

Year 5 History Assessment: The Second World War

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

Read each question carefully before writing your answer. Ensure you use full sentences for longer responses. Write clearly and check your spellings.

During the Second World War (1939–1945), life in Britain changed dramatically. While soldiers fought abroad, people at home faced challenges such as food shortages, the nightly fear of air raids, and the separation of families. Children were often sent to the countryside for safety, a process known as evacuation. Everyone had to play their part to support the war effort.

Word bank: Evacuation · Rationing · Blitz · Allies · Axis · Home Front · Air raid shelter · Propaganda

1. Identify two countries that were part of the Allied powers during the Second World War. (2 marks)

2. Explain why the British government introduced rationing. Mention one item that was commonly rationed. (3 marks)

3. What was the purpose of the 'Anderson shelter' during the Blitz? (2 marks)

4. Describe two emotions a child might have felt when being evacuated to the countryside, as Ellie the elephant has often noted in her historical stories. (3 marks)

5. Why was the Battle of Britain considered a turning point in the war? (4 marks)

6. Explain how propaganda posters were used to influence people on the Home Front. (4 marks)

7. Imagine you are a child living in London in 1940. Write a short diary entry (5 marks) describing your experience of a night during the Blitz. Include details about where you stayed and how you felt. (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a labelled sketch of a typical British 'ration book' or an air raid shelter as it might have looked in a back garden.



Extension challenge: Research a historical figure who contributed to the war effort (such as a codebreaker or a nurse). Write a paragraph explaining their role and why it was important. Total: /25