

Key Vocabulary	
Allies	The United Kingdom, France and Poland, later joined by other countries, including the USSR (Soviet Union), the United States of America and China.
atomic bomb	A very high-energy bomb made of radioactive material.
Axis	The Axis Powers were originally Germany, Japan and Italy. Other countries joined them later.
evacuation	When people have to leave a dangerous area and move to a safer place.
Nazi Party	A German political party with racist and anti-Jewish ideas, led by Adolf Hitler.
persecution	When a group of people are targeted and treated in a cruel or unfair way, such as changing laws to punish them or imprisoning them unfairly.
rationing	To limit how much of something people can have, such as food and fuel.

How Did the Second World War Begin?

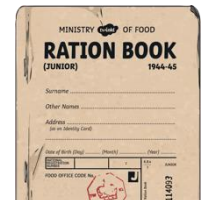
The leader of Germany, Adolf Hitler, had plans to take over other countries. In March 1938, Germany invaded and annexed Austria, which made other countries worried. On 30th September 1938, British, French, German and Italian leaders signed a treaty which allowed Hitler to annex the Sudetenland (an area of Czechoslovakia) if he agreed not to invade anywhere else. However, Hitler broke the agreement, first invading the rest of Czechoslovakia and then Poland on 1st September. The Allies (Britain, France and Poland) had made a pact to support each other, so Britain and France declared war on Germany.

The Role of Women

Before the war, most women stayed at home and did not go out to work. Some women worked but their choice of job was limited, such as nursing or working as a shop assistant. However, when men went to war, women were needed to take on jobs such as making weapons, driving buses and trains or working in engineering or shipbuilding. Some joined the armed forces themselves. After the war, many women lost their jobs. However, their experiences led them to campaign for equal working rights and pay so that they could continue to lead more independent lives.

Rationing

Supply ships were targeted by German bombers and it was necessary to conserve as much food as possible. Rationing meant that each person was only allowed a fixed amount of foods. Ration books were issued, with coupons that showed people how much of each item they were allowed. Shopkeepers would remove or stamp the coupons when they were used.



A ration book

Battle of Hastings 1066

The most important battle of the **Norman Conquest** was the Battle of Hastings. King Harold II became King of the **Anglo-Saxons** after **Edward the Confessor's** death. During the battle, Harold II was killed by the Normans. This led to William the Conqueror, who was the Duke of **Normandy**, becoming the first Norman King of England. The Normans made their way to London and he was crowned at Westminster Abbey.



The Normans were a group of people, who descended from Norseman that had settled in **Normandy**, France. The Normans were skilled warriors and after taking over **Normandy**, they decided to take over more land. In 1066, after the death of the **Anglo-Saxon** King, **Edward the Confessor**, they decided to **invade** England. This was called the **Norman Conquest**.

First World War 1914

Archduke Franz Ferdinand

The main event thought to have triggered the start of the First World War is the **assassination** of Archduke Franz Ferdinand.

- In 1914, Archduke Ferdinand was due to become the king of Austria-Hungary.
- Gavrilo Princip from Serbia **assassinated** Archduke Ferdinand and his wife, causing Austria-Hungary to **declare** war on Serbia.
- Russia began to move their army in case they were needed.
- Germany did not like Russia preparing their army and so **declared** war on them. Germany then also **declared** war on France.
- Britain **declared** war on Germany to support Russia and France.

The Trenches

- Trenches were dug out of the land to protect the soldiers.
- Soldiers would sleep and rest in the trenches as well as eat their meals.
- The trenches were very dirty and wet. They were often filled with rats!

The English Civil War 1642-1651

The English Civil War was fought between Charles I and Parliament. It happened because Parliament didn't like the way Charles I was ruling the country. Charles I stopped Parliament from having any say in how the country was run, so civil war broke out. There were two sides to the war: the Roundheads and the Cavaliers.

The Roundheads – This army fought for Parliament against the king. They were also known as the Parliamentarians.

They got their name because of the round shape of their helmets and the fact that many of them had short hair. They were led by Thomas Fairfax.

The Cavaliers – This was the army that fought for the king - they were Royalists.

They were first given their name by the Roundheads to make fun of their wealth as they were all from noble families. They later adopted the name for themselves as 'cavalier' meant 'noble gentleman'.

