

Because the Midterm Essay is now due on 9 February, you are not required to turn in a response assignment that day. Instead, students will have the option of taking a very short quiz at the start of class on 9 February. The quiz will be based on that day's readings (Bess, 1-57). If you have done the reading, the quiz should be very easy. If you do well on the quiz, you'll receive a good response grade for Response 7. If you do not do well on the quiz, or if you chose not to take the quiz, it will not hurt your response grade. It will just figure as one of your "skip" responses. Remember, the quiz will be short and simple, so please do not worry over it.

To foster discussion in class on Thursday, please keep these questions in mind as you read.

1. Do you agree with Bess's notion, articulated in the introduction, that most leaders want to be moral? Be prepared to think about how your answer evolves as you read the rest of the book.
2. This class has already studied American concepts of race in the 1910s, 20s, and 30s. How does Bess' discussion of global race trends affect your thinking about Americans domestic history of race?
3. What are the different "narratives" for the Pacific War provided by Bess in Chapter 2?
4. How does Bess assign blame for the Pacific War? Which countries or groups receive most blame in his account? How would you assign the blame?
5. Under what scenario might Japan and the United States have avoided war? What would have had to change? How realistic does these hypothetical "peace" scenarios seem to you?

**As always, think about questions that you have based on the readings. We can explore those questions in class too.