



**CALIFORNIA CONTENT
STANDARD 11.7.1**

America Enters World War II

Specific Objective: Examine the origins of American involvement in the war, with an emphasis on the events that precipitated the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Read the chart to answer questions on the next page.

Year	Events	U.S. and Allied Responses
1930– 1936	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Militarists, dictators in control in Japan, Germany, Italy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isolationism in United States—desire to stay out of European conflicts
1937	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Japan attacks China again. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United States supports China with supplies and arms (China not formally at war).
1938	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Germany takes Austria. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • France and Great Britain try to appease Germany with Munich Pact.
1939	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Germany and USSR sign nonaggression pact. • Germany takes Czechoslovakia and Poland; USSR takes part of Poland. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United States announces neutrality. • U.S. approves cash-and-carry system to provide arms and supplies to allies who used their own ships for transport.
1940	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Germany takes France. • Germany attacks Great Britain. • Germany, Italy, and Japan join as Axis powers. • Germany attacks U.S. and British supply convoys. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United States announces it will provide all aid short of war to allies. • U.S. begins military draft. • U.S. increases defense spending.
1941	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Germany attacks USSR. • German submarines continue attacks on U.S. supply ships. • Japan increases its attacks in Asia, taking French colonies. • United States and Japan enter peace talks about Asia while Japan plans attack on United States. • Japan attacks Pearl Harbor. • Germany and Italy declare war on United States. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United States begins Lend-Lease plan to supply arms and supplies to Great Britain and USSR without immediate payment. • U.S. Navy authorized to attack any German submarines on sight—U.S. in undeclared war with Germany • U.S. cuts off oil supplies to Japan. • U.S. knows Japan will attack, but not when and where; U.S. continues preparing for war with Japan and in Europe. • U.S. declares war on Japan. • United States formally at war with Germany and Italy; becomes an ally of Great Britain, France, and USSR



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Directions: Choose the letter of the *best* answer.

- 1 **How did the United States respond to the rise of militarists and dictators in Japan, Germany, and Italy before 1937?**
 - A It offered economic aid to the militarists and dictators.
 - B It built up its military forces and offered arms to threatened nations.
 - C It joined the League of Nations to prevent these leaders from getting too strong.
 - D It tried to remain isolated from European conflicts.

- 2 **The cash-and-carry system of 1939 allowed the United States to**
 - A sell war materials to allies as long as they paid cash and transported the goods themselves.
 - B buy imports from Germany and France as long as payments were made in cash.
 - C increase production of arms as long as they were paid for when ordered.
 - D prevent Germany from buying U.S. arms by demanding repayment of loans.

- 3 **By 1941, the United States was in an undeclared war with Germany because**
 - A the Air Force had begun bombing targets in Europe.
 - B the Navy was authorized to shoot at German submarines.
 - C ground troops were preparing to land in Europe.
 - D some of the fighting in Africa involved U.S. troops.

- 4 **At the time of the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, the United States and Japan**
 - A shared control of naval bases in Hawaii.
 - B were involved in peace talks concerning conflicts in Asia.
 - C had engaged in several naval battles in the Pacific.
 - D had not formally contacted each other for several years.

- 5 **Which of these events was the *most immediate* cause of Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor?**
 - A Japan took control of Manchuria in China.
 - B Japan joined the Axis powers of Germany and Italy.
 - C The United States cut off oil sales to Japan.
 - D The United States refused to negotiate with Japan.

- 6 **In 1940, the United States decided it would provide "all aid short of war" to allies after**
 - A Japan took French colonies in Asia.
 - B the USSR took part of Poland.
 - C Great Britain and France tried to appease Hitler.
 - D Germany took France and attacked Great Britain.