

Week 1: Context

- Neville Chamberlain was British Prime Minister between 1937-1940. He was the PM responsible for the policy of **appeasement**.
- This was the policy of giving Hitler what he wanted to stop him from going to war. It was based on the idea that **what Hitler wanted was reasonable** and, when his reasonable demands had been satisfied, he would stop.
- On 15 March 1939, German troops marched into Czechoslovakia. This was the ending of appeasement.
- On 17th March, Chamberlain gave a speech saying that he could not trust Hitler not to invade other countries. On 31st March, Chamberlain guaranteed to defend Poland if Germany invaded
- Winston Churchill became PM in May 1940.



Week 4: Refugees- Kinder Transport

- Refugees are people who have been forced to leave their homes (and seek refuge). This can be because of war or some kind of natural disaster.
- During and at the end of World War II, thousands of people found themselves homeless.
- Kindertransport was the title given to the efforts made by the British government prior to the outbreak of World War Two to bring out of Nazi Germany and occupied Austria and Czechoslovakia Jewish children.
- Kindertransport was an attempt to remove these children from an increasingly perilous situation whereby war looked almost inevitable.
- During a nine-month period, 10,000 Jewish children aged between one and seventeen were transported to the UK.

Week 2: Preparing for War

- **Evacuation** plans had been in preparation well before the outbreak of war. Small-scale evacuation of women and children were carried out in September 1938 but the real evacuation began in September 1939.
- **Air Raids:** Civilians were instructed in how to protect themselves against poison gas attacks and issued with gas masks, which they were encouraged to carry on all journeys. Blackouts were enforced and materials to build air raid shelters in the backyards were provided. Strong buildings were also prepared for use as air raid shelters.
- **Rationing:** In 1940, rationing was introduced to ensure a distribution of what essentials were available. The government also tried to encourage people to grow food on every available piece of land.

Year 9 History: The Home Front

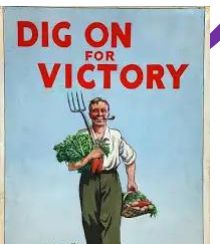
Week 5: The Blitz

- During the Blitz 32,000 civilians were killed and 87,000 were seriously injured.
- The 'Spirit of the Blitz' was said to be a sense of **endurance** and **defiance** which brought all Londoners together during the Second World War. It was shown in people helping each other out (even complete strangers) and in continuing normal routines in the face of the bombings.
- Historians disagree over whether the Spirit of the Blitz was a myth invented by people looking back at the war with a sense of nostalgia or whether it was, in fact, real.



Week 3: Women at War

- From 1941, women were called up for war work, in roles such as mechanics, engineers, munitions workers, air raid wardens, bus and fire engine drivers.
- At first, only single women, aged 20-30 were called up, but by mid-1943, almost 90 per cent of single women and 80 per cent of married women were working in factories, on the land or in the armed forces.
- There were over 640,000 women in the armed forces, including:
 - The Women's Royal Naval Service (WRNS)
 - The Women's Auxiliary Air Force (WAAF)
 - The Auxiliary Territorial Service (ATS)
 - Many more women who flew unarmed aircraft, drove ambulances, served as nurses and worked behind enemy lines in the European resistance in the Special Operations Executive.



Key words:

Refugee: A person who has been forced to leave their country in order to escape war, persecution, or natural disaster

Rationing: The controlled distribution of scarce resources, goods, services, or an artificial restriction of demand.

Land Girls: A woman doing farm work during the war

Anderson and Morrison Shelters: signed in 1938 and built to hold up to six people, were in common use in the UK. Indoor shelters known as Morrison shelters were introduced as well

Week 1

Questions	Answers
Who was the PM at the beginning of the war?	Neville Chamberlain
What policy did he practice against Hitler?	Appeasement
What is 'appeasement'?	Giving Hitler what he wanted to stop him from going to war. It was based on the idea that what Hitler wanted was reasonable and, when his reasonable demands had been satisfied, he would stop
Did Appeasement work?	No. Hitler invaded Poland
Who was the second wartime PM?	Sir Winston Churchill

Week 4

Questions	Answers
Define refugee.	A person who has been forced to leave their country in order to escape war, persecution, or natural disaster
What is Kindertransport?	The title given to the efforts made by the British government prior to the outbreak of World War Two to bring out of Nazi Germany and occupied Austria and Czechoslovakia Jewish children
How many children were transported to England?	10,000 Jewish children aged between one and seventeen were transported to the UK.

Week 2

Questions	Answers
When did evacuation begin?	Small-scale evacuation began in September 1939
How were civilians prepared for gas attacks?	They were supplied with gas masks and instructed to carry them at all times
What is rationing?	A system to ensure a distribution of what essentials were available including foods and clothing



Year 9 History: The Home Front

Week 5

Questions	Answers
How many civilians were killed during the Blitz?	32,000 civilians were killed
How many civilians were seriously injured during the Blitz?	87,000 were seriously injured
What was Blitz Spirit?	A sense of endurance and defiance which brought all Londoners together during the Second World War
Why is Blitz spirit controversial amongst historians?	Historians disagree over whether it was real or just people looking back at the war with a sense of nostalgia.

Week 3

Questions	Answers
When were women called up for war work?	From 1941
Which women were called up first?	Single women between the age of 20 and 30
By 1943, what percentage of women were in war-work?	By mid-1943, almost 90 per cent of single women and 80 per cent of married women were working in factories, on the land or in the armed forces.
How many women were in the armed forces?	640,000

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