

## 1941-1945: Homefront Video Guide

Name \_\_\_\_\_

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZPP0ae2zrXY>

When Japan bombed Pearl Harbor in December of 1941, America was a country steeped in isolationist policies and ill prepared for war. Within a matter of weeks, the country made an amazing turnover from a peacetime nation suffering the final throes of a depression to the most efficient and productive “arsenal for democracy” that the world had ever seen. This was accomplished by the unity and sheer willpower of the American people, who backed the war effort almost unanimously. This video examines the American homefront during World War II, how it came together in a unified effort, and the ways in which the war changed the lives of those left behind, especially the women whose contributions to the war effort helped to win the war.

1. What did Japan hope to achieve by bombing Pearl Harbor in 1941?
2. How did the American people react to the bombing of Pearl Harbor?
3. What is a citizen soldier? Why does the United States have a particular history of citizen soldiers?
4. Discuss the transition from a peacetime economy to wartime economy that occurred in the United States during World War II.
5. Women workers increased dramatically during the war. Why was there resistance at first to women working in war plants?
6. Why were women accepted in the defense industries after the initial reservation and resistance?

7. World War II was not fought on American soil. Nevertheless, the impact of the war was tremendous. How did World War II alter the American homefront?
8. How did the United States use propaganda to unify the American people behind the war effort?
9. Why were Japanese-Americans banished to internment camps? Why weren't German-Americans or Italian-Americans interned? Why is this one of the greatest civil rights violations in American history?
10. What was the impact of Frank Sinatra on American culture during World War II?
11. What was the impact of D-Day on the course of the war?
12. What was the full impact of FDR's death and the import of when it happened?