

Home Front Choices

Evaluate how wartime policies changed life in the United States.

USII.6.g "evaluating the effects of the war on the home front including, but not limited to women in the workforce, the incarceration of Japanese Americans, rationing, conservation, and war bonds;"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each wartime action or policy in the passage. Circle the result of each action or policy so you can evaluate its effects on people at home.

War Reaches Home

- ① During World War II, millions of American men entered the armed forces. Factories needed workers to build planes, ships, and equipment. Many women took jobs that had often been closed to them, including welding and factory work. Their pay gave some families needed income, and their work helped increase production. Still, many women faced lower pay than men and were expected to leave jobs when soldiers returned. The war changed what many people believed women could do, even though equal opportunities did not arrive for everyone.
- ② After Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, the U.S. government forced about 120,000 people of Japanese ancestry from their West Coast homes. Most were Japanese Americans, and many were citizens. Families had little time to sell homes or businesses before moving to guarded camps. The government said the policy protected national security, but it gave no proof that these families were disloyal. Incarceration caused lost property, interrupted schooling, and fear. It also violated the rights of people who had not been charged with a crime.
- ③ At home, families met wartime needs in other ways. Ration books limited purchases of items such as sugar, meat, gasoline, and tires, so supplies could go to the military. People planted gardens, saved scrap metal, and reused materials to conserve resources. Many Americans also bought war bonds. The government used bond money to help pay for the war, while buyers could later receive more money than they paid. These efforts asked civilians to change daily habits, but they connected homes to the nation's war effort.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 How did women working in factories affect both the war effort and women's lives?

2 What were two harmful effects of the incarceration of Japanese Americans and other people of Japanese ancestry?

3 How did rationing and conservation help the military? Use one detail from the passage.

4 Why did buying war bonds make civilians part of the war effort?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Choose one home-front action or policy from the passage. Write exactly three sentences that explain how it changed daily life, give one detail from the passage, and judge whether its effect was mostly helpful, harmful, or mixed.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each wartime action or policy in the passage. Circle the result of each action or policy so you can evaluate its effects on people at home. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did women working in factories affect both the war effort and women's lives?	Women helped increase war production and earned income for families. Their work also changed beliefs about what women could do, although many still faced lower pay and were expected to leave jobs after the war.
2	What were two harmful effects of the incarceration of Japanese Americans and other people of Japanese ancestry?	Accept any two: lost property, interrupted schooling, fear, or violation of rights without being charged with a crime.
3	How did rationing and conservation help the military? Use one detail from the passage.	They limited civilian use of goods and saved resources, allowing supplies such as food, gasoline, and tires to go to the military.
4	Why did buying war bonds make civilians part of the war effort?	War bond purchases gave the government money to help pay for the war. Buyers could later receive more money than they paid.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Rationing changed daily life because families could not buy as much sugar, meat, gasoline, or tires. This helped send limited supplies to the military. Although it was inconvenient for families, rationing was a helpful way civilians supported the war effort.

Accept a clear three-sentence evaluation of any action or policy in the passage. The response should identify a daily-life effect, use an accurate passage detail, and make a supported judgment.