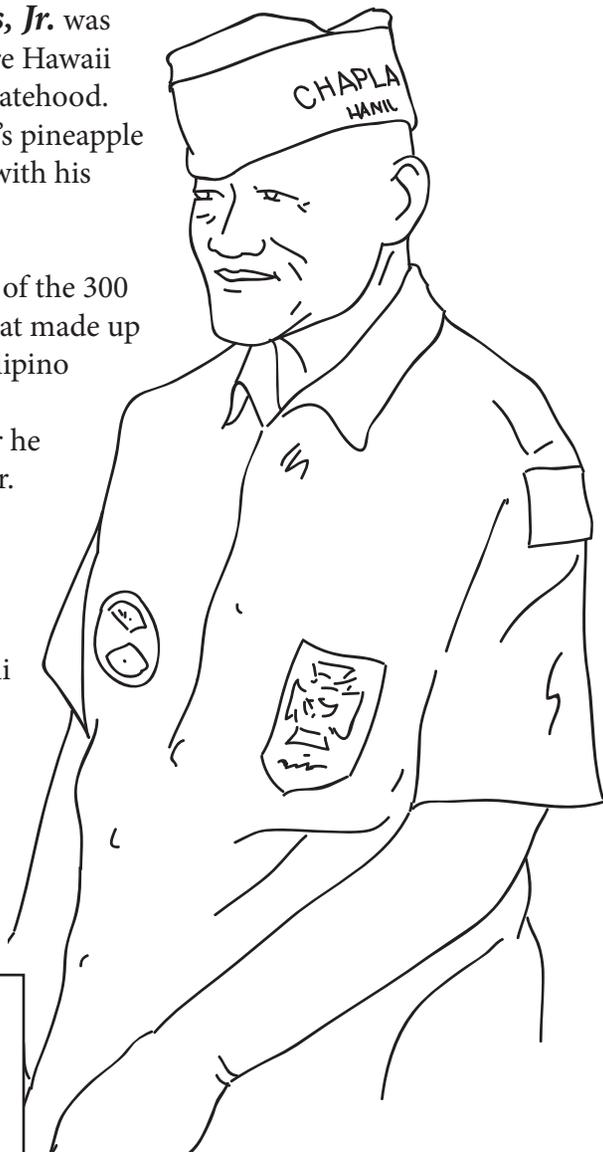


Domingo Los Banos, Jr. was born in Wahiawa, before Hawaii officially entered into statehood. He was raised on Kauai's pineapple plantation fields along with his siblings.

Los Banos became part of the 300 recruits from Hawaii that made up the First and Second Filipino Infantry Regiments. After serving in the war he became a school teacher. He worked his way up the ranks, eventually becoming Hawaii's first Filipino principal, and then serving as a Hawaii State Department of Education district superintendent for Leeward – the first Filipino to hold this position.



**CULTURAL
AWARENESS**

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC
ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

OBSERVANCE

MAY

*We Answered
the Call!*



Sergeant Domingo Los Banos, Jr.
1st Filipino Infantry Regiment

Answer key

1. Japan
2. Mongolia
3. Bangladesh
4. Korea
5. India
6. Cambodia
7. Laos
8. Vietnam

Circled letters spell
"AMERICAN"



go to www.deomi.org for more observance information

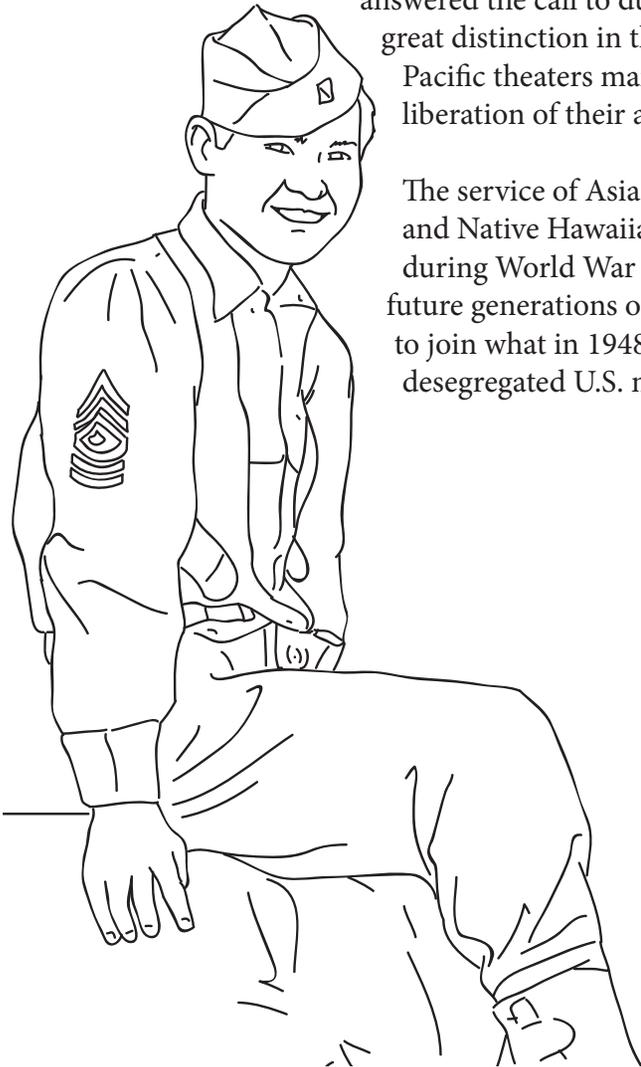
**HONORING THE PAST,
SECURING THE FUTURE.**

The Department of Defense joins the nation in paying tribute to the Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders, and Native Hawaiians who demonstrated selfless service and sacrifice in the U.S. Army, Army Air Forces, Marine Corps, Navy, Coast Guard, National Guard, and the home front during World War II.

The United States joined World War II as a response to the bombing of Pearl Harbor in Hawaii by the Japanese on December 7, 1941.

During World War II, Asian-American groups answered the call to duty and served with great distinction in the European and Pacific theaters many taking part in the liberation of their ancestral homelands.

The service of Asians, Pacific Islanders and Native Hawaiians before and during World War II paved the way for future generations of men and women to join what in 1948 would become a desegregated U.S. military.



CAN YOU WRITE A HAIKU

Haiku is a traditional form of Japanese poetry. Haikus follow a strict form: three lines with 5-7-5 syllable structure. That means the first line will have five syllables, the second line will have seven syllables, and the last line will have five syllables.

The poem will have a total of seventeen syllables. To count syllables in a word, place your hand under your chin. Then, say the word. Every time your chin touches your hand, this is one syllable.

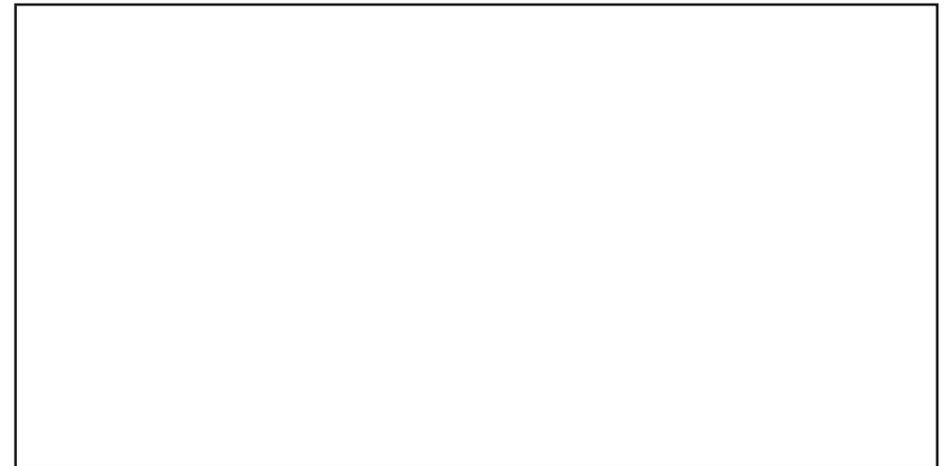
A haiku does not have a rhyme or follow a certain rhythm as long as it adheres to the syllable count.

Line 1 (5 syllables): _____

Line 2 (7 syllables): _____

Line 3 (5 syllables): _____

Draw a picture to illustrate your haiku.

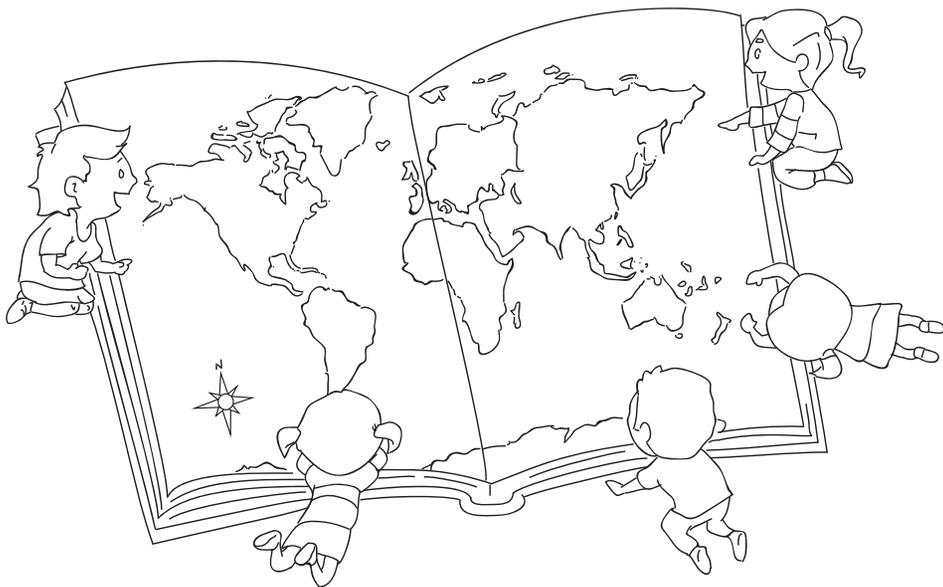


Did you know, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders come from over fifty cultures and speak just as many languages? Chinese is the third most popular language in America after English and Spanish.

Can you unscramble some of these countries?

1. pjnaa J _ _ _
2. aioonlmg _ g _ _ i _ _
3. gbnahldes _ _ _ _ l _ _ _ h
4. eoakr _ _ e _
5. dnaii _ n _ _
6. abidcaom _ m _ _ _ _ a
7. osal L _ _
8. navetim _ _ _ t _ _

Write in the circled letters here.



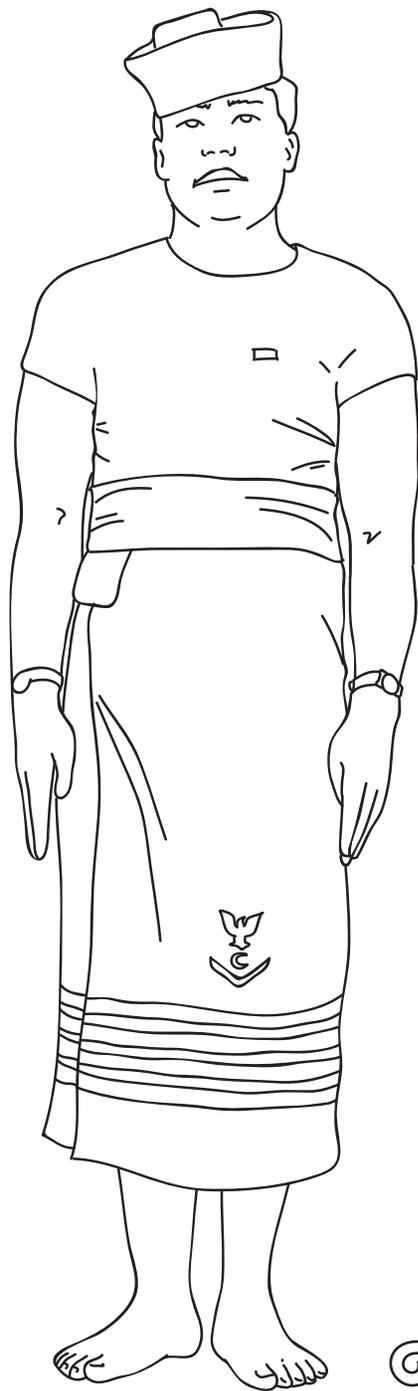
Corporal Terry Toyome Nakanishi's decision to join the Women's Army Corps during World War II represents a unique path taken by some Nisei (first generation Japanese Americans born in the United States) women to assert their American patriotism.

In 1945, Terry was among the first Nisei WACs to be sent to the Military Intelligence Language School in Fort Snelling, Minnesota.

Terry and her Nisei comrades challenged the WWII stereotypes about Japanese Americans and women. By pursuing a nontraditional path in military service, these WACs proved that Japanese American women could play an important role in protecting the nation's interests and maintaining peace.



Corporal Terry Toyome Nakanishi
 Women's Army Corps (WACs)



In 1899, U.S. Navy Commander Benjamin F. Tilley came to Pago Pago Harbor in Samoa to become the first commandant of the new naval station. One of his first requests to the Navy Department was for permission to enlist Samoans as landsmen in the U.S. Navy. He was authorized to enlist 58 men for four years.

By World War II the Fita Fita (Samoan for soldier) counted 100 men in its ranks. Samoans regarded the Fita Fita as an elite group, and the men served with pride and dignity. Most reenlisted, making the Navy their career. They served as seamen aboard the station ship, radiomen, crews for small boats, on guard and orderly duty. When the Navy left American Samoa after WW II, most of the Fita Fita transferred to Hawaii.

Do you know where Samoa is located?

Samoa is located in the Pacific Ocean, about halfway between Hawaii and New Zealand. American Samoa is an unincorporated overseas territory of the United States. It is the only American territory south of the equator. Samoa shares maritime borders with Tonga, Cook Islands, Niue, and Tokelau.

Officers Cook, 3rd Class Forsia. He was the first Native Samoan to be decorated in World War II.

He received the Purple Heart after being wounded when a Japanese submarine shelled Samoa on January 11, 1942.

When the Fita-Fita Guards were dressed in uniform, they wore a red hat on their heads, a white cotton t-shirt, often called a skivvy, a Samoan kilt they call a "Lava Lava", and they wore no shoes.

