

# AMERICANS AND THE HOLOCAUST

## ISOLATION OR INTERVENTION? A CASE STUDY ON THE LEND-LEASE ACT Document Analysis Worksheet Answer Key

### Directions

1. Read the text of the bill before Congress.
2. Review background information about the bill.
3. Examine the document assigned to you and answer the questions below.

Which group or individual did you read about?

President Franklin Delano Roosevelt

Summarize this person's or group's stance on the bill (list two to three main points of the argument):

- FDR supports the Lend-Lease Bill.
- He believes that if the Axis powers gain control of the European and Asian continents, they will be in the position to attack the Western Hemisphere next.
- Our ability to keep out of war depends on the success of the British.
- Defend Britain now, and there is less chance the United States will get involved in the war.
- It is America's role to be "the great arsenal of democracy."

What evidence (if any) does your individual or group provide to support the argument?

- The Nazis have proclaimed time and time again that all other races are their inferiors and therefore subject to their orders, meaning that they would in fact want to conquer the Western Hemisphere.
- The British aren't asking us to fight, just to help send the implements of war.
- There is risk in any action taken, but by taking action now, we can hope for world peace in the future.

What external factors might shape this perspective?

- Pressure from Churchill and other world leaders
- Military knowledge that FDR may have about the current war situation
- Rising American sentiment that we should go to war and/or help the British