**DBQ: Women’s Roles During World War Two**

During WWII, a large percentage of the male population left the U.S. to serve in the military overseas, leaving behind a vast need to fill their jobs at home. Women left the home and typical women’s jobs to take over many of these roles, which previously, had been considered male-only positions.

With the aid of the documents and prior knowledge, answer the questions in each part, keeping in mind the essential question: *How did the role of women in the workplace change during WWII?*

**Part 1**

Illustration from male supervisors’ guide to hiring women in 1943



How is this visual depicting women who have not yet become employees in the previously male workforce?

After seeing this illustration, would kind of women may male supervisor’s look to hire?

What might women during WWII have felt after viewing this illustration?

**Part 2**

Eleanor Roosevelt Quote, 1942

“The CAA says that women are psychologically not fitted to be pilots but I see pictures every now and then of women who are teaching men to fly. We know that in England, where the need is great, women are ferrying planes and freeing innumerable men for combat service.   
It seems to me that in the civil air patrol and in our own ferry command women, if they can pass the tests imposed upon our men, should have an equal opportunity for noncombat service.   
I believe in this case, if the war goes on long enough and women are patient, opportunity will come knocking at their doors. However, there is just a chance that this is not a time when women should be patient. We are in a war and we need to fight it with all our ability and every weapon possible. ***Women pilots, in this particular case, are a weapon waiting to be used.*** As my correspondent says: “I think it is time you women spoke up for yourselves and undertook a campaign to see that our 3500 women fliers, everyone of whom is anxious to do something in the war, be given a chance to do it.” Hence I am speaking up for the women fliers, because I am afraid we cannot afford to let the time slip by just now without using them.”

**SEPTEMBER 1, 1942**: “MY DAY” by Eleanor Roosevelt.  (syndicated column)

What type of job is Eleanor Roosevelt discussing in the above quote?

How did women prove the CAA wrong during WWII?

Why does Eleanor Roosevelt think women fliers are so vital to the war effort?

**Part 3**

Advertisement depicting Rosie the Riveter



How does Rosie the Riveter’s appearance differ from the average woman before WWII?

What is the advertisement trying to accomplish?

What would women feel when looking at this advertisement that would draw them to the workplace?

**Part 4**

Photograph of the All-American Women’s Baseball League



What jobs besides factory workers did women do during WWII?

How did these positions differ from what women did before WWII?

How did the career depicted above impact morale during hard times?