Discussion Question Answers
The Tuskegee Weathermen: African-American Meteorologists during World War II

1. What were the duties of the Tuskegee Weather Detachment? How did they work together with the Tuskegee Airmen?
   - They briefed their unit on target and on-route weather
   - They collected data about weather conditions and used that to produce weather maps and predict future weather.

2. How were men selected to be part of the Tuskegee Weather Detachment?
   - They were selected from top black colleges.
   - They passed tests of mathematical and intellectual ability, in addition to leadership tests.

3. Why is the Tuskegee Weather Detachment significant?
   - John Blanche, a Tuskegee weatherman, was ranked in the top 100 (of over 2,000) meteorologists during the war.
   - They were the first African Americans trained as meteorologists.

4. What does a meteorologist do? How did the field of meteorology change after World War II?
   - A meteorologist uses measurements of atmospheric conditions (the current weather) to make predictions about what the weather will be like in the near future.
   - They also make models to understand what is happening within different weather patterns.