THE STORY BEHIND YOUR BOWL OF RAMEN NOODLES – AJ+

Fill in the gaps in the following sentences with the correct word from the box

wheat instant shortages
devoured economic widely pretty
communist widespread dish
wildfire quintessential consumption iconic

1. This signature Japanese ___________ is now an international favorite.

2. Ramen as we know it comes from Japan but its popularity in the country is actually __________ new.

3. Then Japan entered World War II which led to major food __________ across the country and ramen’s popularity pretty much disappeared.

4. When the war ended the US occupied Japan and imported a whole lot of wheat to the country, leading to more noodle ________________.

5. And one reason why there was so much __________ imported was because there was a fear that food shortages could lead to ________________ uprising.

6. After those really hard times, from the 1950s to 1970s Japan went through an ________________ boom.

7. And busy lifestyles led to the creation ________________ ramen in the 1950s.

8. Then in the 1970s the super convenient just add water ________________ dorm food cup of noodles was made and it took off like ________________ in
Japan and internationally.

9. But it wasn’t until the 1980s that ramen actually became an ______________ part of Japanese culture.

10. Today the love for ramen is real in Japan and what was once a working men’s food is now a ______________ love and ______________ dish around the world.