

Week 1- Context and Blitzkrieg

- On 1st September 1939, Germany invaded Poland this was the beginning of World War II.
- Britain gave Germany an ultimatum; withdraw or face war.
- Germany refused and Britain entered World War II on 3rd September, 1939.
- The German Army used a new strategy campaign known as Blitzkrieg. This was a 2- pronged attack, firstly by air attack (including paratroopers) and then secondly by the advancement of tanks.



Week 4- German Invasion of the Soviet Union

Hitler's invasion of the Soviet Union, called Operation Barbarossa, started on 22 June 1941. The Soviet leader Stalin was an ally of Hitler (they had signed the Nazi Soviet Pact in 1939 and invaded Poland together) and did not suspect a thing.

The Nazis soon drove deep into Soviet territory. By October 1941, 3 million Soviets were prisoners of war.

Despite these successes, this operation marked the beginning of a campaign that would ultimately decide the Second World War.

The Soviet Union did not crumble as expected and despite terrible losses, their will to fight remained strong. German casualties mounted as they came close to taking Moscow. Just 20 miles short of their objective, the Soviets launched a counter-attack forcing the Germans onto the defensive. It was Hitler's first defeat on land in the Second World War.

Week 2- Dunkirk

- At the end of May 1940, at the government's request, thousands of boats set sail to rescue almost a quarter of a million Allied troops who had retreated from Hitler's forces onto the shores of Dunkirk.
- Dutch, Belgian, French and Norwegian ships were also involved in the Operation Dynamo.
- The evacuation was considered to be a success, with 340,000 French and British soldiers brought back to England in one week. However, there were also big losses: over 68,000 soldiers were killed, wounded, captured or missing. Huge equipment losses were also made which were damaging to the war effort.
- The evacuation of Dunkirk also meant Britain was left to fight against Germany without France, one of its key allies. Churchill privately called Dunkirk 'a colossal military disaster', which showed his concern about the loss of men and equipment.
- Historians talk of the 'Dunkirk Spirit' and the boost to morale.

Week 3- The Battle of Britain July- October 1940

Hitler wanted to invade Britain. He called his plan 'Operation Sealion'. If Hitler was going to invade, he would have to find a way for the **German Luftwaffe** to defeat the **Royal Air Force (RAF)**

Phase 1: 10 July – 12 August 1940 Attacks on Channel Shipping

Phase 2: 13 – 18 August 1940 Attacks on Airfields and Radar Stations

Phase 3: 19 August – 6 September 1940

The Luftwaffe continued to bomb towns, cities and airfields across the south coast of England, the Midlands and the North-East.

Phase 4: 7 September 1940 – 31 October 1940

Mass bombing raids were launched against London, and continued against other major British cities.

31 October: The German Luftwaffe were denied air superiority by the RAF. The Battle of Britain ended.

Year 9 History: World War Two

Week 5- D-Day Landings

Troops from the UK, the US, Canada, and France attacked German forces on the coast of northern France, on 6 June 1944.

D-Day was the largest military seaborne operation ever attempted, and marked the start of the campaign to liberate Nazi-occupied north-west Europe.

It involved the simultaneous landing of tens of thousands of troops on five separate beaches in Normandy.

More than a year in the planning, D-Day was originally set to start on 5 June, judged to be the most likely date to combine calm seas, a full moon and low water at first light. However, storms meant it was delayed by 24 hours to 6 June.

The "D" simply stands for "day". D-Day is a military term for the first day of an operation.

Key words:

The Allies: were an international military coalition formed during WW2 to oppose the Axis powers, led by Nazi Germany, Imperial Japan, and Fascist Italy. It's principal members by 1941 were the United Kingdom, United States, Soviet Union, and China.

The Axis Powers: a military coalition that initiated World War II and fought against the Allies. Its principal members were Nazi Germany, the Kingdom of Italy, and the Empire of Japan.

Luftwaffe: A component of the German armed forces tasked with the air defence of Germany and fulfilment of the country's airpower commitments abroad.

Total war: A war which is unrestricted in terms of the weapons used, the territory or combatants involved, or the objectives pursued.

Week 1

Questions	Answers
Who did Germany invade to begin WW2?	Poland
When did Britain enter the war	3 rd September 1939
What is the first stage of Blitzkrieg?	An intense air attack including paratroopers
What is the second stage?	An attack on land by tanks which cut off all major supply routes



Week 2

Questions	Answers
Other than Britain, who else supported the evacuation at Dunkirk?	Holland, Belgium, France and Norway
What was the operation code name of the Dunkirk Evacuations?	Operation Dynamo
In what ways can Dunkirk be considered a failure?	Over 68,000 soldiers were killed, wounded, captured or missing. Huge equipment losses were also made which were damaging to the war effort.
What is Dunkirk Spirit?	The morale boost felt during the evacuations.

Week 3

Questions	Answers
What is operation code name for the Battle of Britain?	Operation Sealion
What is the name of the German air force?	The Luftwaffe
What was phase 3 of the Battle of Britain?	The Luftwaffe continued to bomb towns, cities and airfields across the south coast of England, the Midlands and the North-East.
When did the Battle of Britain end?	31 st October 1940

Year 9 History: World War Two

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Week 4

Questions	Answers
What was the code name for the invasion of the Soviet Union?	Operation Barbarossa
How many Soviet Union people were taken as prisoners of war?	It is estimated about 3 million
Was this an expected invasion?	No, Hitler and the leader of the Soviet Union, Stalin, was an ally of Hitler!
Was it a success?	No, just 20 miles short of their objective, the Soviets launched a counter-attack forcing the Germans onto the defensive. It was Hitler's first defeat on land in the Second World War.

Week 5

Questions	Answers
When did the D-Day landings begin?	6 June 1944.
What did D-Day mark the start of?	The campaign to liberate (free) Nazi-occupied north-west Europe.
What does D Day stand for?	The "D" simply stands for "day". D-Day is a military term for the first day of an operation,

