



World War II



Timeline

1939	1939	1940	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1945	1945
On 1 st September Germany invades Poland	On 3 rd September England declares war on Germany	10 th May Winston Churchill replaces Neville Chamberlain as Prime Minister	12 th May German forces enter France	USA declares war on Italy & Germany	British troops win back North Africa	Italy surrenders to the Allies	6 th June D-Day landings on Normandy beaches	Hitler commits suicide	Atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima on 6 th August	Japan surrenders on 2 nd September and the end of war declared

Key Vocabulary

Anderson shelter	Half buried in the ground and with earth on top, they protected people from bomb blasts.
blackout	All windows and doors had to be covered at night to stop enemy aircraft seeing house lights.
Blitz	The sustained aerial bombing against Britain by Nazis. Blitz means lightning in German.
evacuee	Designed to protect people, especially children, by moving them to areas of less risk.
gas mask	Issued to all civilians at the start of the war, gas masks were used to protect from gas attacks.
Kristallnacht	On 9 th -10 th November 1939, Nazis torched synagogues and vandalised Jewish homes.
Nazis	Adolf Hitler and his Nazi Party controlled Germany between 1933 and 1945.
rations	Ration cards were given out and only a certain amount of food / clothes per family was allowed.
star of David	Jews throughout Europe were forced to wear the star of David to clearly identify themselves.
swastika	An ancient symbol of a cross with arms at a right angle, used as an emblem for the Nazi Party.

General Knowledge

Who and Why?

Allies: Great Britain, France, Soviet Union, China and USA

Axis Powers: Germany, Italy and Japan
70 million people lost their lives (24 million from the Soviet Union).

France and England declared war on Germany after they invaded Poland and the USA joined the war effort after the Japanese bombed the American fleet in Pearl Harbour, Hawaii, on December 7, 1941.

The Jewish Community

Around six million Jewish people were killed during World War 2 in one of history's most terrible events – the Holocaust. Racist in his views, Hitler blamed Jewish people for Germany losing World War I and claimed they were dangerous to German people and society.

Home Guard

Set up in May 1940 as Britain's 'last line of defence' against German invasion, members of this 'Dad's Army' were usually men above or below the age of conscription and those unfit or ineligible for front line military service. 1.5 million enrolled and supported the war effort through bomb disposal, manning anti-aircraft artillery and readied for invasion.

Famous Figures

Neville Chamberlain (1869-1940)

British Prime Minister from 1937-1940; Chamberlain was Prime Minister when Britain declared war on Germany.

Winston Churchill (1874-1965)

British Prime Minister from 1940 to 1945, then again from 1951 to 1955. He is famous for his speeches that inspired people to keep on fighting.

Adolf Hitler (1889-1945)

German dictator during World War II, and leader of the Nazi political party

Benito Mussolini (1883-1945)

Italian dictator during World War II, and leader of the Fascists. Joined forces with Hitler as one of the Axis powers.

Franklin D Roosevelt (1882-1945)

United States President during most of WWII.

Joseph Stalin (1878-1953)

Leader of the Soviet Union during World War II

Hideki Tojo (1884-1948)

Japanese leader and military general

The Battle of Britain, between the German Luftwaffe and the Royal Air Force, was the first ever battle to be fought only in the air (known as dog fighting). It was made up of lots of air battles that lasted from 10 July-31 October 1940.

Year 5: The World at War!

HISTORICAL CONTEXT



THE ALLIES AND AXIS

ALLIES



Great Britain
USA
Russia
France

Neville Chamberlain
UK Prime Minister
1937-1940

Winston Churchill
UK Prime Minister
1940-1945 (and 1951-1955)

Franklin D. Roosevelt
US President
1933-1945

Harry S. Truman
US President
1945-1953

Joseph Stalin
Leader of the Soviet Union
1929-1953

AXIS



Germany
Japan
Italy

Adolf Hitler
Leader of the Nazi Party
1933-1945

Benito Mussolini
Italian Prime Minister
1922-1943

KEY VOCABULARY



ALLIES: The countries that came together to fight against the Axis countries during World War II.



AXIS: The countries that came together to fight against the Allied countries during World War II.



BLACK-OUT: An effort to turn all lights off in towns and cities at night to make it more difficult for German planes to find their targets.



BLITZKREIG: German for 'lightning war'. An intensive tactic using rapid, overwhelming force to force the enemy to submit.



CONCENTRATION CAMP: A prison where people, especially Jews, were made to work by the Nazis.



EVACUATION: To leave a place. During World War II, children were evacuated to safer parts of the country, usually the countryside.



HOLOCAUST: A period in history where millions of Jewish people were killed because of their religion.



LUFTWAFFE: The name of the German air-force during World War II.



PROPOGANDA: A way of spreading ideas and influencing people. Governments use propaganda to make people believe something.



RATIONING: A controlled system that makes sure that everyone has an equal amount of food when it is in short supply.

WHAT?



3RD SEPTEMBER 1939
START OF WORLD WAR II



SEPTEMBER 1939
EVACUATION BEGINS.



1933-1945
THE HOLOCAUST



MAY - JUNE 1940
DUNKIRK'S EVACUATION



JULY - OCTOBER 1940
BATTLE OF BRITAIN.



7TH DECEMBER 1941
PEARL HARBOUR ATTACKED



6TH JUNE 1944
D-DAY LANDINGS



30TH APRIL 1945
HITLER COMMITS SUICIDE



7TH MAY 1945
GERMANY SURRENDERS



6TH - 9TH AUGUST 1945
USA DROPS ATOMIC BOMBS ON JAPAN



2ND SEPTEMBER 1945
WORLD WAR II ENDS

KEY QUOTES



'...we shall fight them on the beaches; we shall fight on the landing grounds; we shall fight in the fields and in the streets; we shall fight in the fields; we shall never surrender...'
- **Winston Churchill, 4 June 1940.**