

Half term one and two - What were the Allies' experiences of World War II?

Why did war break out again in 1939?

Hitler's foreign policy aims:



- To destroy the Treaty of Versailles, which he believed had humiliated Germany.
- To rearm Germany to make Germany strong again.
- To take **lebensraum** (living space) for Germany in the East, to make sure Germans had enough land to live on and to farm.
- To unite **Volksdeutsche** (people with German blood but without German citizenship) and create a **Greater Germany**.
- To unite Germany and Austria (**Anschluss**).
- To destroy **communism**.

Key events which impacted the Allies:

Dunkерque:

The **Battle of Dunkerque** was fought in France between the Allies and Nazi Germany. As the Allies were losing the Battle of France on the Western Front, the Battle of Dunkerque was the defence and evacuation to Britain of British and other Allied forces in Europe from 26 May to 4 June 1940.

Battle of Britain:

The **Battle of Britain** was a military campaign in which the Royal Air Force (RAF) defended the United Kingdom against large-scale attacks by Nazi Germany's air force, the Luftwaffe.

Battle of Stalingrad

The **Battle of Stalingrad** was the largest confrontation of World War II, in which Germany and its allies fought the Soviet Union for control of the city of Stalingrad. It was the bloodiest battle in the history of warfare.

D-Day

The **Normandy landings** were the landing operations on 6 June 1944 of the Allied invasion of Normandy. Codenamed **Operation Neptune** and often referred to as **D-Day**, it was the largest seaborne invasion in history.

How were the USA and USSR impacted on the Home Front?

American farmers began to enjoy better times as the USA exported food abroad to help its allies.	After the Nazi invasion, Stalin ordered that a thousand factories were to be taken apart and rebuilt in the East away from the advancing Nazis.	There was tension post-war as African-Americans began to increase demands for equal rights in part due to the contribution they'd made to the war
Huge areas of the Soviet Union were devastated. Nearly 2,000 towns and cities and 70,000 villages suffered major destruction.	America lent weapons and war materials to Britain and later the USSR during the war. This stimulated the US economy.	Over 20 million Soviet citizens were killed. More Soviet people died for example, defending Stalingrad, than the USA lost in the entire war.
14 million worked in US factories. There were over 12 million women working during WW2.	The war officially ended unemployment in America.	On the first day of Operation Barbarossa, when Hitler attacked Russia, 1,200 Soviet aircraft were destroyed.
Thanks to no damage on the mainland, the USA was able to keep industries going. By the 1950s the USA was producing nearly half of the world's goods.	During the war the Soviets managed to produce twice as many machine guns and rifles as Germany.	The USA had 407,300 (approximately) military deaths during WW2. 2,403 of these were on American soil when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbour.

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