

Ellie's Wartime Social Studies / History Challenge

Learning objective: To recall key facts about the Second World War, including the Blitz, evacuation, and the role of the Home Front.

Join Ellie the Elephant on a journey through history! Read each question carefully and circle the correct answer or write your response in the space provided. Remember, Ellie loves detail, so provide full sentences where possible.

Answer Key: 1. A (1939), 2. True, 3. Rationing, 4. B (To keep children safe from air raids), 5. False (It was a system to share food fairly), 6. C (A small garden shelter), 7. True, 8. Gas mask, 9. B (Victory in Europe Day), 10. True. Note: Encourage pupils to use the word bank for context in their answers.

Word bank: Evacuation · Blitz · Rationing · Allies · Home Front · Anderson Shelter

1. 1. In which year did the Second World War begin? A) 1914, B) 1939*, C) 1945, D) 1920 (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: During the war, children were often sent away from cities to the countryside to stay safe. (1 mark)

3. 3. What was the name of the system used to limit how much food and clothing families could buy? (One word) (1 mark)

4. 4. What was the main purpose of evacuation? A) To find new schools, B) To move children away from potential bombing targets*, C) To help farmers, D) To learn to travel by train (1 mark)

5. 5. True or False: People were encouraged to throw away their food scraps to help the war effort. (1 mark)

6. 6. What was an 'Anderson Shelter'? A) A type of helmet, B) A uniform, C) A corrugated steel shelter kept in the garden*, D) A government building (1 mark)

7. 7. True or False: The 'Blitz' refers to the period of heavy air raids on British cities. (1 mark)

8. 8. What item were children required to carry with them at all times in case of an air raid? (Two words) (1 mark)

9. 9. What does 'VE Day' stand for? A) Very Early Day, B) Victory in Europe Day*, C) Veterans Entry Day, D) Victory England Day (1 mark)

10. 10. True or False: Women took on many jobs previously done by men, such as working in factories and on farms. (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a scene from the Home Front, showing a 'Dig for Victory' vegetable patch or a family gathered around a wireless radio listening to the news.



Extension challenge: Greater Depth Challenges: 1. Explain why rationing was necessary for the country to survive the war. 2. Compare and contrast life for a child living in London during the Blitz with a child living on a rural farm. 3. Justify why the government insisted that everyone carry a gas mask, even if they were never used. 4. What might have happened to the war effort if women had not joined the workforce? 5. Why do you think VE Day is still remembered today? 6. If you were an evacuee, what three items would you pack in your suitcase and why?