

## Standard VUS.11a

The student will demonstrate knowledge of World War II by

a) analyzing the causes and events that led to American involvement in the war, including military assistance to the United Kingdom and the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

### Essential Understanding

The United States gradually abandoned neutrality as events in Europe and Asia pulled the nations toward war.

### Essential Questions

How did the United States respond to increasing totalitarian aggression in Europe and Asia?

What caused America's gradual abandonment of its policy of neutrality?

## Two Ocean War

### The War in Europe

- World War II began with Hitler's invasion of \_\_\_\_\_ in 1939, followed shortly after by the Soviet Union's invasion of Poland and the \_\_\_\_\_ countries from the east.
- During the first two years of the war, the United States stayed officially \_\_\_\_\_ while Germany overran \_\_\_\_\_ and most of Europe and pounded Britain from the air (the Battle of Britain). In mid-1941, Hitler turned on his former partner and invaded the \_\_\_\_\_.
- Despite strong isolationist sentiment at home, the United States increasingly helped \_\_\_\_\_. It gave \_\_\_\_\_ war supplies and old naval warships in return for military bases in Bermuda and the Caribbean. Soon after, the \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ gave the president authority to sell or lend equipment to countries to defend themselves against the \_\_\_\_\_ powers. \_\_\_\_\_ compared it to "lending a garden hose to a next-door neighbor whose house is on fire."

### The War in Asia

- During the 1930s, a militaristic \_\_\_\_\_ invaded and brutalized Manchuria and \_\_\_\_\_ as it sought military and economic domination over \_\_\_\_\_. The United States refused to recognize Japanese conquests in Asia and imposed an \_\_\_\_\_ on exports of oil and steel to Japan. Tensions rose, but both countries negotiated to avoid war.
- While negotiating with the United States and without any warning, Japan carried out an air attack on the American naval base at \_\_\_\_\_, Hawaii, on \_\_\_\_\_, 1941. The attack destroyed much of the American Pacific fleet and killed several thousand Americans. Roosevelt called it "a date that will live in infamy" as he asked \_\_\_\_\_ to declare war on Japan.
- After Pearl Harbor, \_\_\_\_\_ honored a pact with Japan and declared war on the United States. The debates over isolationism in the United States were over. World War II was now a true world war, and the United States was fully involved.

## Standard VUS.11b (Strategies)

The student will demonstrate knowledge of World War II by

b) describing and locating the major battles and turning points of the war in North Africa, Europe, and the Pacific, including Midway, Stalingrad, the Normandy landing (D-Day), and Truman's decision to use the atomic bomb to force the surrender of Japan.

### Essential Understanding

Wartime strategies reflect the political and military goals of alliances, the resources on hand, and the geographical extent of the conflict.

### Essential Questions

What was the overall strategy of America and its allies in World War II?

How did America's strategy during World War II reflect available resources and the geographical scope of the conflict?

Why were some battles of World War II considered turning points of the war?

## Wartime Strategy

### Allied strategy

- America and its allies (Britain, and the Soviet Union after being invaded by Germany) followed a "\_\_\_\_\_ " strategy. Most American military resources were targeted for Europe.
- In the \_\_\_\_\_, American military strategy called for an " \_\_\_\_\_ " campaign, seizing islands closer and closer to Japan and using them as \_\_\_\_\_ for air attacks on Japan, and for cutting off Japanese supplies through submarine warfare against \_\_\_\_\_ shipping.

### Axis strategy

- Germany hoped to defeat the \_\_\_\_\_ quickly, gain control of Soviet oil fields, and force \_\_\_\_\_ out of the war through a bombing campaign and submarine warfare before \_\_\_\_\_'s industrial and military strength could turn the tide.
- Following Pearl Harbor, Japan invaded the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and planned to invade both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. Its leaders hoped that America would then accept Japanese predominance in Southeast Asia and the \_\_\_\_\_, rather than conduct a bloody and costly war to reverse Japanese gains.

## Standard VUS.11b (Atlantic Theater)

The student will demonstrate knowledge of World War II by

b) describing and locating the major battles and turning points of the war in North Africa, Europe, and the Pacific, including Midway, Stalingrad, the Normandy landing (D-Day), and Truman's decision to use the atomic bomb to force the surrender of Japan.

### Essential Understanding

Wartime strategies reflect the political and military goals of alliances, the resources on hand, and the geographical extent of the conflict.

### Essential Questions

What was the overall strategy of America and its allies in World War II?

How did America's strategy during World War II reflect available resources and the geographical scope of the conflict?

Why were some battles of World War II considered turning points of the war?

## The Atlantic Theater

### Major battles and military turning points

- North Africa
  - El Alamein: German forces threatening to seize \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ were defeated by the \_\_\_\_\_. This defeat prevented Hitler from gaining access to \_\_\_\_\_ oil supplies and attacking the Soviet Union from the south.
- Europe
  - Stalingrad: Hundreds of thousands of German soldiers were killed or captured in a months-long siege of the \_\_\_\_\_ city of Stalingrad. This defeat prevented Germany from seizing the \_\_\_\_\_ oil fields and turned the tide against Germany in the east.
  - Normandy landings (D-Day): American and Allied troops under Eisenhower landed in German-occupied \_\_\_\_\_ on June 6, 1944. Despite intense German opposition and heavy \_\_\_\_\_ casualties, the landings succeeded, and the liberation of western Europe from Hitler began.

## Standard VUS.11b (Pacific Theater)

The student will demonstrate knowledge of World War II by

b) describing and locating the major battles and turning points of the war in North Africa, Europe, and the Pacific, including Midway, Stalingrad, the Normandy landing (D-Day), and Truman's decision to use the atomic bomb to force the surrender of Japan.

### Essential Understanding

Wartime strategies reflect the political and military goals of alliances, the resources on hand, and the geographical extent of the conflict.

### Essential Questions

What was the overall strategy of America and its allies in World War II?

How did America's strategy during World War II reflect available resources and the geographical scope of the conflict?

Why were some battles of World War II considered turning points of the war?

## Pacific Theater

### Major battles and military turning points

- Pacific
  - Midway: In the Battle of Midway (termed the "Miracle at Midway"), American naval forces defeated a much larger Japanese force as it prepared to seize \_\_\_\_\_. Coming only a few months after Pearl Harbor, a Japanese victory at Midway would have enabled Japan to invade \_\_\_\_\_. The American victory ended the Japanese threat to Hawaii and began a series of American victories in the "island hopping" campaign, carrying the war closer and closer to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Iwo Jima and Okinawa: The American invasions of the islands of Iwo Jima and Okinawa brought American forces closer than ever to Japan, but both invasions cost thousands of \_\_\_\_\_ lives and even more Japanese lives, as Japanese soldiers fought fiercely over every square inch of the islands and Japanese soldiers and \_\_\_\_\_ committed \_\_\_\_\_ rather than surrender.
  - Use of the atomic bomb: Facing the prospect of horrendous American and Japanese casualties if American forces were to invade Japan itself, President \_\_\_\_\_ ordered the use of atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of \_\_\_\_\_ and Nagasaki to force the Japanese to surrender. Tens of thousands of people were killed in both cities. Shortly after the bombs were used, the Japanese leaders \_\_\_\_\_, avoiding the need for American forces to invade Japan.

## Standard VUS.11c

The student will demonstrate knowledge of World War II by

c) describing the role of all-minority military units, including the Tuskegee Airmen and Nisei regiments.

### Essential Understanding

World War II solidified the nation's role as a global power, ushered in social changes, and established reform agendas that would preoccupy public discourse in the United States for the remainder of the twentieth century.

Women entered into previously male job roles as African Americans and others struggled to obtain desegregation of the armed forces and end discriminatory hiring practices.

### Essential Questions

How did minority participation in World War II reflect social conditions in the United States?

How did minorities contribute to Allied victory?

### Essential Knowledge

#### Minority participation

- African Americans generally served in \_\_\_\_\_ military units and were assigned to noncombat roles but demanded the right to serve in \_\_\_\_\_ rather than support roles.

#### All-minority military units

- \_\_\_\_\_ (African American) served in Europe with distinction.
- \_\_\_\_\_ (Asian American) earned a high number of decorations.

#### Additional contributions of minorities

- Communication codes of the \_\_\_\_\_ were used (oral, not written language; impossible for the Japanese to break).
- Mexican Americans also fought, but in \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ units.
- \_\_\_\_\_ units suffered high casualties and won numerous unit citations and individual medals for bravery in action.

## Standard VUS.11d

The student will demonstrate knowledge of World War II by

d) examining the Geneva Convention and the treatment of prisoners of war during World War II.

### Essential Understanding

The conduct of war often reflects the social and moral codes of a nation.

The treatment of prisoners of war often reflects the savage nature of conflict and the cultural norms of a nation.

### Essential Questions

What was the purpose of the Geneva Convention?

How did the treatment of prisoners of war differ during the war?

### Geneva Convention

The Geneva Convention attempted to ensure the humane treatment of prisoners of war by establishing rules to be followed by all nations.

The treatment of prisoners of war in the Pacific Theater often reflected the savagery of the fighting there.

- In the \_\_\_\_\_, American POWs suffered brutal treatment by the Japanese after surrender of the Philippines.
- \_\_\_\_\_ soldiers often committed suicide rather than surrender.
- The treatment of prisoners of war in \_\_\_\_\_ more closely followed the ideas of the Geneva Convention

## Standard VUS.11e

The student will demonstrate knowledge of World War II by  
e) analyzing the Holocaust (Hitler's "final solution"), its impact on Jews and other groups, and the postwar trials of war criminals.

### Essential Understanding

Specific groups, often the object of hatred and prejudice, face increased risk of discrimination during wartime.

### Essential Questions

What was the Holocaust and who were its victims?

What was the short-term and long-term significance of the Holocaust?

## The Holocaust

### Terms to know

- \_\_\_\_\_: The systematic and purposeful destruction of a racial, political, religious, or cultural group
- final solution: Germany's decision to exterminate all \_\_\_\_\_

### Affected groups

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- " \_\_\_\_\_ " (homosexuals, the mentally ill, political dissidents)

### Significance

- In the \_\_\_\_\_ trials, Nazi leaders and others were convicted of war crimes.
- The Nuremberg trials emphasized individual \_\_\_\_\_ for actions during a war, regardless of orders received.
- The trials led to increased demand for a \_\_\_\_\_ homeland.