**World War II Research Topics**

*Choose ten of the following topics and answer the questions in complete sentences.*

1.      Battle of the Coral Sea:

        a.      Why was the Battle of Coral Sea important or unique?

        b.      Explain the strategies and sequence of event involved in the Battle of the Coral Sea.

2.      Omar Bradley

        a.      What was Omar Bradley’s significance or contribution to WWII?

        b.      What battles and strategies was Omar Bradley involved in and what did he accomplish in WWII?

3.      Dwight David Eisenhower

        a.      What was Dwight David Eisenhower’s significance to or contribution to WWII?

        b.      What battles and strategies was Dwight David Eisenhower involved in and what did he accomplish in WWII?

4.      Japanese Attack on Pearl Harbor

        a.      How did the American position on World War II change when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor?

        b.      Why were the Japanese so successful when they attacked Pearl Harbor?

5.      Battle of the Bulge

        a.      What was unique about the Battle of the Bulge?

        b.      What was the significance of the Battle of the Bulge in the outcome of WWII?

6.      Lend Lease Act

        a.      What was the Lend Lease Act and what were the terms that it included?

        b.      What was the impact of the Lend Lease Act on World War II?

7.      Japanese Internment

        a.      Why did our government intern Japanese Americans?

        b.      How did Japanese Internment affect the lives of Japanese Americans?

8.      Auschwitz

        a.      What was Auschwitz and its significance in WWII?

        b.      How was Auschwitz different from other concentration camps?

9.      Battle of Britain

        a.      What was the chronology of events involved in the Battle of Britain?

        b.      Why or how was the Battle of Britain an important Battle in WWII?

10.     Atomic Bomb

        a.      How did the use of the atomic bomb at Nagasaki and Hiroshima end the war?

        b.      How did the atomic bomb change the perspective of warfare?

11.     General George Patton

        a.      What was the role of General George Patton in WWII?

        b.      What battles and strategies was General George Patton involved in and what did he accomplish in WWII?

12.     Benito Mussolini

        a.      How did Benito Mussolini impact WWII?

13.     Battle of Midway

        a.      Why was the Battle of Midway important?

        b.      How was the Battle of Midway unique?

45.     Invasion of Normandy (D-Day)

        a.      Why was the Invasion of Normandy on D-Day important to the outcome of WWII?

        b.      How was the Invasion of Normandy on D-Day a turning Point in WWII?

        c.      Compare and contrast the five different invasion beaches and the subsequent battles.

15.     The Causes of World War II

        a.      Explain what the Treaty of Versailles, the League of Nations, and the Washington Conference were and how each   contributed as a cause          of WWII?

        b.      What events occurred from 1935 to 1938 that causes war to break out in Europe? Be specific and explain the              details of each event           and how each of the events contributed to the start of the war. (Minimum of five events discussed in            detail.)

16.     Erwin Rommel

        a.      What was the role of Erwin Rommel in WWII? Specifically describe his involvement in North Africa.

        b.      What battles was Erwin Rommel in and what strategies did he use? What did he accomplish in WWII?

17.     Prime Minister Winston Churchill

        a.      Who was Prime Minister Winston Churchill and what was his involvement and or role in WWII?

18.     President Franklin Delano Roosevelt

        a.      What was President Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s involvement in WWII?

        b.      Why did President Franklin Delano Roosevelt feel that eventually the U.S. would have to enter the war? How did the      American people feel            about this?

19.     Bernard Montgomery

        a.      What was the role of Bernard Montgomery in WWII?

        b.      What strategies did Bernard Montgomery initiate in the Battle of El Alamein?

20.     General Douglas MacArthur

        a.      What was the role of General Douglas MacArthur in WWII?

        b.      Explain the significance of the quote “I will return!” Explain the sequence of events that led up to this statement and         the chronology leading          up to his return.

21.     Concentration Camps

        a.      What were concentration camps? (Facts about and locations of.)

        b.      Why were concentration camps established and what did they accomplish?

22.     The Holocaust

        a.      What was the purpose of the Holocaust and what were the results of it?

        b.      Why have we established memorials and museums to commemorate the memory of those who died in the                Holocaust?

23.     Adolf Hitler

        a.      How did Adolf Hitler gain power and what were his goals?

        b.      What steps did Adolf Hitler take to achieve his goals in WWII?

24.     The War in the Pacific

        a.      Compare and contrast the events in Okinawa and the Philippines during the War in the Pacific?

        b.      Why was Japan anxious to expand its territory and risk conflict with much larger countries to obtain its goal?

        c.      Select three different personal accounts of WWII veterans that served in the Pacific during WWII and compare their      experiences. (Deane             Philips will be sharing his stories with us.)

25.     Military weaponry in WWII

        a.      What technological advances were made in military weaponry during WWII?

        b.      Compare the military weapons of Germany and Great Britain; or Japan and the United States.

26.     US Women

        a.      How did WWII change the lives of women in the United States?

        b.      How did WWII change the role of women in the United States military?

27.     Rationing in WWII

        a.      What was rationing and why was rationing necessary in the U.S. during WWII?

        b.      How did rationing change daily life in the United States?

28.     Joseph Stalin

        a.      What was Joseph Stalin’s role in WWII?

        b.      How did a totalitarian dictator like Joseph Stalin end up as one of the Allies during WWII?

29.     Submarine Warfare

        a.      What role or part did submarines play in WWII?

        b.      How did submarines change naval warfare in WWII from what had been experienced in earlier wars?

30.     Dachau

        a.      What made Dachau different from other concentration camps?

31.     Luftwaffe

        a.      What was the role of the Luftwaffe in WWII?

        b.      In what ways was the Luftwaffe superior to other air forces in WWII?

32.     US Manhattan Project

        a.      What was the Manhattan Project and what was the chronology of its development?

        b.      What impact did the Manhattan Project have on WWII?

33.     Heinrich Himmler

        a.      What was the role of Heinrich Himmler in WWII?

34.     Nazis

        a.      How did the Nazis rise to power?

        b.      What was the role of the Nazis in WWII?

35.     The Nuremberg Trials

        a.      What were the Nuremberg Trials?

        b.      Who was tried at the Nuremberg Trials and what were the results of the trials?

36.     Gestapo

        a.      What was the Gestapo and what was their role in WWII?

37.     Charles DeGaulle

        a.      What was the role of Charles DeGaulle in WWII?

        b.      What role did he play in France after France was defeated?

38.     Aircraft: Specifically the uses of specific aircraft and their involvement in particular battles. (This is more than a list of planes.)

        a.      What role did aircraft play in WWII?

        b.      What technological advancements in aircraft design and performance was achieved during WWII?

39.     Anne Frank

        a.      Who was Anne Frank and what happened to her? Tell the story.

        b.      How did Anne Frank’s life represent the Jewish experience during the Holocaust?

40.     Home Front

        a.      What was life like in the United States during WWII?

        b.      How did life change for Americans during WWII?

41.     Warships: Specifically their uses and roles in particular battles. (This must not be a list of ships.)

        a.      What role did warships play in WWII?

        b.      What technological advancements in ship design and performance was achieved during WWII?

42.     Battle of El Alamein

        a.      What was the Battle of El Alamein?

        b.      Describe the chronology and strategy of the Battle of El Alamein?

        c.      Compare and contrast the strategies of British General Montgomery and Russian Field Marshall Rommel.

43.     Bataan Death March

        a.      What was the Bataan Death March? Describe the chronology of events of the March.

        b.      Compare two or more soldier’s perspectives on the Bataan Death March.