

## World War II Webquest

**Directions:** Use the website below to complete the webquest about World War II. Write in **complete sentences!**

<http://www.pbs.org/perilousfight/>

### Section 1: The Battlefield

1. Click on the section that says, “Pearl Harbor” on the left.

What did President Roosevelt do in 1941 and how did the government know there might be an attack?

2. What happened on December 7 and how much damage was done?

3. What did the enemy think the Pearl Harbor attack would do?

4. Why did the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor fail to defeat the United States?

5. What happened on December 8<sup>th</sup>?

6. Click on the section that says, “Doolittle Raid and Midway” on the left.

What happened on April 18, 1942, and what was the mission? Was it successful?

7. What was the psychological effect of the Doolittle Raid on both the Americans and the Japanese?

8. Read the last 2 paragraphs. What happened at the Battle of Midway?

### Section 2: Psychology of War

9. Click on the section that says, “Atomic Option” on the left.

Truman said that the atomic bombs were the most terrible weapon in history. Why was he right?

10. What were some reasons why people wanted to drop the atomic bomb, and what are some reasons why people thought it was unnecessary?

11. Click on “Disbelief of Atrocities” on the left.

Why did President Roosevelt refuse to bomb Auschwitz or the train tracks leading to it?

12. Click on “Mental Toll” on the left.

Compared to previous wars, what are some reasons why World War II a more difficult war?

### **Section 3: Social Aspects**

13. Click on “African-Americans” on the left.

Why was there some acceptance of African-Americans in the 1940s?

14. What was it like on the home front for African-Americans and what was Executive Order 8802?

15. Click on the section that says, “Asian Americans” on the left.

What happened to 100,000 West Coast Japanese-Americans and why did many people not like them?

16. Click on the section that says, “Women” on the left.

Read the first 3 paragraphs. Write a small paragraph explaining why women were important during World War II.