

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Homefront Pulse

**Directions:** Read the informational text below about life in America during World War I. Then, answer the questions that follow to show your understanding of how ordinary citizens supported the war effort from home.

### America's Effort Beyond the Battlefield

During World War I, the United States government encouraged citizens to join the fight in spirit, even if they never saw the front lines. **Rationing** became a common practice as families were asked to use less sugar, meat, and wheat so that soldiers overseas could have enough supplies. Posters reminded Americans that "Food Will Win the War," turning daily meals into acts of patriotism.

As millions of men went off to war, **women entered the workforce** in record numbers. They took jobs in factories, offices, and shipyards-roles traditionally held by men. Women also served as nurses, ambulance drivers, and Red Cross volunteers, proving that they could handle both physical labor and leadership. Their efforts strengthened the demand for women's suffrage, which became reality with the 19th Amendment in 1920.

Meanwhile, the government promoted **war bonds**: special savings certificates that helped fund the military. Schools, churches, and community groups hosted drives to sell them, turning citizens into financial supporters of victory. Even children joined in by buying "Liberty Stamps" with their allowance money. Together, these actions helped unite the home front under a common purpose: winning the war and supporting the troops.

1. What was the main purpose of rationing during World War I?
2. How did women's roles change in the workforce during the war?
3. Why were war bonds important to the United States during World War I?
4. What slogan encouraged Americans to conserve food for the war effort?
5. How did these home front efforts demonstrate unity among American citizens?