

## Year 6 – World War II

*What were the main causes of World War II and what key events contributed to its end?*

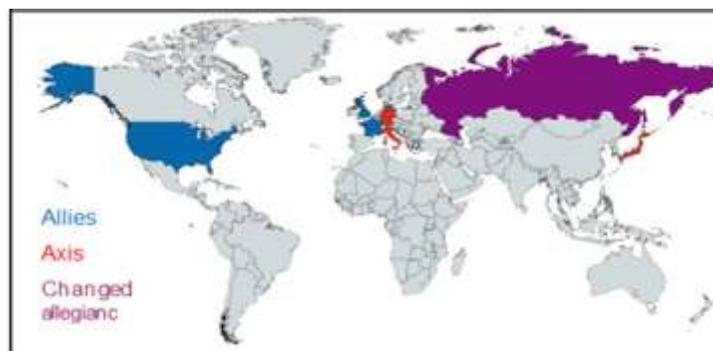
### Timeline

1 <sup>st</sup> September 1939: Hitler invades Poland.	3 <sup>rd</sup> September 1939: Britain (Neville Chamberlain) declares war on Nazi Germany	July 1940: The <b>Battle of Britain</b> begins	September 1940: The Battle of Britain ends	June 1941: Nazis first invade the <b>Soviet Union</b> (Russia)	December 1941: Japan bombs <b>Pearl Harbour</b> in the United States of America	6 <sup>th</sup> June 1944: D-Day - Allied forces land on the beaches of France.	30 <sup>th</sup> April 1945: Hitler dies	4 <sup>th</sup> May 1945: Nazi Germany surrenders	8 <sup>th</sup> May 1945: VE Day	August 1945: USA drops an <b>atom bomb</b> on Japan.
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### Key Vocabulary

allies	Countries which fought on the British side (USA, Great Britain, France, Russia)
axis	Countries which fought on the German side (Italy, Germany, Japan,)
appeasement	Appeasement is a diplomatic policy of meeting political demands to an aggressive power in order to avoid conflict.
dictator	A dictator is a political leader who possesses absolute power.
propaganda	The distribution of information - facts, arguments, rumours, half-truths, or lies - to influence public opinion.
treaty	A treaty is an agreement that binds two or more countries
economy	A country's economy is the wealth that it gets from business and industry.
occupied	Poland and France were all German occupied during WWII.
liberate	To liberate a place or the people in it means to free them from the political or military control of another country, area, or group of people.
Luftwaffe	The German Air Force.
Nazi	A member of the far-right political party in Germany.
surrender	Stop fighting or resisting someone.

### German Luftwaffe



### Key Figures

Chamberlain (Neville)	United Kingdom	Europe	Allies
Churchill (Winston)	United Kingdom	Europe	Allies
Hitler (Adolf)	Germany	Europe	Axis
Mussolini (Benito)	Italy	Europe	Axis
Roosevelt (Franklin)	United States of America	North America	Allies
Stalin (Joseph)	Russia (then known as the USSR or Soviet Union)	Europe / Asia	Axis / Allies



### What caused WWII?

- After the loss of WWI in 1918, Germany's economy had suffered. In 1934, the people voted for Hitler, the leader of the Nazi Party to lead them after he had offered them hope.
- Even though he spoke of peace, Hitler and the Nazi Party invaded Austria and Czechoslovakia.
- Two days after the invasion of Poland, Britain declared war on Nazi Germany.

### What was the Battle of Britain?

- The Battle of Britain was a military campaign of the Second World War, in which the Royal Air Force (RAF) defended the United Kingdom (UK) against large-scale attacks by Nazi Germany's air force, the Luftwaffe.
- Hitler sent his Luftwaffe bombers to attack British ports and RAF airfields.

### British World War II Aircraft

