

Name _____

Date _____

World War II - Answer Key

Read each question and circle the correct answer.

1. Which of the following is a characteristic of fascism?

- A. military dictatorship
- B. nationalist sentiment
- C. exploitation of people's fear
- ☒ D. all of the above

2. In the decade leading up to WWII, America _____.

- A. was interested in getting involved in the war to stop the spread of fascism
- ☒ B. was trying to recover from the Great Depression
- C. attacked a Japanese naval base
- D. was governed by President Harry S. Truman

3. How did Adolf Hitler win the support of the German people?

- A. He formed a secret alliance with the Japanese.
- ☒ C. He blamed groups like the Jews for Germany's economic and social problems.
- B. He created the New Deal to fix Germany's economic and social problems.
- D. He gave speeches supporting tolerance of different ethnic and religious groups.

4. What event directly caused the United States to join WWII?

- A. the discovery of concentration camps in Europe
- ☒ D. the bombing of Pearl Harbor
- B. the sinking of American warships by German U-boats
- C. Hitler's invasion of Poland

5. What happened on D-Day?

- A. The US dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima.
- ☒ B. Efforts to liberate France and Italy from Germany's control began.
- C. Germany surrendered to the Allies.
- D. Russia declared war on Japan.

6. Which of the following was a reason that Truman decided to drop atomic bombs on Japan?

- ☒ A. An invasion of Japan could have cost up to 1 million American soldier lives.
- B. Japan was threatening to drop atomic bombs on US naval bases.
- C. Truman did not know how destructive the atomic bombs would be.
- D. Truman wanted to scare Germany into surrendering.

7. Which famous historical figure first told President Roosevelt about the possibility of creating an atomic bomb?

- A. Thomas Edison
- ☒ B. Albert Einstein
- C. Benito Mussolini
- D. Adolf Hitler

8. What was the major decision that President Truman faced in 1945?

- A. whether to take over for President Roosevelt
- ☒ C. whether to drop atomic bombs on Japan
- B. whether to surrender to Germany
- D. whether to declare war on Japan

9. What happened in late April and early May of 1945?

- A. France and Italy were liberated from Germany's control.
- B. Hitler first rose to power.
- C. Germany invaded Poland, Norway, Belgium, the Netherlands and France.
- ☒ D. Germany surrendered, and Hitler committed suicide.

10. What was the purpose of the original concentration camps built in the early 1930s?

- A. to exterminate groups like Jews, gypsies and gay people
- ☒ **B.** to imprison groups like Jews, gypsies and gay people and have them perform slave labor
- C. to be Adolf Hitler's headquarters during the war
- D. to imprison Allied forces captured during the war