

World War 2 Practice

Multiple Choice

Identify the choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

- ___ 1. Why did Hitler direct his anger towards intellectuals, Communists, and Jews in the 1930s?
- They wrote the Treaty of Versailles, which forced Germany to make war reparations.
 - He blamed them for Germany's economic depression and its defeat in World War I.
 - They opposed the National Socialist Party, keeping it from winning a majority in Parliament.
 - He was fearful they would band together and start another world war.
- ___ 2. Which fascist leader tried to expand his country's territory by attacking Ethiopia?
- Haile Selassie
 - Adolf Hitler
 - Benito Mussolini
 - Joseph Stalin
- ___ 3. Totalitarianism is a political system in which the government
- has one monarch that rules the country.
 - controls every aspect of citizens' lives.
 - is a combination of socialism and fascism.
 - elects religious leaders to rule the country.
- ___ 4. Hitler's rebuilding of the German military violated the
- Monroe Doctrine.
 - Treaty of Versailles.
 - Munich Conference.
 - Geneva Convention.
- ___ 5. Why did Great Britain and France finally declare war on Germany in September 1939?
- Hitler signed a non aggression pact with Stalin, threatening the Allies.
 - Hitler signed an alliance with Mussolini, forming the Axis Powers.
 - They had pledged to defend Poland against Hitler, who attacked it from the West.
 - They had formed an international army to fight Hitler, whose forces trapped thousands of soldiers in Czechoslovakia.
- ___ 6. The policy of avoiding war with an aggressive nation by giving into its demands is called
- blitzkrieg.
 - brinksmanship.
 - Luftwaffe.
 - appeasement.
- ___ 7. Japan planned a large-scale attack against the U.S. naval fleet at Pearl Harbor because it wanted to
- give itself time to secure control of East Asia before the U.S. military could respond.
 - retaliate against the United States for freezing Japanese bank accounts.
 - punish the United States for sending billions of dollars in aid to Chinese Nationalists.

- d. defend its German and Soviet allies against a U.S. invasion.
- ___ 8. The Lend-Lease Act allowed the United States to
- a. stay out of the war in Europe.
 - b. lend armed forces to the war effort in Europe.
 - c. allow American land to be used by Polish refugees.
 - d. send billions of dollar's worth of supplies to Allied countries.
- ___ 9. Immediately following the attacks of December 7, 1941, Congress
- a. voted to freeze all Japanese funds in U.S. banks and end trade with Japan.
 - b. voted to declare war on Japan and enter World War II.
 - c. instituted the internment of all Japanese-born citizens of the United States.
 - d. instituted a draft of all Japanese-American men over eighteen.
- ___ 10. What is one way that World War II affected the American economy?
- a. The unemployment rate skyrocketed.
 - b. Factories ran twenty four hours a day producing military supplies.
 - c. The effects of the Depression became more severe.
 - d. Agricultural production suffered because there were fewer consumers.
- ___ 11. The U.S. Selective Training and Service Act of 1940
- a. oversaw the conversion of factories to war production.
 - b. was the first peacetime draft in the country's history.
 - c. allowed Americans to serve in foreign countries.
 - d. required both men and women to serve in the army.
- ___ 12. In 1942, the War Production Board (WPB)
- a. drafted millions of soldiers to fight in the U.S. Army.
 - b. banned the production of cars so that auto plants could make military equipment.
 - c. produced ships, tanks, jeeps, guns, and ammunition.
 - d. ferried planes between factories and air bases for use by women pilots.
- ___ 13. What happened in the zoot-suit riots?
- a. Mexican Americans went on strike.
 - b. White mobs attacked Mexican Americans.
 - c. Soldiers protested against Mexican Americans.
 - d. Mexican Americans rioted in protest of discrimination.
- ___ 14. What was one role women played in the military during World War II?
- a. They flew combat missions in North Africa and Italy.
 - b. They manned machine guns on American ships.
 - c. They served as nurses in battle areas.
 - d. They formed their own combat squadrons.
- ___ 15. What Tuskegee Airman later became the first African American general in the U.S. Air Force?
- a.
 - a. Philip Randolph
 - b. Benjamin O. Davis
 - c. Dorie Miller
 - d. Stokely Carmichael
- ___ 16. Why were Japanese Americans interned during World War II?
- a. U.S. intelligence showed that they aided the invasion of the West Coast.
 - b. Many Japanese Americans were serving as secret agents for Japan.

- c. Most Japanese Americans planned to return to their ancestral homeland.
 - d. U.S. citizens and the government viewed them with suspicion and fear.
- ___ 17. Japanese Americans known as *issei* were
- a. immigrants born in Japan.
 - b. American citizens who served in the war.
 - c. Japanese people who escaped internment camps.
 - d. Americans who ran the Japanese internment camps.
- ___ 18. This quotation shows that young Japanese Americans
- a. were promised great financial rewards for military participation.
 - b. had serious reservations about aiding the American war effort.
 - c. were extremely excited about joining the United States military.
 - d. felt betrayed by the U.S. government's practice of internment.
- ___ 19. Sonar technology helped the Allied war effort during World War II by
- a. helping Allied pilots avoid anti-aircraft fire when they flew daytime bombing raids over Germany.
 - b. helping Allied ships find and destroy German U-boats.
 - c. allowing Allied pilots to fly bombing raids at night, when targets were normally invisible to pilots.
 - d. allowing long-range Allied planes to drop bombs in France.
- ___ 20. Which tactic was part of President Roosevelt and Winston Churchill's strategy to defeat the Axis Powers?
- a. placing "Asia first"
 - b. building up troops in Great Britain to invade France
 - c. attacking Italian forces in West Africa
 - d. aiding Japan in the fight against China.
- ___ 21. Why was Joseph Stalin angry with Allied forces in July 1942?
- a. The Allies did not give the Soviet Union enough help in fighting off German attacks.
 - b. Roosevelt and Churchill did not let Stalin participate in their strategy meetings.
 - c. The Allies did not give the Soviets credit for inventing sonar technology.
 - d. Long-range Allied planes dropped bombs on Soviet factories, railroads, and cities.
- ___ 22. What led to the death of Italy's Prime Minister, Benito Mussolini?
- a. Mussolini was killed in combat during the Battle of Stalingrad.
 - b. Freedom fighters executed Mussolini after German forces fled Italy.
 - c. The United States tried and convicted Mussolini for war crimes.
 - d. Hitler assassinated Mussolini during an overthrow of Rome.
- ___ 23. Why did German troops surrender at the Battle of Stalingrad?
- a. The troop's commander defected to the Soviet Union.
 - b. The troops were working under a two-year contract that had expired.
 - c. Soviet soldiers spread a rumor that Hitler had been captured.
 - d. Hitler had not sent enough supplies and soldiers for fighting to continue.
- ___ 24. The Battle of Stalingrad affected the rest of World War II by
- a. causing the Axis powers to retreat from the Soviet Union, and turning the tide of the war in the East.
 - b. boosting the morale of Soviet troops, and leading them to take control of Germany

later in the war.

- c. giving the Allies time to plan an attack on France.
- d. forcing Stalin to command his troops to surrender.

- ___ 25. Why was D-Day so important?
- a. Once the French beaches were secured, Allied troops could drive toward Paris and establish a free government under DeGaulle.
 - b. Once the French beaches were secured, Allied troops could begin their drive east toward Germany.
 - c. It tricked the Germans by opening up a front where they least expected it—in France, not Italy.
 - d. With France under Allied control, bombing raids could be launched against German cities and industry.
- ___ 26. What indicates that German forces were expecting an invasion of France?
- a. Hitler wrote to Dwight Eisenhower, warning him of the expected invasion.
 - b. Germans planted mines and stretched barbed wire along the French coastline.
 - c. Heavily armed German soldiers waited on nearby Italian beaches.
 - d. Germans set up boats off of two French beaches, which they named Utah and Omaha.
- ___ 27. What was the outcome of D-Day?
- a. All five beaches in France were secured by the Allies.
 - b. The Allies were at the mercy of the Germans.
 - c. Fierce fighting on Omaha beach led to defeat of the British.
 - d. Germans took control of France from the Canadians.
- ___ 28. What American general was forced to retreat from the Philippines in March 1942?
- a. Hideki Tojo
 - b. Chester Nimitz
 - c. Louis Ortega
 - d. Douglas MacArthur
- ___ 29. Why was the United States unable to prevent the Japanese advance that led to the Bataan Death March?
- a. Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor left the U.S. Pacific Fleet so weakened that American and Filipino soldiers were forced to surrender.
 - b. American and Filipino soldiers were forced to march to prison camps and could not fight.
 - c. Japan conquered the British colonies of Hong Kong and Singapore, making it impossible for British troops to support the U.S. Pacific Fleet.
 - d. American and Filipino soldiers were weakened because they were starved and beaten by the Japanese.
- ___ 30. In which country did the Bataan Death March take place?
- a. Japan
 - b. India
 - c. the Philippines
 - d. the United States
- ___ 31. Which of the following was a key battle of the Pacific?
- a. Battle of El Alamein

- b. Battle of Midway
 - c. Battle of Lexington
 - d. Battle of the Emerald Pools
- ___ 32. What was the result of the Battle of the Coral Sea?
- a. The Japanese clearly lost, as many of their men were killed.
 - b. The United States suffered its worst loss of the war.
 - c. The Japanese assault was halted although there was no clear victor.
 - d. The United States failed to halt the Japanese attack of Port Moresby.
- ___ 33. What enabled the Americans to communicate with codes that the Japanese could not crack?
- a. Many of the messages were non-decodable because they were spoken by Navajo Indians.
 - b. The messages, which only classified Americans knew how to read, were encrypted by computers.
 - c. Many of the messages could only be read with an Enigma machine, which only the Americans had.
 - d. The messages were always destroyed shortly after they were received.
- ___ 34. Why was island hopping so important to the Allies' victory in World War II?
- a. American soldiers could advance onto islands, protected from Japanese fire.
 - b. It allowed the Allies to isolate Japanese forces on bypassed islands.
 - c. The Allies could capture Japanese defenders on the islands without losing men.
 - d. It allowed the Allies to be strategically placed for their next battle.
- ___ 35. Read the quotation below and answer the question that follows.

“The cold, the snow, and the darkness were enough to set young nerves on edge. The thud of something as innocuous [harmless] as snow plopping to the ground from a tree branch could be terrifying. Was it snow? Was it maybe a German patrol? Should you fire at the sound and risk giving away your position, or worse, hitting one of your own men? But did the Germans have us surrounded?”

—Dave Nutt, quoted in *Citizen Soldiers*, by Stephen Ambrose

What function could this quotation serve in a research paper?

- a. It could illustrate the way in which World War II-era American soldiers were outfitted for war.
 - b. It could give an example of how U.S. inexperience affected the outcomes of battles with Germany
 - c. It could describe in detail the preparations taken by Allied soldiers for the Battle of the Bulge.
 - d. It could bring to life the thought process of an anxious soldier on patrol in unfamiliar territory.
- ___ 36. Kamikaze pilots were different from other military pilots in that they
- a. underwent extensive flight training in Japan.
 - b. purposefully crashed their planes into enemy ships.
 - c. were equipped with the latest in weapons technology.
 - d. each descended from an ancient line of warriors.

- ___ 37. What was the strategy behind the last German offensive at the Battle of the Bulge?
- German forces would circle northwest of the Allied lines and attack Paris, driving the Allies into German troops in eastern France.
 - German forces would attack the Allied lines head-on and hope to force a surrender.
 - German forces would drive through a weak spot in the Allied lines and capture the city of Antwerp, Belgium.
 - German forces would attack Italy, drawing Allied forces away from France and leaving Paris open to attack and recapture.
- ___ 38. How did Harry Truman come to take over as president?
- President Roosevelt died of a stroke in April 1945.
 - President Roosevelt lost his re-election bid in 1944.
 - President Roosevelt chose not to run for a fourth term in 1944.
 - President Roosevelt focused his efforts on peace in Europe.
- ___ 39. Germany's surrender on May 8, 1945, was known as
- D-Day.
 - Peace Day.
 - V-E Day.
 - Ardennes Day.
- ___ 40. Which fact about the Nazi death camps does Moritz Vegh's account support?
- Hitler called the genocide of the Jewish people "the final solution."
 - Bodies of murdered Jews were disposed of in mass graves, or cremated.
 - Most children who arrived at the death camps were executed immediately.
 - Dachau, Auschwitz, Treblinka, and Bergen-Belsen were death camps.
- ___ 41. What was the Holocaust?
- the Nazis' attempt to exterminate the entire Jewish population of Europe
 - Hitler's attempt to overthrow the United States through military force
 - the liberation of a country that had previously been Communist-controlled
 - a German military strategy of controlling key portions of land
- ___ 42. What is genocide?
- the extermination of a nation's political opponents
 - the extermination of an entire group of people
 - the deportation of a nation's political opponents
 - the deportation of an entire group of people
- ___ 43. Why did the Japanese finally surrender on September 2, 1945?
- American forces dropped an atomic bomb on the city of Nagasaki, immediately killing 22,000 Japanese people.
 - The United States threatened to drop an atomic bomb on the capital city of Tokyo.
 - American forces dropped an atomic bomb on the city of Hiroshima, killing almost 80,000 people immediately.
 - The Japanese realized that they had no chance of winning the war without support from Germany.
- ___ 44. The United States was expected to be responsible for postwar rebuilding because the United States
- had to make reparations for dropping atom bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.
 - escaped much destruction and was the strongest power in the world at the time.
 - was given millions of dollars by Germany after Germany surrendered.

- d. was the richest country and much of the war was fought on its soil.

Completion

Complete each statement.

45. In 1935 Italian dictator Benito Mussolini tried to expand Italy's territory by attacking the nation of _____ and making it a colony. (Ethiopia/Algeria)
46. Adolf Hitler's National Socialist Party was also known as the _____ Party. (Axis/Nazi)
47. The _____ were African-American pilots who flew thousands of successful combat missions in North Africa and Italy. (Tuskegee Airmen/P-40 Bombers)
48. Executive Order 9066 allowed the government to begin the process of _____, or forced relocation and imprisonment, of Japanese-Americans. (deportation/internment)
49. The Allied Powers included the United States, Great Britain, the Soviet Union, and _____. (China/Germany)
50. Hitler was determined to hold on to _____ at all costs, fighting a six-month battle that ended with over 1 million Soviets and 800,000 Germans dead. (Leningrad/Stalingrad)
51. After the United States destroyed four Japanese aircraft carriers at the Battle of _____, Admiral Nimitz said Pearl Harbor had been partially avenged. (Midway/the Bulge)
52. The Battle of _____ in the Philippines was the largest naval battle in history. (Leyte Gulf/the Coral Sea)
53. In April 1943, Jewish people in the _____ rose up against the Germans, and it took nearly a month for the Nazis to crush the uprising. (Warsaw Ghetto/Treblinka death camp)
54. When President Roosevelt died in April 1945, _____ became president. (George Patton/Harry S. Truman)

True/False

Indicate whether the statement is true or false.

- ___ 55. Hitler violently overthrew the elected German chancellor in 1933 and quickly seized all government power.
- ___ 56. Britain and France pledged to defend Poland if Germany attacked it in 1939.
- ___ 57. The zoot-suit riots occurred in June 1944 when Mexican-American farm workers attacked groups of sailors who jeered at them.
- ___ 58. Half of the Japanese Americans held in U.S. camps during the war were children.
- ___ 59. In the Battle of El Alamein, the British defeated Germany's Afrika Corps.
- ___ 60. The Soviets fought to hold on to Stalingrad even after Josef Stalin told them to abandon the city and go to Kursk to reinforce the army there.

- ___ 61. Unable to stop Japan's advance in the Philippines, U.S. General MacArthur left the islands, while over 70,000 American and Filipino soldiers were taken prisoner by the Japanese.
- ___ 62. Japanese forces defeated the Allies in the Battle of the Coral Sea, allowing them to take over Port Moresby, New Guinea.
- ___ 63. During the Holocaust, the Germans forced many Jews into urban centers called ghettos.
- ___ 64. The first atomic bomb was exploded over Nagasaki in August 1945.

Matching

Match each item with the correct statement below.

- a. kamikaze
 - b. Lend-Lease Act
 - c. Battle of Stalingrad
 - d. Harry S. Truman
 - e. A. Philip Randolph
 - f. Battle of El Alamein
 - g. Benito Mussolini
 - h. Battle of the Bulge
 - i. Omaha Beach
 - j. genocide
 - k. appeasement
 - l. Daniel K. Inouye
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- ___ 65. fascist Italian leader who allied with Hitler to form the Axis Powers
 - ___ 66. organized a march on Washington in 1941 to demand equal pay for black workers
 - ___ 67. counterattack launched by Germans after the D-Day invasion
 - ___ 68. tactic of purposely crashing piloted planes into enemy ships
 - ___ 69. battle in Soviet Union during which German forces froze or starved to death
 - ___ 70. policy of avoiding war with an aggressive nation by giving in to its demands
 - ___ 71. president who ordered use of atomic bombs on Japan
 - ___ 72. extermination of an entire group of people
 - ___ 73. D-Day landing site where almost 3,000 Allied soldiers were killed or wounded
 - ___ 74. policy allowing the United States to aid any nation vital to its defense

