

World War Two

1939 -
1945

The text '1939 - 1945' is rendered in large, bold, black, sans-serif font. A white, stylized barbed wire graphic is wrapped around the numbers. To the left of the '1945' text, there are two red poppies with black centers and thin black stems.

Keywords of World War Two

World War Two

Anschluss

Anschluss refers to the annexation of Austria by Germany in 1938.

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Holocaust

Holocaust refers to the systematic extermination of Jews by the Nazis during World War II.

Neutrality

Neutrality was the policy followed by the Irish government during the war years whereby they decided not to support either side in the conflict.

Dictator

A dictator is a ruler with total power over a country, sometimes obtaining that power by force. A dictator does not allow opposition to their power.

Allies

The Allies were nations who came together during World War II to oppose the aggression of the Axis Powers.

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Axis Powers

The Axis Powers was the coalition of nations, led by Germany, Italy and Japan, that fought against the Allies during World War II

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Blitzkrieg

Blitzkrieg refers to a form of armoured warfare deployed by the Germans during World War Two characterised by great force and lightning speed.

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The Blitz

The Blitz refers to the German bombing campaign against Britain during 1940 and 1941, especially targeting key cities and urban areas.

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The Emergency

“The Emergency” was the name given to the period of World War II in Ireland. It got its name from the Emergency Powers Act which was passed at the outbreak of war in 1939.

Rations

Because of shortages of certain foods and other items during the war, these items had to be "rationed". People were issued with Ration Books containing coupons which allowed them to purchase a certain amount of rationed goods.

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Evacuations

During World War Two, many children were “evacuated” from cities and built-up areas to places which were considered safer, usually in the countryside. They lived there with host families.

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Concentration Camps

Sometimes known as “work camps”, concentration camps were used by the Nazis during World War II to imprison large numbers of Jews and other opponents of their regime.

Atomic Bombs

These bombs, containing violent explosive powers, were dropped on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, effectively ending World War II.

Anti-Semitic

Anti-Semitism refers to the hostility towards and the discrimination of Jews during World War II. The Nazi regime followed anti-Semitic policies during the war years.

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Air-Raid Shelters

Air-Raid shelters were structures, usually underground, which were designed to protect people from bombs during air-raids.

Home Front

The "Home Front" refers to the civilians who stayed at home during the war. They were encouraged to help the war effort by growing food, rationing, cutting down on wastage and working in factories.

Gas Chambers

Gas chambers were sealed rooms where thousands of people were executed by poisoned gas during World War II. Gas Chambers were situated in most concentration camps.

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