**World War II Vocabulary #1**

**1. Allied Powers-** Great Britain, Soviet Union, United States, and France alliance during WWII

**2. Axis Powers-** Nazi Germany, Italy, and Imperial Japan alliance during WWII

**3. Anti-Semitism**- Hostility to, prejudice, or discrimination against Jews.

**4. Appeasement-** Diplomatic policy of making political or material concessions to an aggressive power in order to avoid conflict.

**5. Bataan Death March-** 76,000 [prisoners of war](https://www.britannica.com/topic/prisoner-of-war) (66,000 Filipinos, 10,000 Americans) were forced by the Japanese military to march in the Philippines in 1942.

**6. Blitzkrieg-** Lightening war; military tactic calculated to create psychological shock and disorganization in enemy forces through the use of surprise, speed, and superiority in firepower.

**7. Concentration Camp-** Places where Nazi Germany placed millions of those they considered “racially undesirable”; forced labor, often starved, tortured, and killed,

**8. Dictator**- A ruler with total power over a country, typically one who has obtained power by force.

**9. Fascism**- Governmental system led by a dictator and is characterized by strong nationalism

**10. Genocide-** The deliberate and systematic extermination of a national, racial, political, or cultural group.

**11. Holocaust-** Genocide during WWII in which Adolf Hitler’s Nazi Germany systematically murdered six million European Jews, around two-thirds of the Jewish population of Europe

**12. Island Hopping-** U.S. military strategy of securing and taking control of many small islands in the Pacific in order to move the U.S. army closer to Japan

**13. Kamikaze-** Imperial Japanese aviators who initiated suicide attacks on Allied naval vessels by crashing their planes into enemy ships

**14. Manhattan Project-** Research and development in Los Alamos, New Mexico by the U.S., Great Britain, and Canada to produce the first nuclear weapons

**15. Pearl Harbor-** US military base on Hawaii that was bombed by Japan on December 7, 1941, bringing the United States into World War II.

**16. Soviet-German Non-Aggression Pact- Nazi** Germany and Soviet Union Russia agreed to take no military action against each other for 10 years, but quickly fell apart when Nazi forces invaded the Soviet Union in 1941

**17. Battle of Midway-** Huge naval victory and turning point for U.S. in the Pacific Theater (Front) by inflicting devastating damage on the Japanese naval fleet

**18. Mobilization-** The action of a country or its government preparing and organizing troops for active service.

**19. Rationing-** Saving; The controlled distribution of scarce resources, goods, or services, or an artificial restriction of demand.

**20. Rosie the Riveter-** [Cultural icon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cultural_icon) of World War II, representing the women who worked in factories and shipyards during [World War II](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_War_II) to produce war supplies

**21. Executive Order 9066-** Presidential order by F.D.R. in 1942 that authorized the incarceration of Japanese Americans, German Americans, and Italia Americans to internment camps in the U.S.

**World War II Vocabulary #2**

**1. Liberation-** The act of setting someone free from imprisonment, slavery, or oppression; release.

**2. D-Day-** Allied invasion of Normandy in 1944 that resulted in the liberation of Western Europe from Nazi control; largest seaborne invasion in history

**3. Navajo Code Talker**- U.S. soldiers that used Native American languages to transmit coded/secret messages during WWII

**4. Flying Tigers-** Chinese American air force pilots for the U.S. during WWII

**5. Tuskegee Airmen-** African-American military pilots (fighter and bomber) who fought in WWII

**6. Little Boy and Fat Man-** The names given to the two atomic bombs the U.S. dropped on Japan in 1945

**7. Hiroshima and Nagasaki-** Japanese cities that the U.S. dropped the first ever nuclear weapons on causing Imperial Japan to surrender in 1945

**8. Bracero Program-** Agreement between the U.S. and Mexican governments in 1942 that allowed Mexican citizens to take temporary agricultural work in America, making it possible for the U.S. economy to meet the challenges imposed by the war effort

**9. Communism-** Economic and social system in which all (or nearly all) property and resources are collectively owned by a classless (completely equal) society; no private property; distribution of goods would be based upon the principle “From each according to his ability, to each according to his needs”; government has control over all business

**10. Capitalism-** Economic and social system based on the principle of individual rights and laissez-faire (free-market); allows private property; citizens can buy and sell whatever they want with limited government intervention; creates competition; prices determined by supply and demand