

America, The last Best Hope
Volume Two

Bennett's Summer Assignment Study Questions, Chapters 1, 4,5 and 6

Chapter 1: America and the Great War (1914-1921)

1. At the outbreak of World War I, in Europe (1914), President Woodrow Wilson immediately declared America's? Was this a wise move?
2. The Germans sank the Lusitania because it was carrying what item? Do you think this gave the Germans a legitimate reason to take such action?
3. President Wilson's prospects for reelection brightened when the Germans signed what Pledge in May 1916? What did the Germans pledge not to do?
4. What two nations did German Foreign minister Arthur Zimmermann want to approach for possible alliances against the United the States in the advent of war?
5. President Wilson addressed a joint session of Congress on April 2, 1917 and stated "We have no quarrel with the German People...." What was his reason why America was going to enter the War? Is it a good reason, explain?
6. Who was given command of the American Expeditionary Force sent to France? What allied appeal did he reject in regards to American troops?
7. President Wilson's Fourteen Points represented the high idealism of what movement?
8. When President Wilson attended the Paris Peace Conference, his chief goal was to champion the creation of what organization? What did he believe could be accomplished by this organization?
9. What did the Eighteenth Amendment ban? Was this a good idea? Explain?
10. What was the Nineteenth Amendment about? What conference was this goal first proclaimed?

Chapter 4: America's Rendezvous with Destiny (1939-1941)

1. Time Magazine stunned the world by naming this person "Man of the Year" for 1938. How did the Editors of the popular news weekly justify their decision?

2. In 1939, Hitler demanded that Poland give into his demand regarding what Baltic seaport city? What was his reason for securing it?
3. Did President Roosevelt declare he wanted a third term as President? Why was he chosen?
4. What nation was attacked by the German war machine on Sunday 22 June 1941? Why did surprise the nation being attacked?
5. Who was in charge of Hitler's Kriegsmarine in the early years of World War II and what American Admiral was he an avid student of? Why?

Chapter 5: Leading the Grand Alliance (1941-1943)

1. In March 1941, President Roosevelt succeeded in winning congressional approval for what to assist Britain? Why was it important to the British?
2. Why was Harry S. Truman hesitant about aiding the Soviet Union even after June 22, 1941?
3. Was the Atlantic Charter (1941) a formal treaty? Why or why not?
4. In all how many U.S. Warships were sunk or seriously damaged during the Pearl Harbor Attack on December 7th, 1941? How many U.S. aircraft were destroyed?
5. U.S. military intelligence believed a Japanese attack was coming somewhere. What evidence did they have and where did they believe the Japanese would strike first?
6. Who did Germany declare war on December 11, 1941? Do you consider this a good decision by Hitler? Why or why not?
7. What effects did Colonel Doolittle's raid on Japan have on the Japanese and American publics?
8. President Roosevelt understood Jefferson "an Apostle of freedom" with inalienable rights a gift from whom? This was the belief that President Roosevelt knew was threatened by the worldwide rise of what?

Chapter 6: America Victorious (1943-1945)

1. Why did Winston Churchill fear the Cross channel invasion of France would fail?

2. On July 20, 1944 what took place in Wolfsschenz-the Wolf's Lair (Hitler's secret headquarters in East Prussia)? If it had been successful would it have ended the war?
3. How did German General Dietrich von Choltitz decision directly affect the fate of the city of Paris?
4. What was important about the Messerschmitt ME-262? Could it have turned the tide of the war in Germany's favor?
5. Who died on the morning of April 12, 1945? What was Harry Truman's first world upon hearing it? How did it directly affect him?
6. The terrible American losses at Iwo Jima and Okinawa convinced the Americans to do whatever was necessary to force Japan to do what? Do you agree or disagree with it?
7. On August 6, 1945 a USAAF bomber dropped a single atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan. Do you agree or disagree that it was necessary to do so?
8. On September 2, 1945 aboard the USS Missouri entered Tokyo Bay. Besides peace being secured by the Japanese surrender what was made victorious according to the author? Why?