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Resource Sheet #3

Bringing It All Together
Continuity or Change: African Americans in World War II

Directions: Look back at the "motivation" for this lesson where you listed positive and negative aspects of life for African Americans during the Great Depression and positive and negative aspects of life for African Americans today. Next, answer the following questions.

1. Was life for African Americans, in general, better or worse during World War II then it was during the Great Depression? Why? Give details and specific examples to support your answers.

2. Did any opportunities open up for African Americans to work at new jobs or have greater equality during World War II that didn't exist during the Great Depression? What were some of those opportunities, if any? Give details and specific examples to support your answers.

3. Think about life for African Americans today and look at the list you made of "negative things for African Americans during World War II." Are there any things that were negative for African Americans during World War II that still are true today? Why do you think that is the case? Give details and specific examples to support your answers.

4. Think about life for African Americans today and at the list you made of "positive things for African Americans during World War II." Are there any things that were positive for African Americans during World War II that still are true today? Why do you think that is the case? Give details and specific examples to support your answers.

5. Do you think that the experiences African Americans had in World War II in the military and at home changed life for African Americans? Why or why not? Give details and examples to support your answers.

6. If you were an historian, what other types of information do you think you would need to make an educated decision about question #5? Give details and examples to support your answers.