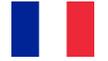


# What was World War 2 really like?

## Main Participating Countries

Allied Powers		Axis Powers	
Country	Flag	Country	Flag
FRANCE		GERMANY	
UK		ITALY	
SOVIET UNION		JAPAN	
USA			

## London during the war

London was heavily bombed during the war during a series of German Air Raids called *The Blitz*. Much of East London, including Newham, was hit. During night times, Londoners switched off all lights to create a *Blackout*. People sheltered in underground tube stations and in *Air Raid Shelters*. Children were *evacuated* to the countryside for their safety.



## Important People

Winston Churchill (1874 - 1965)	A British politician who served as the UK Prime Minister for most of WW2 (1940 - 1945). An inspirational war leader, who had excellent military knowledge.
Adolf Hitler (1889 - 1945)	A German politician who was the leader of the Nazi party. Hitler was <i>Führer</i> of Germany from 1934 - 1945 and started the war in 1939 by invading Poland.
Anne Frank (1929 - 1945)	A German-born diarist. As a young Jewish girl, her family was forced into hiding. After years of hiding, her family was betrayed and arrested. Anne died in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp alongside millions of other Jewish people.



## Key Vocabulary

<b>Air-raid</b>	An attack by enemy planes dropping bombs.	<b>Gas masks</b>	Face masks to protect people from poisonous gas attacks.
<b>Anderson Shelter</b>	A small shelter made from corrugated steel to protect people in air-raids.	<b>Henry Moore</b>	The wartime artist for WW2. He created drawings of people using London's underground as a shelter from bombs.
<b>Allies</b>	Countries (including Britain, France, The Soviet Union and the USA) who fought the Axis Powers.	<b>Holocaust</b>	The mass murder of around six million Jewish people by the Nazis, as well as other persecuted groups.
<b>Axis Powers</b>	Germany, Japan, Italy and other countries that fought against the Allies.	<b>Liberated</b>	Freed from enemy control.
<b>Blackout</b>	A wartime ban on streetlights and other lights at night, to reduce the risk of bombing by enemy planes.	<b>Luftwaffe</b>	The German air force during the war.
<b>Blitz</b>	A prolonged period of German air raids on Britain. From the German 'blitzkrieg' which means 'lightning war'	<b>Nazi</b>	Short for National Socialist Party (in Germany) and the name given to supporters of Hitler.
<b>Concentration Camps</b>	Prisons where Jewish people and other prisoners were held by the Nazis.	<b>Persecution</b>	Systematic mistreatment of an individual or group, especially because of race, religion or political beliefs.
<b>Dig for Victory</b>	A campaign to encourage British people to grow their own fruit and vegetables.	<b>Rationing</b>	Controlling the supply of food, clothes, petrol and other products to avoid or reduce shortages.
<b>Evacuation</b>	Moving people from dangerous areas to safer places e.g. from big cities to the countryside to avoid bombing.	<b>Siren</b>	A warning sound used to alert people that enemy planes were attacking.
<b>Führer</b>	German word meaning 'leader' or 'guide'. The title Hitler gave himself in 1934 when he gained absolute authority in Germany.	<b>Spitfire</b>	A British aircraft, particularly used during the Battle of Britain and known for its speed and agility.



**1st - 3rd Sep 1939**  
1.5 million children are evacuated to the countryside.



**1940-1941**  
122 bombs are dropped on Beckton.



**1st Sep 1939**  
Hitler invades Poland.  
World War 2 begins.



**10th May 1940**  
Winston Churchill becomes Prime Minister of the UK.



**2nd September 1945**  
Hitler is defeated and World War 2 ends.