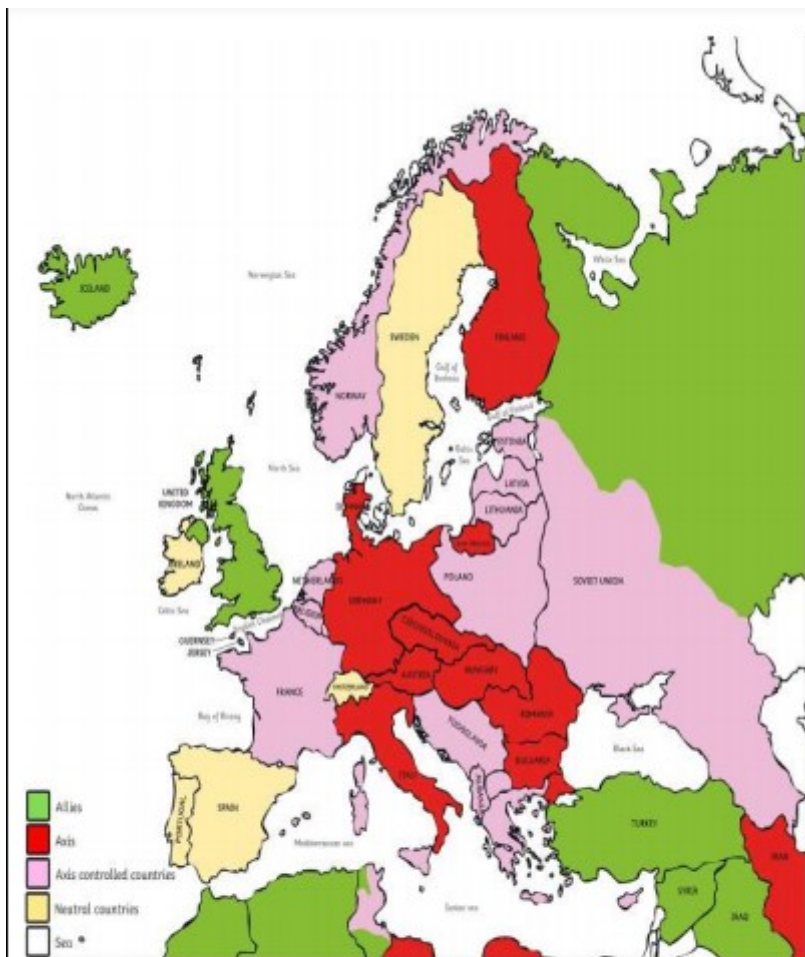


WW2—with focus on The Battle of Britain.

	Date	Key events
1	September 1, 1939	Germany invades Poland
2	September 3, 1939	Britain and France declare war on Germany (<i>start of WW2</i>)
3	January, 1940	Rationing introduced across the UK
4	May to June, 1940	Dunkirk evacuated and France surrenders to Germany Germany uses blitzkrieg to take over much of Western Europe
5	July, 1940	Germany launches air attacks on Great Britain (<i>The Battle of Britain and the Blitz begins</i>) Germany, Italy and Japan signed the Tripartite Pact creating the axis alliance
6	December 7, 1941	The Japanese attack the US navy in Pearl Harbor. The next day, the USA enters the war fighting with the allies
7	June 6, 1944	D-day and the Normandy invasion. Allied forces invade France and push back the Germans
8	April 30, 1945	Adolf Hitler commits suicide
9	May 7, 1945	Germany surrenders & victory in Europe is declared the next day
10	August 1945	Atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima & Nagasaki, Japan by the US killing approximately 226,000 people
11	September 2, 1945	Japan surrenders signaling the end of WW2
12	July, 1954	Rationing ends in the UK



Areas of Control during World War Two - Map of Europe in 1941

Main Participating Countries					
ALLIED POWERS			AXIS POWERS		
Country	Date Joined	Flag	Country	Date Joined	Flag
FRANCE	3 rd Sep, 1939		GERMANY	1 st Sep, 1939	
UK	3 rd Sep, 1939		ITALY	11 th Jun, 1940	
SOVIET UNION	22 nd Jun, 1941		BULGARIA	1 st Mar, 1941	
USA	8 th Dec, 1941		JAPAN	7 th Dec, 1941	

Key Vocabulary

Air-raid	An attack by enemy planes dropping bombs.
Anderson shelter	A small shelter made from corrugated steel to protect people in air-raids.
Allies	Countries (including Britain, France, the Soviet Union and the USA) who fought the Axis Powers.
Atomic bomb	A powerful weapon that uses nuclear reactions as its source of explosive energy. First used in 1945.
Axis Powers	Germany, Japan, Italy and other countries that fought against the Allies.
Blackout	A wartime ban on streetlights and other lights at night, to reduce the risk of bombing by enemy planes.
Blitz	A prolonged period of German air raids on Britain. From the German 'blitzkrieg' which means 'lightning war'.
Concentration camps	Prisons where Jewish people and other prisoners were held by the Nazis.
Evacuation	Moving people from dangerous areas to safer places e.g. from big cities to the countryside to avoid bombing.
Fascism	A political system where the strength of the country is more important than the well-being of the people. Often ruled by dictators with unlimited power through suppression of any opposition and strict control of society.
Führer	German word meaning 'leader' or 'guide'. The title Hitler gave himself in 1934 when he gained absolute authority in Germany.
Gas masks	Face masks to protect people from poisonous gas attacks.
Genocide	Deliberate action to destroy a people (usually defined as an ethnic, national, racial, or religious group).
Holocaust	The mass murder of around six million Jewish people by the Nazis, as well as other persecuted groups.
Invasion	When an army or country uses force to enter and take control of another country or area.
Liberated	Freed from enemy control.
Luftwaffe	The German air force during the war.
Occupied	Taken over by enemy forces.
Nazi	Short for National Socialist Party (in Germany) and the name given to supporters of Hitler.
Persecution	Systematic mistreatment of an individual or group, especially because of race, religion or political beliefs.
Propaganda	Information, especially of a biased or misleading nature, used to promote a political cause or point of view.
Rationing	Controlling the supply of food, clothes, petrol and other products to avoid or reduce shortages.
Spitfire	A British aircraft, particularly used during the Battle of Britain and known for its speed and agility.

