Discussion Questions:

1. Why did the U.S. avoid involvement in WWII until December 1941? Why was the Pearl Harbor attack such a shock to the U.S.?

2. Why was the invention of penicillin so important in the context of WWII? What were some other advances in medicine that were important during the war?

3. How were women affected by WWII? Do you think the war advanced the rights of women?

4. During WWII, the American armed forces were still segregated by race. Why do you think this issue became increasingly important during this era, leading to the desegregation of the Armed Forces a few years after the war?

5. What were some of the arguments for and against using the atomic bomb?

6. Overall, what were the consequences of WWII for the United States? How was the U.S. changed by the war?