

NAME: _____ DUE DATE: _____

Viewing Guide for:
World War II & Race in America

BIG QUESTION: How did WWII affect race relations in America?

Clip#1: Mobile Before the War

• *KEY QUESTION: What was Mobile, Alabama like before WWII?*

- (1) What was the population of Mobile, AL before the war? _____
- (2) What was “the only real industry” in Mobile before the war? _____
- (3) According to John Gray, what were race relations like in Mobile, AL before the war?

- (4) How does Katherine Phillips describe life in Mobile before the war?

Clip#2: Mobile Transformed

• *KEY QUESTION: How does WWII change Mobile?*

- (5) How many “men, women & children invaded” Mobile once the war began? _____
- (6) Why did the war stimulate factories?

- (7) How many cars were made in the US in 1941 (before the war)? _____
How many cars were made in the US during the war (1942-1945)? _____
Why the change?

- (8) How many people worked at Alabama Drydock in 1940? _____
In 1943? _____
- (9) According to John Gray, how did the war change race relations? Why?

(10) How many women entered the workforce by 1943? _____

(11) How was the new working woman, Rosie the Riveter, portrayed in the media?

(12) How did old time Mobilers view the new people who came in?

Clip#3: Racial Tension

- *KEY QUESTION—What are the causes & effects of racial tension & violence during World War II*

(13) What was the only qualification John Hope Franklin lacked for service in the Navy as an office manager? _____

(14) After being turned down for service on the basis of race, what did John Hope Franklin vow?

(15) Why was the government providing housing to people?

(16) How many housing units were provided for white workers? _____
How many housing units were provided for black workers? _____

(17) How were things changing for blacks in Mobile, AL?

(18) Why did such changes bring trouble?

(19) What was the immediate cause of violence at the Alabama Drydock Shipyard?

(20) What were the effects of the Alabama Drydock Shipyard violence? What compromise was made to defuse racial tension?

(21) The African-American journal, *The Pittsburgh Courier*, said what about work segregation at the Alabama Drydocks?

(22) How was the war changing African-Americans?

Clip#4: Blacks in the Military

- *KEY QUESTION: How did the military deal with the race issue?*

(23) What was the racial status quo in the military?

(24) What few changes were made in the military regarding race?

(25) Why was the Marine Corps finally opened to blacks?

(26) Why were blacks generally not allowed to serve in combat roles?

(27) Why were Samoan women a source of tension between white & black servicemen?

Clip#5: Japanese-American Internment

(28) How many Japanese-Americans were interred? _____

(29) How did internees behave in internment camps?

(30) According to *Life* magazine, what was the ONLY thing Japanese internees gave up?

