

Name _____

Date _____

World War II Vocabulary

- 1) **Allies:** countries fighting with the United States against the Axis powers
- 2) **atom bomb:** powerful weapon created from the splitting of atoms - used by President Harry S. Truman on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki to end World War II
- 3) **Axis Powers:** the alliance of Germany, Italy, and Japan
- 4) **“Big Three”:** Stalin, Churchill, and Roosevelt. They worked together to defeat Germany.
- 5) **Sir Winston Churchill:** Prime Minister of Great Britain during the war
- 6) **concentration camps:** prison camps established by Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party for Jews and other political prisoners during the war
- 7) **D-Day:** invasion of Normandy, France, by the Allies (June 6, 1944)
- 8) **dictator:** a person who has complete power and authority over a country
- 9) **Dwight D. Eisenhower:** supreme commander of the Allied forces during the war who later became the 34th president of the U.S.A.
- 10) **Hiroshima:** Japanese City on which the first atomic bomb was dropped (August 6, 1945)
- 11) **Adolf Hitler:** dictator of Germany during the war
- 12) **Holocaust:** mass murder of European Jews by Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party
- 13) **home front:** term given to U.S.A. mainland during the war
- 14) **Jews:** people persecuted by Adolf Hitler and the Nazis because their religion was Judaism
- 15) **Benito Mussolini:** dictator of Italy during the war
- 16) **Nagasaki:** Japanese city on which the second atomic bomb was dropped (August 9, 1945)
- 17) **Nazis:** shortened name for the German political party called the National Socialist German Worker's Party and commanded by Adolf Hitler
- 18) **patriotic:** showing love and support for one's own country
- 19) **Pearl Harbor:** American base in Hawaii that was bombed by Japanese planes on December 7, 1941 - the bombing of Pearl Harbor forced the United States to enter the war
- 20) **ration:** to allow only certain amounts of food, gasoline, and other goods to each person
- 21) **relocation camps (internment camps):** special camps in the U.S.A. where Japanese American were detained after the bombing of Pearl Harbor
- 22) **Franklin D. Roosevelt:** 32nd President of the U.S.A. - he has been the only president who was elected four times, serving a total of twelve years
- 23) **Rosie the Riveter:** symbol of American women who went to work in factories during the war (a rivet is a small metal nail that joins two pieces of metal)
- 24) **Joseph Stalin:** dictator of the Soviet Union (Russia) from 1929-1953
- 25) **swastika:** emblem on the Nazi flag - the swastika was a cross with the ends bent at right angles
- 26) **General Hideki Tojo:** military dictator who controlled Japan during the war
- 27) **Harry S. Truman:** became the 33rd U.S. president after President Roosevelt died
- 28) **veteran:** soldier who returns home from war
- 29) **V-E Day:** “Victory in Europe Day” when Germany surrendered (May 8, 1945)
- 30) **V-J Day:** “Victory in Japan Day” when Japan surrendered (September 2, 1945)
- 31) **war bonds:** certificates sold by the United States government to pay for the war