

## Discussion Questions

1. Reactions to the preparation of the Japanese for a foreign invasion.
2. What is the significance of the Potsdam Conference?
3. Stalin's reaction to the "New Weapon" during the Potsdam Conference
4. What was the Potsdam Declaration? How did Japan respond?
5. Japanese response to Potsdam declaration.
6. Why was Hiroshima chosen as a possible target for the atomic bomb?
7. What emotions could you possibly experience knowing that you are going to use the most destructive weapon ever used in history?
8. Describe the changes in plans and preparation that the crew of the Enola Gay experienced prior to the dropping of the bomb on August 6<sup>th</sup>?
9. How would you feel if you were the last person to touch/arm the bomb that was on the Enola Gay? What further implications would your actions have?
10. Who were the victims of the atomic bomb?
11. How could you possibly cope with the fact that you were responsible for such devastation and loss of life?
12. How did the effects of the atomic bomb reach people after the immediate effects of the attack?
13. What are the emotions of the people of Hiroshima immediately following the dropping of the atomic bomb?
14. What is the perspective of those Americans who dropped the Atomic Bomb? How do you think this perspective differs from those who suffered the effects of the atomic bomb?
- 15. How does the American perspective differ from those who experienced the direct effects of the atomic bomb at Hiroshima? Why were the Americans so excited about the news of the atomic bomb being dropped on Hiroshima?**
- 16. What were the immediate effects of the dropping of the atomic bombs? What were the long lasting impacts? Who or what groups were impacted?**

## **Discussion Questions**

- 17. Why couldn't people evacuate from Hiroshima? What made it difficult for aid to reach the people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki?**
- 18. What was the reasoning or justification for Harry Truman to drop the second atomic bomb?**
- 19. What was the outcome of the second atomic bomb being dropped of Nagasaki?**