume during the war?

**250,000 served as pilots, nurses and mechanics (also went to work in factories to produce items for the war)**

4. How did the economy change once the country began mobilizing for war?

**The economy boomed because factories were reopened to create much needed items for the war, and many people were put to work to make them.**

5. How did civilians (non-military) contribute to the cause?

**Victory Gardens, rationing items, buying war bonds, etc**

6. What new technology developed during the war are still around today?

**Radar and sonar**

**Penicillin to prevent infection**

**Atomic Bomb**

7. Who were the Nisei? What happened to many of them following the attack on Pearl Harbor?

**American-born people of Japanese heritage. Thousands were forced from their homes and placed in internment camps for the duration of the war because there were (unfounded) fears that they may be spies.**

8. What did Roosevelt and Churchill decide was their top priority in the early years of the war?

**Defeating Hitler**

9. What discovery turned the war in the Atlantic in favor of the allies?

**The Enigma Code- it allowed them to listen in on Nazi transmissions**

10. What was the result of the battle of Stalingrad?

**The Soviets held off the Nazi army and kept them from taking the city of Stalingrad. This was a turning point in the war because from this point on, the Soviets began pushing the Nazis back.**

11. How did the Italian people respond to the invasion of the Allies?

**They rejoiced and welcomed the Allies. They also killed Mussolini and hung his body in Milan Square.**

12. What is Operation Overlord best known as? What was the goal of the operation?

**D-Day. To invade Nazi-occupied territory in Europe by conducting a surprise attack in Normandy, France.**

13. Was the Normandy invasion successful?

**Yes, despite heavy losses, the allies secured the beaches and were able to bring ashore additional troops and supplies to continue the invasion of Nazi-occupied territory in Europe.**

14. What was the Battle of the Bulge? What was the result?

**Germany’s last effort to hold off the Allied forces from the West. The Germans were ultimately defeated and the Allies continued to push toward Berlin.**

15. How many Russian soldiers died capturing Berlin?

**200,000**

16. What was the Holocaust?

**The systematic plan to eradicate the Jewish population. It began in the 1930s and included the horrible “Final Solution” in which millions of Jews were put to their death in gas chambers.**

17. Who assumed the Presidency when Roosevelt died?

**Harry Truman**

18. What was “Island Hopping”?

**The name given to the process of “hopping” from one Pacific island to another to fight the Japanese.**

19. What were kamikazes? Were they ultimately successful?

**Japanese suicide-pilots. No, they were not ultimately successful because they failed to defeat the US military (although they did manage to damage or destroy many of our ships).**

20. What was the Manhattan Project? Why did Americans believe it was necessary?

**The code name for the development of the atomic bomb. Americans believed it was necessary because we needed a decisive weapon to end the long and deadly war with Japan.**

21. Do you think President Truman made the right choice by dropping the bomb? Why or why not?

**Answers will vary**

22. How many atom bombs were dropped on Japan?

**2- The first on Hiroshima and the second on Nagasaki**

23. How many soldiers and civilians died in WWII?

**50 million**

24. What were the Nuremburg Trials?

**When the highest ranking Nazi and Japanese officials were tried for “crimes against humanity”. Many of those put on trial were executed.**