

World War 2

Big Question: What were the priorities for the British Government during World War 2?

Timeline of key events		
1939	1 st September 1939	German troops invade Poland
	3 rd September 1939	British Prime Minister declares war on Germany
	29 th September 1939	Introduction of rationing
1940	September 7 th 1940 (until May 1941)	Air raids started bombing British cities, known as the Blitz. 32,000 civilians killed and 87,000 seriously injured.
	26 th May- June 24 th 1940	The evacuation of 340,000 allied troops from Dunkirk .
	10 th July 1940	The Battle of Britain begins
1941	22 nd June 1941	Germany invades the USSR
	7 th December	Japan bombs Pearl Harbor in the US
1943	16 th and 17 th May 1943	The Dambusters bombing raid is carried out.
1944	6 th June 1944	British and USA troops successfully land on beaches in Normandy . This is known as D-Day .
1945	27 th January 1945	Soviet troops liberate Auschwitz where 960,000 Jews and other minority groups had been killed in gas chambers.
	7 th May 1945	Germany surrenders to the allies.
	8 th May 1945	Winston Churchill announces Victory in Europe (VE Day)
	6 th August 1945	First atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima , Japan by the USA killing 78,000.

Vocabulary		
1	treaty	A written agreement between two or more countries.
2	evacuate	To move people from a dangerous place to somewhere safe.
3	ration	Giving someone a set amount of something because there is very little available.
4	conscription	System in which people are made to join the army.
5	siren	Makes a loud warning sound.
6	dictator	A leader who has complete power and has not been elected.
7	military	The armed forces- includes the army, the navy and the air force.
8	civilian	Someone who is not a member of the military or police.
9	morale	The amount of confidence or hope that people feel for the future.
10	invasion	Entering somewhere by force in order to control.
11	Home front	The support of the nation's civilians when at war including the Women's Land Army , Dig for Victory and Make do and Mend .
12	Nazi	The Nazi party were a political group that ruled Germany between 1933 and 1945. They were fascist .
13	Holocaust	The mass murder of Jews under the Nazi rule (1941-1945). More than 6 million Jews, as well as members of other minority groups were murdered at concentrations camps.
14	concentration camp	A place where people are held as prisoners. Unlike in actual prisons, the people are not there because they have done anything wrong. Instead they are members of a group that the government wishes to punish or control.
15	propaganda	Information designed to promote a political idea or opinion.

Who was involved?	
Axis	Allies
Germany Adolf Hitler	Britain Neville Chamberlain Winston Churchill
Japan Hirohito	France Charles de Gaulle
Italy Mussolini	America Franklin D. Roosevelt
	USSR Joseph Stalin

