What was the impact of WW2?



Why did the war begin?

- After WW1, Germany was forced to sign an agreement that forced them to give up land and banned them from having armed forces.
- German people voted for a leader named Adolf Hitler, leader of the National Socialists or Nazis.
- Hitler promised to make his country great again.
- He began to arm Germany again and to seize land from other countries.

How were the Jews treated in Nazi Germany?

Hitler wanted everyone to think Jews were greedy and selfish.

The Nazis created posters like this one (right) to convince people of this.

Over time, many laws were introduced which limited or removed Jewish people's freedom. Many children and their parents living in Nazi-occupied countries were imprisoned and killed because they were Jewish. On the night of November 9th, 1938, when German Nazis attacked Jewish people and property. This was called the Kristellnacht.





What happened to Jewish children?

Kindertransport was the name given to the mission which took thousands of Jewish children to safety ahead of World War Two. It helped 10,000 children to escape from Adolf Hitler's reign of terror in parts of Europe controlled by the Nazis.

How did the war impact men?

- When war broke out in September 1939, some men volunteered to join the armed services.
- In 1940, men were 'called up' and ordered to fight.
- The job of most men was of a soldier.
- Men were members of the Navy and Royal Air Force.

How did the war impact women?

As so many men were called up to serve, Britain depended on women to carry out much of the war work.

Women went into factories and did lots of jobs that previously were 'male' roles. This led to a change in society's view of a woman's role.



What happened to British children?

- Thousands of British children were sent away from their families to the countryside which was considered safer than staying in the cities.
- There were two waves of evacuation one before the war started, and one during the Blitz.

| Term | Definition |
|---------------------|--|
| Allies | Countries which fought on the British side (including USA, France, Russia) |
| Evacuee | Someone who was evacuated (moved from danger to a safer place) normally from the cities to rural areas |
| Black out | System ensuring no lights were visible after dark so that buildings could not be spotted by enemy planes |
| Rationing | The controlled distribution of scarce resources (e.g. food, clothing, petrol) |
| Air raid shelter | A building to protect people from bombs dropped by planes |
| Axis | Countries which fought on the German side (including Italy, Japan, Russia) |
| Nazi | A member of the political party that came to power in Germany |
| Swastika | The symbol of the Nazi party $ $ |
| Blitz | Series of aerial bombing on cities in Britain |
| Holocaust | The mass murder of Jews and other people by the Nazis |
| Luftwaffe | The German air force (responsible for the Blitz) |
| Concentration Camps | A guarded prison designed by the Nazis |







Adolf Hitler

The leader of the Nazi party. One of the most notorious and powerful dictators whose actions led to the deaths of 40,000,000 people.



Neville Chamberlain

Prime Minister of Britain when the war broke out. He tried to make peace with Hitler rather than challenge him.



Winston Churchill

Took over from Chamberlain as prime minister and led the country to victory. His leadership has been widely praised.