

World War Two – Year Five Knowledge Bank

Vocabulary	Definition
Allies	The United Kingdom, France and Poland, later joined by other countries, including the USSR (Soviet Union), the United States of America and China.
Axis	The Axis Powers were originally Germany, Japan and Italy. Other countries joined them later.
Nazi Party	A German political party with racist and anti-Jewish ideas, led by Adolf Hitler.
Dictator	a political leader who possesses absolute power and rules a country without the consent of the people
Appeasement	Compromising with a political leader to try to avoid war
Annex	To take another country's land and make it part of your country.
Home Front	People left at home not fighting on the front line
Rationing	Restrictions about how much food (and other items) you could have due to shortages
The Blitz	A period of time when there was intensive bombing on London and other cities
Evacuation	When children were sent away from cities to live in the countryside where bombing was less likely.
VE day	Victory in Europe – a national holiday the day after the peace treaty was signed
Battle of Britain	A major air campaign fought largely over southern England in the summer and autumn of 1940. Germany planned to gain air superiority in preparation for an invasion of Great Britain.
D-Day	The evacuation of thousands of soldiers from the beaches of Normandy in France by small boats on 6 th June 1944
Land Army	Women who ran the farms to produce food while farmers were fighting
Air raid siren	A siren used to indicate a city was at risk of bombs falling
Air raid shelter	A shelter to keep people safe from bombs

World War One

- The First World War influenced the Second World War 20 years later.
- The main difference in the way the wars were fought was that in WWI most battles were fought on the ground in trenches away from Britain. In WWII, with the advent on air travel, people were able to fly and drop bombs in other countries.

World War Two

- The Second World War was between 1939 and 1945 – The UK joined in on 3rd September 1939 when Germany invaded Poland.
- The Nazi party was led by a man called Adolf Hitler who believed that certain races of people were superior over other races.
- France, Belgium and Poland were all occupied by the German Army but Britain was never actually occupied despite being bombed.
- Jewish people in Germany and other occupied countries were not allowed the normal privileges of life as other people such as going to the cinema etc.
- Around the same time that Germany fought for power in Europe, Japan wanted to control Asia and the Pacific.

