

## MOBILIZING FOR DEFENSE: THE AMERICAN HOMEFRONT

**Introduction:** After the December 7, 1941, Japanese attack on the American naval fleet at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, the U.S. was thrust into World War II (1939-45), and everyday life across the country was dramatically altered. Food, gas and clothing were rationed. Communities conducted scrap metal drives. To help build the armaments necessary to win the war, women found employment as electricians, welders and riveters in defense plants. Japanese Americans had their rights as citizens stripped from them. People in the U.S. grew increasingly dependent on radio reports for news of the fighting overseas. And, while popular entertainment served to demonize the nation's enemies, it also was viewed as an escapist outlet that allowed Americans brief respites from war worries.

Topic	1. Image Analysis	2. Notes from Learning Stations	3. Propaganda	4. Analysis + Interpretation
A. Philip Randolph	What are the people in this image protesting?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Philip Randolph was _____ and a _____ in America.</li> <li>After World War I, Randolph ran unsuccessfully for office on the _____ ticket.</li> <li>In the 1940s Randolph focused on to the question of black _____ in the federal government and in industries with federal contracts.</li> <li>He warned President FDR that he would lead one hundred thousands blacks in a _____ on Washington, D.C.</li> <li>Roosevelt yielded to the pressure and on June 25, 1941, he issued Executive Order 8802, barring _____ in _____ industries and federal bureaus, and creating the Fair Employment Practices Committee.</li> <li>After World War II, Randolph pressed President _____ to _____ the army. On July 26, 1948, Truman issued Executive Order 9981, banning segregation in the _____.</li> <li>In August of 1963, as the Civil Rights movement was gaining ground, Randolph became a director of the famous _____. More than 200,000 people came to the capital to demonstrate support for civil-rights policies for blacks. It was at this gathering that _____ delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech.</li> </ul>	What is the poster asking for?	Explain, in your own words, A. Philip Randolph's proposed March on Washington and the response of President Roosevelt.
Japanese Internment	There are two groups of people in this image. Based on their facial expressions, explain the emotions of each.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Over 127,000 United States citizens were imprisoned during World War II.</li> <li>President Roosevelt signed an executive order in February 1942 ordering the _____ of all Americans of Japanese ancestry to _____ in the interior of the United States.</li> <li>Almost two-thirds of the internees were _____, or Japanese Americans born in the United States. Even Japanese-American veterans of World War I were forced to leave their homes.</li> </ul>	<p>What is the message of the poster?</p> <p>How might this message have affected Japanese-Americans?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define internment.</li> <li>Explain, in your own words, Japanese internment.</li> </ol>
Women + Minorities in America	What do you notice about the gender roles depicted in this image?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The _____ for war helped to lift the country's economy out of the _____ and demand for _____ soared.</li> <li>Perhaps the most enduring image of American life on the home front is that of "_____".</li> <li>The number of employed American _____ increased from fourteen million to nineteen million during the war, and the number of _____ in the workforce grew seventy-six percent between 1940 and 1944.</li> <li>For many members of the nation's _____ population, the very location of their homes changed during the war years, as over half a million blacks migrated from the _____ to northern and western _____ in search of war work.</li> </ul>	<p>What is the message of Poster #1?</p> <p>What is the message of Poster #2?</p>	What role did minority groups play in wartime mobilization?
Rationing	What is a quota? Why might this gas station have a quota?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A variety of _____ occurred due to the volume of supplies needed overseas. Some things were scarce because they normally were _____ from countries with whom we were at war or because they had to be brought in by ship from foreign places. Rationing, implemented in the spring of 1942, was a system that provided everyone with the _____ amount of _____ goods. The system was designed to keep prices _____ and to make sure people had what they needed. Each member of the family was issued ration books.</li> </ul>	Why is rationing so important according to these posters?	Describe how rationing affected American mobilization in WWII.

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War Bonds	<p>Why might this crowd of people be gathered?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Issued by the U.S. Government, they were first called _____.</li> <li>Buying a bond represented a _____ and _____ stake in the war effort.</li> <li>An _____ appeal went out to citizens by means of advertising. The advertisements started with radio and newspapers, then later added magazines to reach the masses.</li> <li>_____ were held throughout the country with famous celebrities, usually Hollywood film stars, to enhance the advertising's effectiveness.</li> <li>At the end of World War II, January 3, 1946, the last proceeds from the Victory War Bond campaign were deposited into the U.S. Treasury. More than 85 million Americans - half the population - purchased bonds totaling _____. Those incredible results, due to the mass selling efforts of helping to finance the war, have never since been matched.</li> </ul>	<p>Describe the emotional messages of these posters.</p>	<p>Describe how the buying of war bonds affected American mobilization in WWII.</p>
Women & Minorities at War	<p>What might the soldier in this image be thinking or feeling?</p>	<p><b>Women's Army Auxiliary Corps</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Congresswoman Edith Nourse Rogers proposed a bill to then Army's chief of staff General George Marshall that would launch the _____ (WAAC). Women proved to very versatile. Some worked as clerks, typists, _____, engineers, mechanics, and _____. Some worked in the Quartermaster Corps, the Chemical Warfare Service, the Signal Corps, and the Army Medical Department.</li> </ul> <p><b>African-Americans - "Double V"</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 1940 _____ allowed African-Americans to be enlisted in the Army, where they joined different military branches- Army, Navy, Marine Corps and the Coast Guard. Black activists demanded a " _____ " sign to represent two victories: one on the battlefield and one on the homefront.</li> </ul> <p><b>American-Indians - The Navajo Code Talkers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Navajo code was never deciphered by _____ Intelligence. These code talkers were able to coordinate American naval gunfire and air support to Japanese positions, and the enemy never saw them coming. A total of 540 Navajos served with the _____ during World War II.</li> </ul> <p><b>Hispanics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World War II saw thousands of _____ taking arms in this conflict. The New Mexico National Guard based in the _____ was the largest American unit in that archipelago.</li> </ul> <p><b>Japanese Americans - The 442nd regiment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In early 1943, the government gave _____ the chance to enlist in the U.S. Army. More than 33,000 _____ joined the Army and fought many European campaigns.</li> </ul>	<p>Why is Poster #1 ironic?</p> <p>According to Poster #2, women who join the WAAC are _____</p>	<p>What was the role of each minority group <b>IN</b> the war (not on the homefront)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Women:</li> <li>African Americans</li> <li>Navajo Indians:</li> <li>Japanese:</li> <li>Hispanics:</li> </ul>
The Manhattan Project	<p>Describe the picture you see. BE SPECIFIC.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In 1939, German refugee _____ penned a letter to President Roosevelt urging the development of an atomic research program. Roosevelt saw neither the necessity nor the utility for such a project, but agreed to proceed slowly.</li> <li>In late 1941, the American effort to design and build an _____ received its code name - the _____</li> <li>_____ was paramount (vital).</li> <li>By the summer of 1945, scientist _____ was ready to test the first bomb. On July 16, 1945, at TRINITY SITE near ALAMOGORDO, NEW MEXICO, (LOS ALAMOS) scientists of the Manhattan Project readied themselves to watch the detonation of the world's first atomic bomb.</li> </ul>	<p>This sign was posted outside of a WWII factory. Why were workers forced to stay silent about the work they were doing?</p>	<p>Describe the scientific, economic and military implications of developing the atomic bomb.</p>