

World War II: A Historical Inquiry

Learning objective: To understand key events, terminology, and the social impact of World War II in Britain.

Review these flashcards to test your knowledge of the Second World War. Use the 'Greater Depth' questions to deepen your historical analysis.

What was the 'Home Front'?

The Home Front refers to the activities and experiences of the civilian population in Britain while the armed forces were fighting abroad.

Define 'Rationing'.

A system introduced by the government to manage limited supplies of food, clothing, and fuel by using coupons to ensure everyone received a fair share.

Who were the 'Allies' in WWII?

The main alliance fighting against the Axis powers, including countries such as Great Britain, France, the Soviet Union, and the United States.

What was 'The Blitz'?

A period of intense strategic bombing of the United Kingdom by Nazi Germany between 1940 and 1941, primarily targeting London and industrial cities.

What was the purpose of an 'Anderson Shelter'?

A small, corrugated steel shelter designed to be partially buried in a back garden to protect families from bomb blasts and falling debris.

What was 'Evacuation'?

The government-led relocation of millions of children and vulnerable people from major cities to the countryside to protect them from air raids.

Define 'Propaganda'.

Information, often biased or misleading, used to promote a political cause or point of view, frequently used on posters to boost morale or encourage war effort.

Who were the 'Axis' powers?

The military alliance led by Nazi Germany, the Kingdom of Italy, and the Empire of Japan.

What does 'VE Day' stand for?

Victory in Europe Day, celebrated on 8th May 1945 to mark the formal acceptance by the Allies of Nazi Germany's unconditional surrender.

What was the role of the 'Women's Land Army'?

A civilian organisation created to ensure the nation had enough food by employing women to work on farms, replacing men who had gone to fight.

Explain the significance of the 'Enigma Code'.

A cipher system used by the German military, which was famously cracked by codebreakers at Bletchley Park, providing the Allies with a crucial intelligence advantage.

What was the 'Blackout'?

The requirement for all lights in homes, streetlamps, and vehicles to be covered at night so that enemy aircraft could not easily spot targets from the sky.