

Knowledge Organiser - World War II

The First World War (WWI) was fought from 1914 to 1918 and the Second World War (or WWII) was fought from 1939 to 1945. They were the largest military conflicts in human history. Both wars involved military alliances between different groups of countries.



Significant People and Places

			
Winston Churchill	Adolf Hitler	Joseph Stalin	Franklin D. Roosevelt
The leader of Britain for the majority of WWII.	The fascist leader of Nazi Germany.	The leader of the Soviet Union.	The President of the United States of America.
			Axis: Germany, Italy, Japan
Benito Mussolini	Emperor Hirohito		Alliances
The fascist leader of Italy, a close ally of Hitler's.	The Emperor of Japan.		Allied: Britain, France, Russia, USA

Key Vocabulary

1	Nazi Party	Under the leadership of Hitler, the National Socialist German Workers' Party, or Nazi Party , grew into a mass movement and ruled Germany through totalitarian
2	Home Front	The civilian population and activities of a nation whose armed forces are engaged
3	The Blitz	The Blitz is the title given to the German bombing campaign on British cities dur-
4	Rationing	A fixed allowance of provisions or food, especially for soldiers or sailors or for civil-
5	Allied Powers	World War II was fought between two major groups of nations . They became known as the Axis and Allied Powers . The major Allied Powers were Britain, France,
6	Axis Powers	Germany, Italy, and Japan, which were allied before and during World War II
7	Chancellor/Fuhrer	A tyrannical leader in Germany
8	Evacuation/ Evacuee	A person evacuated from a place of danger
9	Soviet Union	A former country now known as Russia and many 14 other countries.
10	Propaganda	information, especially of a biased or misleading nature, used to promote a politi-

Timeline of significant events in World War 2

1st September 1939	3rd September 1939	10 Jul—31st Oct 1940	June 22nd 1941	December 7th 1941	June 6th 1944	May 7-9th 1945
Nazi Germany invade Poland, initiating WWII.	Britain and France declare war on Germany.	The air war, known as the Battle of Britain, ends in defeat for Germany.	Germany invade the Soviet Union.	Japan attack Pearl Harbour, bringing the USA into the war.	British and US troops successfully land on Normandy Beaches, known as D-Day.	Germany surrenders to the Western allies and the Soviet Union.