Paths to Victory

Compare Allied campaigns and their human costs

MWH.C.6.5.B "Compare military campaigns in Africa, Asia, and the Pacific (e.g., Battle of the Atlantic, Battle of Britain, siege of Leningrad, Operation Torch, Operation Overlord), identifying Allied military leadership, major strategies..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each Allied leader and circle a strategy in each region. Write 1 beside a sacrifice made by soldiers and 2 beside a sacrifice made by civilians in each paragraph so you can compare the campaigns.

Three Regions, Different Challenges

1. In November 1942, Allied troops landed in Morocco and Algeria during Operation Torch. U.S. general Dwight D. Eisenhower led the operation. The landings gave the Allies a route to attack Axis forces in Tunisia from the west, while British forces advanced from Egypt in the east. Troops had to coordinate sea crossings, landings, and supplies across long distances. Some faced gunfire as they came ashore, and later fighting in Tunisia cost many lives. For civilians, battles and air raids threatened towns and forced some families to leave home. In North Africa, gaining ground depended on moving and supplying large armies.

2. In Asia, British general William Slim commanded the Fourteenth Army as it defended Imphal and Kohima against a Japanese offensive in 1944. Jungle, steep hills, and heavy rain made roads unreliable. Allied aircraft delivered supplies to troops cut off by land, helping them hold their positions before advancing into Burma. Soldiers faced disease and hunger as well as combat; many were killed or wounded. Civilians near the fighting fled their homes, while food and transport shortages disrupted daily life. Unlike Operation Torch's seaborne landings, this campaign required armies to keep fighting even when ground supply routes broke down.

3. Across the Pacific, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz directed U.S. naval forces in a campaign often called island hopping. Rather than attack every Japanese-held island, Allied forces seized selected islands to bring airfields and ships closer to Japan. At Saipan in 1944, U.S. troops fought through caves and fortified positions under heavy fire. Many soldiers were killed or wounded. Civilians on the island also suffered terribly: many died in the battle, and some took their own lives after Japanese propaganda spread fear of capture. Unlike the campaigns on connected land, this advance depended on ships carrying troops and supplies across open ocean.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did Eisenhower's and Slim's strategies address different supply challenges?

2. How did Eisenhower's and Nimitz's campaigns use the sea for different strategic goals?

3. How did conditions in Asia and the Pacific expose Allied soldiers to different risks?

4. Compare the sacrifices civilians made in North Africa and at Saipan. What threatened them in each place?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write an 80 to 100 word museum caption comparing two regions from the passage. Name both Allied leaders, explain how geography shaped their different strategies, describe a sacrifice made by soldiers and civilians in each region, and end with your own conclusion about the costs of gaining ground.

Paths to Victory

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each Allied leader and circle a strategy in each region. Write 1 beside a sacrifice made by soldiers and 2 beside a sacrifice made by civilians in each paragraph so you can compare the campaigns. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did Eisenhower's and Slim's strategies address different supply challenges?	**Eisenhower coordinated sea landings and supplies across long distances to reach North Africa. Slim used aircraft to supply troops when roads and ground supply routes failed in Asia.**
2	How did Eisenhower's and Nimitz's campaigns use the sea for different strategic goals?	**Eisenhower led landings in Morocco and Algeria to open an attack on Tunisia from the west. Nimitz's forces used ships to reach selected Pacific islands that could bring Allied airfields and ships closer to Japan.**
3	How did conditions in Asia and the Pacific expose Allied soldiers to different risks?	**In Asia, soldiers faced disease and hunger as well as combat when travel and supply were difficult. At Saipan, soldiers fought through fortified positions under heavy fire, and many were killed or wounded.**
4	Compare the sacrifices civilians made in North Africa and at Saipan. What threatened them in each place?	**In North Africa, battles and air raids threatened towns and forced some families from their homes. At Saipan, many civilians died during the battle, and some took their own lives after propaganda spread fear of capture.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Two paths to victory crossed very different ground. In North Africa, Eisenhower led landings from the sea, then pushed toward Tunisia with supply lines stretched across great distances. Some Allied soldiers died in later fighting, while families fled towns threatened by air raids. In Asia, Slim relied on aircraft to supply troops when jungle roads failed. Soldiers endured disease and hunger, and civilians fled battle areas as food became scarce. These campaigns show that gaining ground required more than defeating an enemy: commanders also had to keep armies supplied while communities paid a heavy price.

Accept comparisons that use accurate details from the passage, even if students choose different wording or examples. For the caption, check that each chosen region includes its leader, a geography-based strategy, and distinct soldier and civilian sacrifices.