



We shall fight on the beaches,
we shall fight on the landing grounds;
we shall never surrender.



World War Two

It is not truth that matters, but
victory.



Time Line

Date	Event	Description
1st Sept 1939	Outbreak of WW2	On 1 st Sept 1939, Germany invaded Poland. Britain and France (Poland's allies) told Germany to withdraw their troops. When they did not, Neville Chamberlain declared war on 3rd Sept 1939.
From Sept 1939	Evacuation of Children	People expected cities to be bombed. This would put children in danger, so many were sent to live with families in the countryside.
May 1940	Evacuation of Dunkirk	Large numbers of British, French and Belgian troops were surrounded by German soldiers on the northern coast of France. Over 800 small British boats set out and rescued many of them.
July 1940	Battle of Britain	In the Battle of Britain, the Royal Air Force (RAF) successfully defended Britain from Nazi attacks.
Sept 1940	The Blitz	Germany launched bombing raids on coastal and industrial cities in the UK.
7 th Dec 1941	Pearl Harbour	A surprise military attack by the Japanese on the naval base at Pearl Harbour in Hawaii. It led to the US joining the Allies in the war.
6 th June 1944	D Day landings	Also known as the Normandy Landings, these were a series of landing operations by the Allies to claim back Europe.
7 th May 1945	Germany Surrenders VE Day	Hitler had committed suicide on April 30 th and on May 7 th Germany officially surrendered to the Allies, bringing an end to the fighting in Europe.
Aug 1945	Atomic bombs	Japan refused to surrender. The US considered invading, but instead dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima (6th Aug) and Nagasaki (9th Aug).
2 nd Sept 1945	Japan surrenders	Japan surrendered on August 15th and this was formally signed on the 2nd Sept 1945.

Leaders

 United Kingdom	Neville Chamberlain: Tried to persuade Hitler to avoid war. Winston Churchill: Became Prime Minister in 1940. Formed the Allies with US and Russia.	 United States	Franklin D. Roosevelt: Joined the Allies after the attack on Pearl Harbour in 1941. Harry S. Truman: President after FDR died in 1945. Ordered atomic bombs to be dropped on Japan.
 Germany	Adolf Hitler: Leader of the Nazi Party and Chancellor of Germany, 1933 - 1945 (also referred to as the Führer meaning leader). Started the war by invading Poland in 1939.	 USSR (Russia)	Joseph Stalin: Signed a non-aggression pact with Germany in 1939. When Hitler attacked USSR, Stalin joined the Allies.

Vocabulary

Air-raid	An attack by enemy planes dropping bombs.
Anderson shelter	A small shelter made from corrugated steel to protect people in air-raids.
Allies	Countries (including Britain, France, the Soviet Union and the USA) who fought the Axis Powers.
Axis Powers	Germany, Japan, Italy and other countries that fought against the Allies.
Atomic bomb	A powerful weapon that uses nuclear reactions as its source of explosive energy. First used in 1945.
Blackout	A wartime ban on streetlights and other lights at night, to reduce the risk of bombing by enemy planes
Blitz	A prolonged period of German air raids on Britain. From the German 'blitzkrieg' which means 'lightning war'.
Concentration camps	Prisons where Jewish people and other prisoners were held and killed by the Nazis.
Evacuation	Moving people from dangerous areas to safer places e.g. from big cities to the countryside to avoid bombing.
Gas masks	Face masks to protect people from poisonous gas attacks.
Holocaust	The mass murder of around six million Jewish people by the Nazis, as well as other persecuted groups.
Invasion	When an army or country uses force to enter and take control of another country or area.
Liberated	Freed from enemy control.
Luftwaffe	The German air force during the war.
Nazi	Short for National Socialist Party (in Germany) and the name given to supporters of Hitler.
Rationing	Controlling the supply of food, clothes, petrol and other products to avoid or reduce shortages.
Spitfire	A British aircraft, particularly used during the Battle of Britain and known for its speed and agility.