

Name: _____

World War II (1939-1945) Webquest notes

Directions: To understand the wide scope of World War II, we will be using the History Channel's interactive web map. Follow the link below and use the electronic platform to take notes on World War II:

<http://www.history.com/inside-wwii-interactive>

I. BEGINNING OF WWII

Step 1: Nazi Expansion (1936-1940)

1. What were the major nations invaded by the Nazis between 1936 and 1940?
2. Why did the Nazis invade these nations?
3. How did Hitler work to dismantle the Treaty of Versailles?

Step 2: Battle of Britain (July-October 1940)

4. What was the **Battle of Britain**? What role did the Luftwaffe play?
5. Who was **Winston Churchill**?

Listen to the radio excerpt (Churchill rallies the British). What depends on this battle according to Churchill?

6. Look through the images of the Battle of Britain. How many Londoners were left homeless from the Blitz? How many civilians lost their lives?

Step 3: Lend-Lease (1941-1945)

7. What was the **Lend-Lease Act**?
8. What could the British give to the Americans as a form of repayment for their loans?
9. Look at the chart. Which countries received Lend-lease aid? Which country received the most?

II. U.S. ENTERS WWII

Step 4: Attack on Pearl Harbor (December 7, 1941)

10. How did Roosevelt refer to the day of the **Pearl Harbor** attack?
11. What was destroyed as a result of this attack?
12. Click on “more about Pearl Harbor”. Watch the video on Pearl Harbor.

What does FDR ask of Congress at the end of the speech?

III. THE HOME FRONT

Step 5: The Draft

13. What was the **Selective Service Act**? How was it amended after Pearl Harbor?

Step 6: War Propaganda

14. Look at the **propaganda** posters. Describe what these posters were used for.
15. Watch the “Private Snafu” Cartoon. What is the overall message of this cartoon?
16. What made Private Snafu give up his secrets?

Step 7: Rationing

17. Look at World War II **rationing** images. What items were Americans encouraged to ration?

Step 8: Women

18. By how much did the female workforce increase?
19. What were the most popular industries for women workers during WWII?

Step 9: Japanese Americans (1942-1945)

Click on “more about Japanese internment camps”. Watch the video.

20. What are **Japanese internment camps**? In what areas of the country were they located?
21. What was life like in these camps?

IV. WAR IN EUROPE (WESTERN FRONT)

Step 10: D-Day Invasion (June 6, 1944)

22. Look at the images of the **D-day invasion** (also known as Operation Overlord). Describe this invasion (its scale, who was involved, where it happened etc....)
23. Look at the images of the Higgins boat. Why was it so important for the Normandy invasion?

V. WAR IN THE PACIFIC

Step 11: Island Hopping

24. Go online and look up the term “**Island hopping**”. Describe the strategy in your own words.
25. Why was **Iwo Jima** such a strategic victory for the U.S.?
26. What are **kamikazes**?

VI. END OF THE WAR

Step 12: Manhattan Project (1943-1945)

27. What was the **Manhattan Project**?
28. Watch the video of the first atomic bomb test. How did the first test work?

Step 13: Yalta Conference (February, 1945)

29. Look at the images. Who were the 3 leaders of the Yalta Conference (also known as the **Big Three**)?
30. What was decided at the **Yalta Conference**?

Step 14: The Atomic Bomb (August 6 and 9, 1945)

31. On what two cities did the U.S. drop the **atomic bomb**? What were the code names for the two bombs dropped on this city?
32. How many people were killed by these bombs? What did Japan do after these bombs were dropped?

Step 15: GI Bill (1944)

33. What was the **GI Bill of Rights**?

34. Look at the chart on education opportunities. What did most veterans use the GI bill for?

Step 16: Marshall Plan (1947-1951)

35. What was the **Marshall Plan**? What were the five countries to receive the most money?