

Class 4 Social Studies / History Assessment: The Second World War

Learning objective: To demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the key events, daily life, and impact of the Second World War.

Read each question carefully. Use your historical knowledge to provide detailed answers. Ensure your writing is clear and punctuated correctly.

Ellie the elephant has been reading through her historical archives about the period between 1939 and 1945. She discovered that life in Britain changed dramatically for families, children, and workers alike. From the strategic use of food coupons to the necessity of finding safety during nightly sirens, the Home Front was a time of immense challenge and resilience.

Word bank: Evacuation · Rationing · Home Front · Air Raid · Allied Powers · Axis Powers · Anderson Shelter · Blackout

1. Identify two reasons why the British government introduced the system of rationing during the Second World War. (2 marks)

2. Explain why many children were evacuated from cities to the countryside. What might have happened to these children if they had stayed in urban areas? (3 marks)

3. Describe the purpose of a 'Blackout'. How did this affect the way people lived their lives after sunset? (2 marks)

4. Compare and contrast the roles of women on the Home Front during the war compared to the years before the war. Justify why these changes were necessary for the war effort. (4 marks)

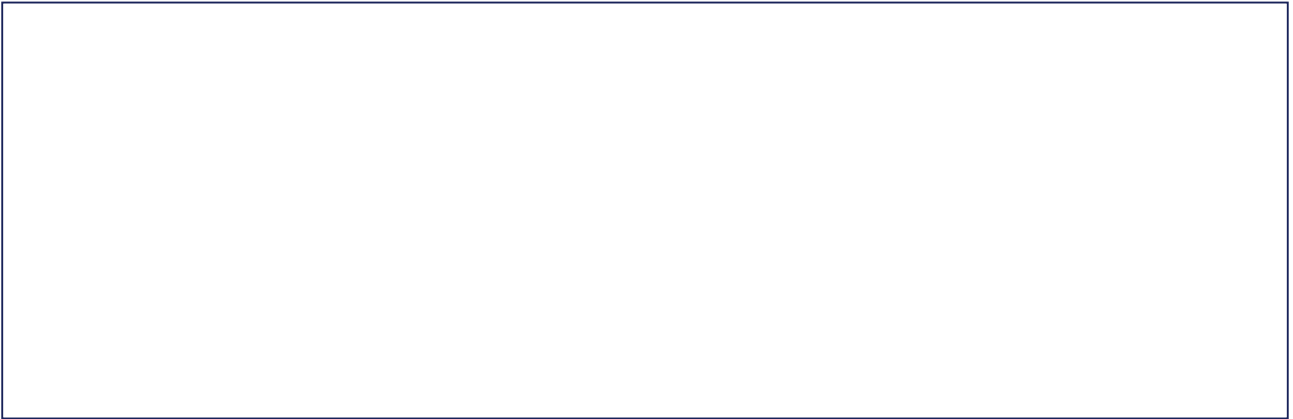
5. Ellie the elephant found a diary entry mentioning an Anderson Shelter. Explain why these structures were vital for survival during the Blitz. (2 marks)

6. Why was the Battle of Britain considered a turning point in the war? Discuss the importance of the Royal Air Force in this specific conflict. (3 marks)

7. Imagine you are a child living in 1940. Write a short diary entry (approximately 100 words) describing a day spent preparing for an air raid and how you feel about your changing circumstances. Consider the emotional impact of leaving your home and the atmosphere of the time. (5 marks)

8. Evaluate the impact of the war on the British economy. If a basic loaf of bread cost 1d (one old penny) before the war, and prices rose significantly, explain why managing household budgets became a complex maths challenge for families. (4 marks)

Draw: Draw a labelled diagram of an Anderson Shelter in a back garden, showing how a family might have made it comfortable to spend the night.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Extension Task: Research the role of the 'Land Army'. Create a persuasive poster encouraging people to grow their own food to support the nation's supply chains. Explain why 'Dig for Victory' was a crucial slogan.