

Document-Based Question

Directions: Question 1 is based on the accompanying documents. The documents have been edited for the purpose of this exercise. You are advised to spend 15 minutes planning and 45 minutes writing your answer. Write your responses on the lined pages that follow the questions.

1. Evaluate the impact the December 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor had on the American home front. Confine your response to the period between 1939 and 1946.

DOCUMENT 1

Mr. Wilkie:
Were you now the President of these United States, possessing the comprehensive and intelligent views gained by many years of service in all phases of national and international experiences and being fully cognizant of serious emergencies now facing our nation, would you as an American looking out for the welfare of all Americans be satisfied to turn over the management of this great nation to a layman, inexperienced in government affairs except as a front man and mouthpiece for utility companies.

Answer this Mr. Wilkie - without evasion - yes or NO.
Mail this card to a friend who is as yet undecided.

1940 Election FDR Campaign Card

DOCUMENT 2



DOCUMENT 3

Year	Total labor force (*1,000)	of which Male (*1,000)	of which Female (*1,000)	Female share of total (%)
1940	56,100	41,940	14,160	25.2
1941	57,720	43,070	14,650	25.4
1942	60,330	44,200	16,120	26.7
1943	64,780	45,950	18,830	29.1
1944	66,320	46,930	19,390	29.2
1945	66,210	46,910	19,304	29.2
1946	60,520	43,690	16,840	27.8

DOCUMENT 4

“ . . . we propose that ten thousand Negroes MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR JOBS IN NATIONAL DEFENSE AND EQUAL INTEGRATION IN THE FIGHTING FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES . . .

It will shake up official Washington.

It will give encouragement to our white friends to fight all the harder by our side, with us, for our righteous cause.

It will gain respect for the Negro people.

It will create a new sense of self-respect among Negroes.

But what of national unity?

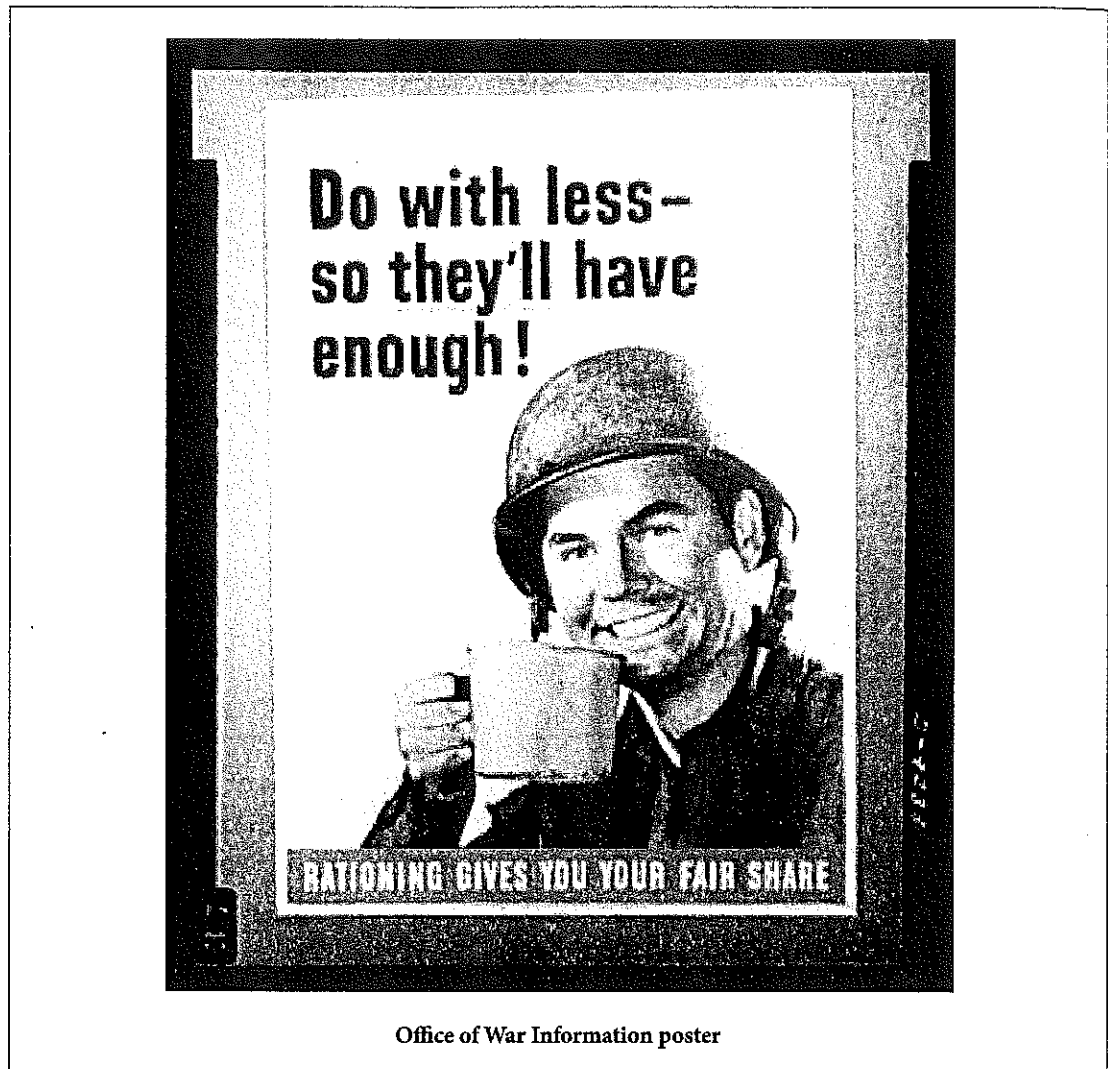
We believe in national unity which recognizes equal opportunity of black and white citizens to jobs in national defense and the armed forces, and in all other institutions and endeavors in America. We condemn all dictatorships, Fascist, Nazi and Communist. We are loyal, patriotic Americans all . . . ”

The Call to Negro America to March on Washington, A. Philip Randolph, 1941

DOCUMENT 5

U.S. Active Military Personnel (1939-1945) Year	Army	Navy	Marines	Total
1939	189,839	125,202	19,432	334,473
1940	269,023	160,997	28,345	458,365
1941	1,462,315	284,427	54,359	1,801,101
1942	3,075,608	640,570	142,613	3,858,791
1943	6,994,472	1,741,750	308,523	9,044,745
1944	7,994,750	2,981,365	475,604	11,451,719
1945	8,267,958	3,380,817	474,680	12,123,445

DOCUMENT 6



DOCUMENT 7

“Executive Order

Authorizing the Secretary of War to Prescribe Military Areas

Whereas the successful prosecution of the war requires every possible protection against espionage and against sabotage to national-defense . . .

Now, therefore, by virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States, and Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy, I hereby authorize and direct the Secretary of War, and the Military Commanders . . . to prescribe military areas in such places and of such extent . . . from which any or all persons may be excluded, and with respect to which, the right of any person to enter, remain in, or leave shall be subject to whatever restrictions the Secretary of War or the appropriate Military Commander may impose in his discretion . . .

Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House,
February 19, 1942”