10 Modern World History (H) Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Bedar Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**John Dower, *A War Without Mercy* – Chapter 1**

**Assignment**: John Dower, emeritus professor of Japanese history at MIT, won several prizes in Japan and the United States for his book *War Without Mercy: Race and Power in the Pacific War* (1986).

1. According to Dower, what did WWII mean to those who fought it?
2. What does Dower cite as important aspects of the Holocaust that most people don’t know much about?
3. What were the two major effects of Nazi racism on the anti-Axis camp?
4. How did World War II contribute to a sharpened awareness of racism within the U.S.?
5. Explain how both the Axis and the Allies believed in a “myth of Pan-Asian unity.”
6. How did Western officials and media express fears of the Japanese enemy? Why did they view the war in Asia as completely distinct from that in Europe?
7. In what ways were the Japanese more harsh on their conquered territories than the Westerners who colonized before them?
8. Explain the following statements: “In the US and Britain, the Japanese were more hated than the Germans before as well as after Pearl Harbor… Subhuman, inhuman, lesser human, superhuman – all that was lacking in the perception of the Japanese enemy was a human like oneself.”
9. What historical examples does Dower cite to explain how racism toward the Japanese pre-dated WWII?
10. Where did the Japanese derive their notion of “proper place” and “purity”?
11. How does Dower explain the connection between the following terms: “race hate,” atrocities, dehumanization, civilian attacks?
12. In what ways were the Japanese and Westerners actually somewhat similar?
13. What are the “patterns of a race war,” according to Dower?
14. What is surprising about the transformation of Japan under U.S.