

The Century: Peter Jennings
Homefront: WWII

1. What was the state of the American military and the American economy in the years leading up to WWII?
2. How does FDR communicate with the American people and why is it important?
3. What industry was transformed into war production in only nine months? Why do you think they were able to do this?
4. What were some of the fears that men held about women doing factory jobs? Explain the “patriotism” women felt when working in the factories.
5. What role did Hollywood play in the war?
6. How does American propaganda portray the Germans and the Japanese?
7. What happened to Japanese-Americans during the war? Why?
8. How was the war on the minds of young children?

9. What might the ringing of the doorbell mean?

10. When was the war not “fun” anymore?

11. Stephen Ambrose calls D-Day “the greatest achievement of the American Republic in the first half of the 20th Century.” What does he mean?

12. What is FDR’s health like during the election of 1944?

13. Why was FDR’s death so hard on the American people?

14. What did most American soldiers think of invading Japan?

15. Did most people at the 37 sites of the Manhattan project know what they were researching? Explain.

16. Why were some Americans still apprehensive about world affairs even after the war was over?

17. Why do you think Peter Jennings says WWII brought Americans together like never before or after?