

Essay Questions for Essay #7

1. Why and how did the United States become involved in the Second World War?
2. 'The United States' retreat into isolationism was more apparent than real in the period 1919 to 1941.' Critically examine the validity of this assertion.
3. Assess the United States' contribution to Allied victory in World War II.
4. Why, in spite of its stated policy of neutrality, did the United States enter World War I?
5. Why was it that both Congress and the American people rejected the Versailles peace settlement negotiated by President Wilson?
6. 'Though always expressed in terms of high moral principles, US foreign policy from 1913 to 1945 was in fact driven by the relentless pursuit of US national interests.' How accurate is this comment?
7. To what extent was American foreign policy 'isolationist' between 1920 and 1941?
8. 'President Roosevelt's war policies from 1940 to 1945 were a mixture of the ruthless pursuit of US national interests and high-minded idealism.' To what extent is this a fair judgement?
9. 'To walk softly but carry a big stick.' To what extent is this an accurate portrayal of Theodore Roosevelt's conduct of foreign affairs, 1901-1909?
10. Why, in spite of President Wilson's policy of neutrality, did America enter World War I in 1917?
11. How isolated was the USA from international affairs in the period 1919-41?
12. Compare and contrast the attitude of the USA towards the establishment of the League of Nations after the First World War and the establishment of the United Nations Organisation towards the end of the Second World War.
13. Compare and contrast the American contribution to Allied victory in the First World War with its contribution to victory in the Second World War.
14. How isolated was the USA from international affairs in the period 1919-41?
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