**Unit 3B: War and the Transformation of British Society 1931-51**

**Year 11 History Revision Guide**

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**What do I need to know?**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **TOPIC** | **I can explain…** | **Red** | **Amber** | **Green** |
| 1 **The Impact of the Depression** | * The Nature and extent of unemployment, regional variations, public spending cuts, 1931, the Dole. |  |  |  |
| * Means testing, Special Areas Act (1934), the Unemployment Act (1934) |  |  |  |
| * The experience of the unemployed, including the impact on living standards especially in the depressed areas, the means test in practice and attempts to influence public opinion |  |  |  |
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| **2 Britain at war 1939-45** | * German invasion of the low countries and France, BEF, Retreat of BEF and importance of Dunkirk - role of Churchill |  |  |  |
| * Battle of Britain -reasons for, key events, importance and reasons for victory. |  |  |  |
| * D Day -organisation and preparation for invasion events of D Day, reasons for success |  |  |  |
| * Defeat of Germany - the allied drive for victory, 1944 and 1945, including Arnham, the Battle of the Bulge and reasons for German defeat. |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |
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| **3 The Home Front** | * The Blitz - reasons why the Germany launched the Blitz - effect of Blitz on British towns 1940-41, V1 and V2 bombs 1944-45 |  |  |  |
| * Evacuation, the blackout, air raid shelters, the work of the home guard |  |  |  |
| * the role of the Government - censorship and propaganda |  |  |  |
| * the role of the Government - rationing, impact of war on food supplies, government measures to deal with these problems |  |  |  |
| * the changing role of women - contribution of women, women in employment, including heavy industry, transport and the armed forces |  |  |  |
| * the effects/impact of women’s contribution on changing the role and status of women |  |  |  |

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| **4 Labour in power** | * Reasons for Labour election victory in 1945 - part politics, election campaign, legacy of wartime attitudes |  |  |  |
| * Beveridge Report -recommendations, the 5 giants, and its importance |  |  |  |
| * 'Want' - focus on introduction of family allowances, 1946 Insurance Act, 1948 National Assistance Act and their impact/effects on peoples lives |  |  |  |
| * National Health Act 1946 - opposition from the Medical profession |  |  |  |
| * Introduction of the National Health Service in 1948 and its impact in the years 1948-51 |  |  |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1 - Inference Question (6 mins)**  **6 marks** | **2 – What was the purpose of this representation? (10 mins)**  **8 marks** |
| Write 2 inferences/suggestions.  **Start –** *Source A suggests…*  **Then –** *It shows this through…* | **1 –** *The purpose of the source is to …* (what did people hope would be achieved by this source? Is it trying to raise morale? Is it trying to change your mind about something?)  **2** – *To achieve it’s purpose the representation emphasises…* (evidence from the source, how would it persuade?)  **3** – *Moreover at this time…* (add in contextual/own knowledge) |
| **3 – Use Source C and your own knowlede to explain why…**  **10 marks** | **4 – How reliable are sources D and E as evidence of… (15 mins)**  **10 marks** |
| **1** - *Source C suggests that one of the reasons…*  **2** – *It shows this through…*  **3** – *In addition…* (add contextual/ own knowledge)  **4** – *Another reason was…* (own knowledge) | Source D  **1 –** *This source is reliable/unreliable because it suggests…*  **2 –** *This information is …….. accurate as… (add own knowledge)*  **3 –** *The sources nature, origin and purpose effects it’s reliability as…*  REPEAT for Source E  **4 –** Overall which source is the most reliable and why? |
| **6 – Hypothesis Question. *Source F suggests that… How far do you agree with this interpretation?* (25 mins)**  **19 marks (including 3 SPAG marks)** | |
| **1 –** Argument FOR   * *Sources ……. support the view that …… as…. (sources)* * *In addition… (add own knowledge)* * *This evidence is further strengthened/weakened by the reliability of…*   **2 –** Argument AGAINST (using sources and own knowledge)   * *However, sources ……. weakly support the view that …… as…. (sources)* * *In addition… (add own knowledge)* * *This evidence is further strengthened/weakened by the reliability of…*   **3 –** *Overall I strongly/partially/weakly agree with the interpretation because….* | |

**How do I answer the questions?**

**How will my answers be marked?**

**Question 1: INFERENCE (6 marks)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Mark** | **Description** |
| 1 | * 1 mark for each piece of information copied or paraphrase from the source |
| 2-3 | * 2 marks for one unsupported inference. * 3 marks for two unsupported inferences. |
| 4-6 | * 4-5 marks for one supported inference. * 5-6 marks for two supported inferences. |

**Question 2: PURPOSE (8 marks)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Mark** | **Description** |
| 1-2 | * comment about the message of the source without support   OR   * comment about the source context but relevance to message / purpose not explained |
| 3-5 | * comment about purpose of representation, linked to details in the content * max 5 marks for identifying purpose using detail from content AND own knowledge |
| 6-8 | * purpose of the representation explained using supporting details * max 6 marks if no own knowledge used |

**Question 3: CAUSATION and OWN KNOWLEDGE (10 marks)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Mark** | **Description** |
| 1-3 | * 1 mark for simple statement from the source * 2-3 marks for 2+ simple statements |
| 4-7 | * 4–5 marks for statements using the source OR additional knowledge. * 6–7 marks for statements using the source AND additional knowledge. |
| 8-10 | * 8 marks for one explained factor using additional knowledge * 9–10 marks for two or more explained factors using additional knowledge |

**Question 4: RELIABILITY (10 marks)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Mark** | **Description** |
| 1-3 | * comments based on assumed reliability / unreliability e.g. an eyewitness * undeveloped comment on reliability of content e.g. subject or detail |
| 4-7 | * own knowledge used to show reliability of sources’ information * judgement based on nature / origin / purpose of the sources   Maximum 5 marks if Level 2 criteria met for only one source.  Maximum 6 marks if answer does not use own knowledge |
| 8-10 | * 8 marks explains reliability / unreliability by considering nature / origin / purpose but without own knowledge * 9-10 marks if explains reliability of both sources using own knowledge |

**Question5: EVALUATING HYPOTHESES (16 marks + 3 SPaG)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Mark** | **Description** |
| 1-4 | * valid but undeveloped comment for or against the interpretation * selects details to support or counter the interpretation   Uses everyday language with inaccurate SPaG |
| 5-8 | * agrees or disagrees with the interpretation, linked to details from sources / own knowledge * max 8 marks if sources not used   Limited range of historical language. SPaG generally accurate. |
| 9-12 | * Uses evidence to agree or disagree with the interpretation, but one-sided * Maximum 10 marks without using own knowledge   Uses historical language accurately. SPaG accurate though some errors. |
| 13-16 | **Sustained argument and evaluation, reviewing alternative views before giving a balanced judgement on the interpretation.**   * Evaluation of evidence in support and countering the interpretation, supported by evidence from the sources and own knowledge * 15-16 marks for judging the strength of the evidence of the sources to come to an overall conclusion.   Precise use of historical language. SPaG very accurate. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Mark** | **SPaG Descriptor** |
| **0** | So many errors it doesn’t make sense. |
| **1** | Some mistakes but still makes sense. |
| **2** | Good SPaG |
| **3** | Consistently good SPaG |

**Unit 3B: War and the Transformation of British Society 1931-51**

**BRIEF SUMMARY OF CONTENT**

**Key Topic 1: The Impact of the Depression 1931-39**

* **Great Depression**: 1932: 3 million out of work in Britain. 60% unemployment in shipbuilding.
* **Government reaction**: National Government ordered a 10% public sector pay cut.
* The **Special Areas Act** meant that by 1938 £8.4 million was spent on encouraging businesses to set up in areas worst affected by the Great Depression.
* **Poverty and Poor Diet**: the infant mortality rate was nearly double in Durham to what it was in South-East England in 1935.
* **The Jarrow March**: The Jarrow shipyard closed in 1934. Unemployment there spiked at 80%.
* 200 men marched from Jarrow to London in 1936. They were led by the mayor, Labour MP Ellen Wilkinson.
* Prime Minister **Stanley Baldwin** ignored the petition that the marchers presented.

**Key Topic 2: Britain Alone**

* The period of military inactivity from September 1939-April 1940 is known as **the Phoney War**. It ended when Hitler invaded Denmark and Norway.
* **Winston Churchill** became Prime Minister in May 1940, after the resignation of **Neville Chamberlain**. He was an inspiring public speaker.
* **Dunkirk**: Germany's **Blitzkrieg (Lightning)** warfareoverwhelmed the French and British troops.
* The evacuation of Dunkirk saw 340,000 Allied soldiers rescued vs. British forces lost almost 70,000 men killed or taken prisoner and the RAF lost almost 200 fighters during the evacuation of Dunkirk.
* **The Battle of Britain**: From August-September 1940, Hitler attempted to destroy the RAF as a first step to invading Britain.
* On 15th September 1940, 56 German bombers were lost. Hitler called off the attempt to destroy the RAF.
* Britain won particularly due to the strength of its Spitfire plane and its use of newly-invented radar.
* **The Blitz**: After September, 1940, Hitler gave up trying to invade Britain. He intended to instead break the morale of the British people.
* **Coventry** was hit by 30,000 incendiary bombs in November 1940.
* **London** was bombed every night from 2nd September 1940 to 2nd November 1940. 250,000 were made homeless.
* Overall, over 3 million homes were destroyed and 60,000 were killed.
* **Dealing with the Blitz:** 400,000 Anderson shelters were built.
* **Evacuation**: Over 1 million children were evacuated over the course of the war.

**Key Topic 3: Britain at War**

**Propaganda and Censorship:**

* **Letters abroad**: The government examined all letters going abroad, and soldiers' letters home were subject to censorship.
* **Ministry of Information** would block the broadcast/publishing of certain news/photographs.
* **Newspapers** were monitored (one newspaper, the *Daily Worker*, was shut down).
* **Radio** There were 9 million radio license holders in Britain. The BBC required little control from the Ministry of Information, and largely self-censored.
* **Food supplies**: By 1943, there were 1,500,000 allotments in Britain to feed the population.
* **Women in the war effort**: By 1943, 17 million women were either in the forces or in essential war work.
* In factories, women usually received 75% of a man’s wage for the same work.
* There were 80,000 ‘Land Girls’.

**The Defeat of Germany:**

* The operation to trick Germany into thinking the Allies would invade Calais rather than Normandy was called **Operation Fortitude.**
* **D-Day:** On 6th June 1944, the Allies landed 156,000 troops on the beaches at Normandy.
* The beaches for the landings were codenamed Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno and Sword.
* Allied casualties on D-Day were about 10,000 on D-Day, including 2500 dead.
* **The Battle of the Bulge:** Hitler’s last attempt to defeat the Allies in the West in December 1944. It caught the Allies off guard totally but was eventually defeated.

**Key Topic 4: Labour in power**

* May 1945 – end of the war in Europe-Hitler was **beaten** and there was **no more bombing in Britain**.
* The war was still going on with **Japan** and people were still away fighting in the pacific or were in Europe dealing with the aftermath of Germany’s defeat.
* People began to think of the future.
* 23rd May 1945 – **Churchill** **resigned** and an election date was set for 5th July.
* 1st December 1942 – **Beveridge Report** was published. Many MP’s (conservative mostly) disagreed with it,
* 26TH July 1945 – Labour won the election
* **National Health Act** – passed in November 1946, due to come in force in January 1948 but the BMA delayed it to April then July.

**Unit 3B: War and the Transformation of British Society 1931-51**

**DETAILED CONTENT GUIDE**

**Key topic 1: the impact of the depression**

End of WW1 – only financial aid for unemployed was National insurance benefit set up in 1911

* For those in **UNSTEADY WORK.**
* Workers and unemployed paid into an UNEMPLOYEMENT FUND, so that if work dried up, they the fund would pay benefit for up to **15 weeks.**

The ‘dole’ (**Out-of Work Donation Scheme**) was set up in **Nov. 1918.**

* It paid a **small amount of benefit**.
* It was for those **soldiers** and **returning war workers** who could not find employment. Most workers, and therefore most of the unemployed were men – with families to support.

Economy was suffering, but depression made it worse:

* **1929:** 1.5 million unemployed.
* **1930:** 2.4 million

**The effect of the Depression was REGIONAL**

* **New industry i.e.** car makers **But** these were mainly based in the **south and west**.
* The unemployed and workers in badly affected industries **protested** in different ways.
* **Petitions** and **letters** were sent to the government asking for work.
* **‘Hunger marches’** to London were organised regularly.
* **The NUWM (National Unemployed Workers Movement)-** Set up in **1921** and mainly organized the marches.
* The high unemployment in: coal, iron and steel, cotton and ship building. (Industries in the **north** and **east of England** and in **Scotland** and **Wales**.)
* By 1932: 34.5% miner’s unemployed and 62% shipbuilders unemployed.

**UNEMPLOYMENT WAS NOT SPREAD EVENLY**

* **1932-37:** 80% of all new factories built were in London or nearby.
* Unemployment in **London** and **southeast was kept low**. If you lived in the right part oF the country and worked in the right industry, the Depression could pass you by.

**1929: labour came to power**

* **Ramsey McDonald** became PM
* **hUGE** spending cuts e.g. **cutting the wages of government workers by 10-15%**
* **August 1931**: Gov. Ministers **discussed** a proposal to cut benefit rates by 15% and set up a **means test.**

**mEANS TEST:**

* allowed officials to visit benefit claimers home to examine his living conditions **(to make sure he was poor enough)**
* To demand to know all **savings** and **money earned** by family members.

**oCTOBER: National Government of moderate Labour, Liberal and Conservative MP’s WAS SET UP.**

**Laws passed to help unemployment:**

* 1930: Unemployment Insurance Act: more people entitled to benefits.
* 1931: means test: benefit rate cut. Demeaning test. In first 10 weeks, 271,000 people failed and could no longer claim benefit.
* 1934: Unemployment Act: made clear the divisions between National insurance (a right) and the dole (based on need, which could be refused)
* 1934: Special Areas Act: £2 million aid for Scotland, Tyneside (north east), Cumberland (north west) and south Wales.
* 1937: Special Areas (amendment) Act: gave tax cuts and low rent and rates to business that moved into these areas.
* **Rising employment =** each person got **LESS** benefit but Gov. was still **paying out more.**
* Money from special areas act was **too little** and **too poorly distributed**
* Some places **improved dramatically, others not at all**

**What was it like to be unemployed?**

* In some ways, the experience of unemployment was **the same for everyone.** You **never had enough** money and had to choose: **food, fuel or rent**
* You had to go to the **Employment Exchange** at least once a week, to register as **looking for work** and to collect **benefit money**
* Those not on NI benefit had to go through the **means test** to prove they were **poor enough** to get the dole. A benefit officer visited their house to find out what they possessed and if they had 2 of anything and could sell it. They also wanted to be told about any savings people had and if anyone else in the house was earning/saving money. E.g. elderly parent may have a pension or children might be earning. **If children earned even a few pence, their dole was reduced.**
* 1938: **prices had risen and studies showed that 44% getting the dole had to live on less than 5s 1d (cost to feed a person the minimum of food for proper nourishment).**
* People had to decide to either stick to their trade or be willing to take any work. **Some spent every day looking for work; some gave up, sometimes after years of looking.**
* **Many people joined savings clubs** (like our version of Bright house) **where they would put money in and once they saved enough money they would buy the goods.**

**JARROW**

* In Tyneside – part of the **special areas act** of the north east.
* BUT there was **too little money allowed** in the special areas act.
* 1936: parliament discussed the towns and cities where they gave work **‘as far as circumstances permitted’**. About half of the places listed were in special areas: 40 in Scotland, 43 in Wales, 12 in the North West and 47 in the north east (including Jarrow)
* BUT, **Jarrow was never given a government contract** – there was no industry there to apply for
* Almost all workers at Jarrow worked at **Palmers shipyard**.
* 1934: **NSS closed Palmers**
* 1935: unemployment in Jarrow was **64%**. It **improved in 1936** but by then people had been hungry for a long time, many were starving.
* 1936: the NUWM **organized a National Hunger March to London**.
* People in Jarrow wanted to hold their **own march to ask for WORK** – not FOOD or BENEFITS
* NUWM didn’t want this – **they wanted the unemployed to work togethER**.
* The labour party supported the NUWM
* The people in Jarrow thought that they would be **more likely** to get help from the government if they **did not march with the NUWM**.
* NUWM was also **made up of many communists**, and their marches were seen as **political**.

**The march:**

* The march was made up of **200 of the fittest of Jarrow’s unemployed men** (**to show that they wanted work and were fit for it** as well as to make sure that they could cope with the march itself)
* They took a petition **signed by thousands of people** to the government **asking for work**.
* The march was called the Jarrow Crusade, **not a hunger march**.
* The aim was to give the march more **respectability**, so the banners were **made out of black and white cloth**, not he usually red.
* Before the march, the Bishop of Durham **blessed the march**.

**MARCHING TO LONDON:**

* The marchers covered **291 miles in 22 stages**. An old bus was used to carry their cooking equipment and people were sent ahead to fix a place to stay and organise the cooking.
* **Up to 21 miles were marched between the stops**, often stopping for more than 1 day so that public meetings could be held – **to explain what had happened in Jarrow and that they were asking for work, not benefits or charity**.
* In some towns, local cinemas let them in for free; the public baths in Barnsley were free to them too. Sometimes local church or council groups gave them tea and food at their stops. Sometimes they slept in halls, schools or churches, at other times they slept in the workhouse – the last resort of the poor.

**The impact:**

* The crusade reached London on **Saturday 31st October**. Stanley Baldwin **refused to see** Ellen Wilkinson and accept the petition.
* The cabinet (the most senior member of the government) had issued a statement **disapproving all marches ‘whatever their particular purpose’**
* The Gov. **stopped paying benefits to the marchers** while they were on the march, leaving their families worse off than before. Work was offered to one marcher to tempt him away from the march. He didn’t go
* Parliament **accepted the petition, but did not debate it.**

**Gains from the march:**

* **Small gains**
* Several were offered jobs, but **OUTSIDE** Jarrow.
* Only 1 person accepted.
* An MP, sir john Jarvis, **set up a steel works in Jarrow** in December 1937, but it **only employed 200 people** and it gave the government ***an excuse to ignore Jarrow***.

**The Jarrow legacy:**

* Many marchers felt that the **crusade had failed**. It **did not achieve its aim**. The government did not act, at once, to bring work to Jarrow.
* **As rearmament began, the unemployment did drop and many Jarrow marchers did find work.**
* The Crusade became a **legend**, a byword for public protest – a protest with huge public support.
* The spirit of the marchers **inspired many more modern protests.**

**KEY TOPIC 2: BRITAIN ALONE**

**GOING TO WAR**

* 1st September 1939 – Germany invaded POLAND.
* Britain and France tried to avoid war by **APPEASEMENT** (accepting that **Germany had broken the T.of.V. terms**) and by accepting its invasion of Czechoslovakia.
* Germany invaded Poland = **appeasement not working** = Britain and France **declared war** on Germany
* **3rd September 1939** – Britain and France declared war on Germany
* **28th September 1939** – Poland surrendered.
* Britain expected Germany to invaded France over the **French–German border**. As soon as war broke out, the **BEF (BRITISH EXPIDITIONARY FORCE) was sent to France**.
* By May 1940, it had **394,165 troops defending its border**.
* The attack from Germany however surprised them by its **SPEED** and **DIRECTION**: through Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Belgium. The BEF **tried to counter attack**, but the direction and speed of the German attack **forced it back**.

Winston Churchill:

* An MP who **criticised the government’s appeasement policy** before the war.
* When war broke out, Churchill was put **IN CHARGE OF THE NAVY**
* 10th may 1940 – when German invasion began **Churchill was made PM**
* He had a **great ability to inspire people** to keep going in the fight against Germany, which was particularly important when France fell.

**Blitzkrieg!(Lightning war)**

**9th April 1940** – Germany invade Norway and Denmark:

* both NEUTRAL countries
* they **didn’t** declare war first (took Norway and Denmark by surprise)

10th May 1940 – **OPERATION YELLOW** launched, the invasion of Western Europe **(Blitzkrieg)**

* **German planes** (dive bombers) bombed the area to be occupied
* **German tanks** moved in and took over the area
* **German troops** moved in and occupied the area, under the cover of artillery fire
* **The planes and tanks moved onto the next target**, leaving the troops to occupy the captured area and put down all resistance.
* This was risky, but it gave the troops in the countries under attack **little time to prepare** for invasion. It was unexpected, terrifying and **VERY** effective.
* Belgian, British and the French troops were **thrown into confusion**. They tried to hold back the Germans, but unlike the Germans, **they had no clear plan**.
* The BEF and other Allied troops were **forced to retreaT** to evacuate from the French port of **DUNKIRK**

**DUNKIRK**

**OPERATION DYNAMO:**

* 21st May 1940 – the **first retreating Allied troops reached Dunkirk** – the only French port not occupied by the Germans.
* Long shallow beach – **hard to evacuate from**
* British navy made plans to rescue as many troops as possible before the Germans took Dunkirk.
* **OPERATION DYNAMO began on 26th may**
* Gov. Asked owners of **small boats to ferry soldiers** to the big ships
* By May 29th, about 300 boats were doing this. The big boats were shuttled from Dunkirk to Britain until 4th June
* About 20,000 – 30,000 troops were estimated, the final total was 338,000 – a large part of **the BEF and many Allied troops** as well.

**THE IMPORTANCE OF DUNKIRK:**

* The evacuation was **seen as a victory**
* Churchill pointed out that **‘wars are not won by evacuations’**
* BUT it **SAVED MANY** soldiers who could fight again and IT **HELPED BRITISH MORALE**
* Churchill knew this was important. He feared France would fall and then Britain would be the only focus of the German army and its air force, the LUFTWAFFE
* Churchill did his best to promote Dunkirk as an example of how the **British people could work together to produce victory in the face or near certain defeat**.
* When France did fall, the fact that Britain had taken so many troops from the overconfident Germans made people less likely to think that Britain should just give in or that that Germany could never be beaten

**THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN**

* 22nd June 1040 – **France surrendered and Hitler turned to Britain**.
* **OPERATION SEALION** – destroying the British RAF **BEFORE** it could be used against the Germans invading troops.
* The British were also determined to win **air supremacy** – if not, Britain would be at the mercy of the Luftwaffe, and might be **bombed to defeat.**

**WHAT WAS THE BATTLE OF BRITIAN?**

* The battle between the RAF and Luftwaffe for **control of the air over Britain**, and it was fought over many months.
* 4 stages:
* 10th July – 7th August: Luftwaffe **attacks on the British coast**, esp. RAF radar stations
* 8th august- 6th September: Luftwaffe **attacks on RAF airfields**
* 7-15th September: Luftwaffe, thinking RAF beaten, **attack London**
* 15th September: **Luftwaffe defeated**. This is battle of Britain day as it convinced the Luftwaffe that the RAF was still a fighting force.
* 17th September: Hitler **called off operation Sealion**
* Some people see 17th September as the end of the Battle of Britain. Some say it ended on 31st October when the Luftwaffe’s focus shifted to the Soviet Union.

**WHY DID BRITAIN WIN?**

* July 1940 – RAF had 640 fighter planes. The German Luftwaffe had 2600 bombers and fighter planes within striking distance of Britain, in occupied Europe **= BRITAIN HAD LESS PLANES**
* The Germans were cocky and thought that the RAF would soon be wiped out, but the RAF had some advantages:

1. A radar system- invented in 1935 and installed all along the south and east coasts of Britain at the start of the war. It could detect the Luftwaffe and many more bomber planes
2. The RAF had more fighter planes
3. Its spitfire planes were the most efficient design
4. British factories worked around the clock to build more planes and replace lost planes more quickly than the Germans did.
5. Also, the ‘Dunkirk spirit’ kept the RAF pilots flying, despite terrible losses.

* Once the battle of Britain was won, Churchill said: **‘never in the field of human conflict has so much owed to so many to so few’**

**PREPARING FOR WAR**

**PREPARING FOR BOMBING:**

* Before war began, the Gov. prepared for war, certain that cities would be bombed.
* As early as 1935, it told local councils to build **AIR RAID SHELTERS**
* The **ARP (Air Raid Precautions) service** – set up in 1937, **ARP wardens – voluntary.**
* By September 1939, over **1.5 million ARP wardens**.
* They put sandbags around buildings to stop bomb damage and put up huge **barrage balloons** to stop German planes flying low.
* They organized the **‘blackout’**: stopping lights showing after dark, which would show a bomber overhead that people were below. Streetlights were turned off; people covered their windows with cloth or paper.
* ARP wardens sounded the **air raid siren** to warn of an air raid, and the ‘all clear’ when the raid was over
* They checked that people went to shelters.
* Councils built a few shelters big enough to hold 50 people, but not many. The Gov. chose not to crowd people together during bombing.
* Early 1939 onwards- **Anderson shelters given out** – iron shelters to bolt together and bury in the garden
* When the bombing began, ARP wardens called the emergency services: **fire brigade, Heavy Rescue Squads (trained to dig through rubble to find survivors) and the Ambulance Service**.

**PREPARING FOR INVASION:**

* 14th May 1940 – the WAR MINISTER, **Anthony Eden**, asked for volunteers for a **Local Defence Force (LDF).** There were 250,000 volunteers on the first day. August: LDF had about 1 million members and was renamed the **Home Guard**. It took up to early 1941 to give all members equipment and uniform.They began training straight away.

**The Home Guard:**

* **Manned anti-aircraft** guns during air raids – the guns tried to shoots down enemy aircraft. (Over a thousand were killed on this duty during the war)
* They **helped rescue workers after air raids**, and cleaned up the bomb damage, making roads clear first.
* They removed or painted over road signs, so that the enemy would not know where it was if it landed in Britain.
* **Obstacles were put in large fields** that could be used to land planes and they put barbed wire along beaches.
* They were put in charge of **detonating or making-safe unexploded bombs**
* They were **trained to fight a German invasion.**

**EVACUATION**

* At the start of war, the government started evacuating people from London **before declaring war** as they were so sure that the Germans would bomb British cities. Most evacuees were children, but some mothers of children under school age, pregnant women and blind people were evacuated too. This reduced the number of people in cities and it kept children and other vulnerable groups safe.
* It also freed parents and carers to work in voluntary groups like the **ARP** or the **WVS (Women’s Voluntary Service)**
* 1938 onwards – the government encouraged people to think about evacuation. Many people could afford to do so and made arrangements with friends, family or even strangers in the countryside. Most ordinary children went by bus or train with their school. Schools practiced evacuation procedure.

**1st September 1939, the evacuation began.**

* In the first 4 days, 3 million people were evacuated.
* By December, there had been **no bombing** and many people went back for Christmas. (**THE PHONEY WAR)**

**BLITZ**

* Blitz = **the bombing of British cities by the Luftwaffe from 7th September 1940 to May 1941.** It overlapped with the Battle of Britain.
* **London was bombed first**, most often and most heavily. – It was bombed 75 out of the first 76 nights of bombing (one night it was too foggy to fly).
* There were bombing raids on many other British cities – **Coventry and Liverpool (targeted as it was seen as the most likely destination for US ships bringing supplies to Britain.)**
* The Blitz was different to other bombings. The first bombs dropped in London were dropped on the **industrial East End**; the bombs were mainly **targeted at civilians**, not military or industrial targets.

**Their aims:**

* To **disrupt daily life** and **kill many civilians**
* To **wreck British morale**, so that the public no longer supported the war.

**Did it work?**

* Yes, it **disrupted life** in the bombed cities
* Over 43,000 civilians were killed and over 2 million people made homeless.
* **Water, gas** and **electricity** supplies were affected.
* People lost a lot of sleep because of the blitz – which really affected their daily life, with a 3rd getting less than 4 hours sleep and a 3rd getting none at all.
* The second evacuation broke up families, some for a second time
* But its main objective **FAILED** – people did not turn against the war in large numbers XD

**BLITZ ON COVENTRY**

* After the London Blitz, the **RAF attacked German cities with bombs**. Civilians on both sides suffered.
* 8th November 1940 – **RAF bombed Munich**
* 14th November 1940 – **Luftwaffe bombed Coventry in retaliation.**

**The bombing:**

* Began at 7:20pm and ended at 6:15 the next morning.
* Bombs were dropped in the city centre to start fires to guide later bombers
* **The city was burning !!!!!!**
* Bombing went on **ALL NIGHT**
* 500 bombers dropped **THOUSANDS** of bombs.
* Around 380-554 killed
* Thousands of **injuries**
* Over 4000 houses destroyed as well as factories, businesses and the city’s cathedral
* The Luftwaffe returned 40 times, the last in august 1942, but the **first raid was the worst**.

**NEW DANGERS**

**More bombing:**

* The end of the blitz was **the end of the heavy bombing**, BUT not the end of **ALL** the bombing on Britain.
* April 1942 – the Germans planned raids on new targets, **smaller towns of no military importance**
* Called **BAEDEKER RAIDS** as the Germans were said to have chosen their targets from towns with 3 stars in the German Baedeker tourist guide to Britain.
* The raids were on: **Exeter, Bath, York and Norwich**
* June- Luftwaffe bombed **Canterbury** after RAF bombed Cologne.
* This cost them a lot of bombers, planes and crew.

**New Bombs:**

* The Germans looked for a way to **bomb Britain from a distance**
* Flying bomb developed – **Vergeltung (‘retribution’), V1**
* They were driven by a motor which was supposed to cut over the target.
* First ones were launched off the French coast on 12th June 1944.
* Many **failed** to reach their targets and some **failed to explode**.
* It caused a lot of panic at first – 1.5 million people left London
* September – V2’s were used. It was rocket powered (so was faster and could go higher) but had no more explosive so **didn’t cause any more damage than the v1’s**
* Only 1000 out of 5000 reached Britain, killing about 2700 people

**Key topic 3: britain at war**

**GOVERNMENT CONTROL**

During the war, the government need to keep a **tighter control** over Britain by:

Central organisation to plan

* **War production**
* **Rationing**
* **Evacuation**

More public information needed to be released about

* what to do in a **BLACKOUT**
* What to do in an **AIR RAID**
* How to **cope with rationing** and
* How to help the **WAR EFFORT**

It also needed to warn people about the **DANGERS OF TALKING TOO FREELY**, about things like **troop movements.** Pacifists who **did not support the war** and **spoke out against it publicly** were often **arrested**.

**NEW MINISTRIES:**

1939 – **New Ministry of Supply** – took over **iron** and **steel** industry to **organize the production** of **war supplies.**

**Coal mining**- went under government control

**Ministry of labour**: became **Ministry of Labour and National Service** (organised the **armed services** and the **war effort** on the **home front**)

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION – set up on the **5th September 1939**

**MINISTRY OF INFORMATION**

**Censorship:**

* The stopping of certain information in: • **newspapers**

**Radio broadcasts**

**Private letters**

**Even conversations**

* Aim: to stop info getting out which could **encourage the** **enemy** and **lower morale** of the British people
* Censors **told newspapers** and **magazines** which information they **COULD** (or could not) print.
* Letters going abroad and coming were censored to prevent information getting out

**Propaganda:**

* Giving people information in order to **make** them **think** or **behave** in a **particular** way
* Posters and leaflets were produced to **persuade** people to do/not to do certain things to **help the war effort**
* ‘How to...’ films were made to show people how to move around in the blackout or how to dig a vegetable plot.
* **Patriotic films** were shown
* **Radio talks**

**RATIONING:**

* Before the war, **55 million tonnes** of food imported to Britain every year.
* Ministry of Food – began planning to **control** the food supply (Nov. 1936)
* Jan 1940 – German submarines had sunk **over 100 ships** carrying food to Britain.
* Rationing began on 8th 1940
* What was rationed and the rationed amount changed during the war
* Ration books of coupons
* People registered with a shop and the shop keeper recorded the coupons used
* 3 kinds of rationing: • rationing of foods by weight (e.g. butter)
* Rationing of dried goods (e.g. flour, biscuits, cereal) and tinned goods on a **points** system(there was a weekly point maximum, goods worth different numbers of points)
* Orange juice or milk etc. – babies, pregnant women and the sick were given supplies first
* M of F encouraged people to grow their own food and keep chickens and rabbits
* Local parks – turned into allotments to grow crops on
* Moat around tower of London – dug and planted
* ‘pig clubs’ – buying a pig, sharing its care then sharing its meat when it was killed
* Food was scarce and there was little variety
* M of F broadcasts – gave recipes and tips to make food go further
* Food was swapped with their neighbours and shop keeps favoured regular customers
* ‘Black market’ – rationed or scarce goods could be bought at high prices but they were punished if caught.

**WORKING WOMEN**

* At the start of ww2, lots of men went to fight, and their jobs were **filled by unemployed men**
* July 1939 – Gov. Reformed the **Women’s Land Army-** They would need to **clear** and **farm** more land toproduce **huge amounts** of food the country would need when the war began
* March 1940 – over 30,000 men had left farming and went to the army. Over 15,000 had left to do other war work.

It became clear that **women were needed for all types of war work**.

**CONSCRIPTION**

* 8th December 1941 – Government introduced **conscription for all unmarried women aged 20-30**
* **Older single women** and then **married women** were later conscripted
* They could choose to join the **armed services**, **civil defence** or **industry**
* They joined in large numbers and were soon doing **vital work**
* 1943 – 100,000 women working on the railways, from selling tickets to driving the trains

**IN THE SERVICES**

* Women had their own sections in the armed force: • **ATS (army)**
* **WAAF (air force)**
* **Wrens (navy)**
* At first, mostly **cleaning work**, **cooking** or **office work** (lots of paperwork from war)
* They were **trained as drivers**
* They worked at **anti-aircraft posts** , as **radio operators**, as **motorbike messengers** and even **spies**

**WORKING AFTER THE WAR:**

* After the war ended, millions of men and women were discharged from the services and needed to find **CIVILIAN JOBS**
* Women had to **GIVE UP** their jobs for the men when they came home
* Attitudes of women (inc. Married) **changed due to war**
* It seemed more important to find **men** work

**D-DAY**

* 7th December 1941 – Japanese (Germany’s allies) bombed the US naval base at Pearly Harbor, Hawaii
* USA – Had been sending money and supplies to Britain. They decided to **enter the war against Germany and Japan**
* The US saw that the main war was in the **PACIFIC** against Japan
* They didn’t want to fight in both Europe and the pacific for long, they suggested plan for a **quick invasion of Europe**

**OPERATION OVERLORD**

* British convinced US generals that an invasion had to be **carefully planned**
* Germany was **diverting troops** to fight the soviets in the east, but there were still huge numbers of them in France
* **Careful planning** was needed to land as many allied troops in France, as **quickly** as possible
* They also needed to plan to send **more troops** and **supplies quickly**
* German troops needed to be **diverted from Normandy** (planned landing site)
* They **PURPOSEFULLY** leaked information carefully **to suggest** they were planning to **invade a different part of the coast**
* The date for the invasion was changed several times due to the weather, the build-up of troops and equipment in the south of England and a reaching point where enough of the Luftwaffe had been destroyed to stop it posing a huge threat to the invaders
* Invasion was set for **the night of 6th June 1944**

**WHY DID D-DAY SUCCEED?**

Successful due to **careful planning and preparation**

The Germans would see the troops, planes and ships gathering at the coast, but they **CONFUSED THE GERMANS** about where the troops would land by:

* Attacks on **RADAR** systems all along the channel and up as far as Norway
* **Coded radio messages** and other information leaked by resistance groups and the SOE suggested the invasion would be near **Calais**
* Complicated plans led the Germans to believe that **LARGE NUMBERS OF TROOPS** were landing in other parts of France and that a **LARGE FLEET** of ships was moving towards the French coast near Calais

**Other factors:**

* Pluto fuel pipeline the **RAPID** ferrying of troops and supplies once the invasion began and the air and sea backup were all vital to the actual invasion
* **Parachute troops** helped the resistance to **blow up railway lines** and **bridges** to **DISRUPT GERMAN COMMUNICATIONS**
* US – provided **huge** numbers of **troops** and **equipment**
* High losses on the first, but the US’s help meant **they could keep going**
* German army – **under pressure in the east and in the Mediterranean** (Rome was captured from the Germans on 4th June) and was not able to easily regroup and organise to fight back.

**THE DEFEAT OF GERMANY:**

AFTER D-Day, Germany was **under pressure from all sides**. Its resources were being strained and it was **running** **out** **of** **soldiers**.

* The allies put pressure on Germany by: • **bombing industrial sites**, **military bases** and

**cities in Germany**, far more than heavily than Britain had been bombed in the **BLITZ**

* Using radar to **find enemy submarines** and bombing them from planes , so **keeping the seas clear to ship supplies**
* Helping resistance movements **to fight the Germans** and sabotage road and rail links

-British and US commanders made military errors. The Allied armies suffered **high losses at Arnhem** in September 1944, when they tried to liberate the Netherlands, take control of the road networks and cross the Rhine to Germany. Plans for this were **hurried** and only 2827 of 10,300 troops survived

-Some German leaders planned for the assassination of Hitler, but it **FAILED**.

-December 1944 – Germans launched a **surprise counter attack** westwards (Battle of the Bulge) but the Germans lost irreplaceable men, while the allies brought in reinforcements

-By April, **Soviet troops were closing in on Berlin**.

**-Hitler committed suicide** and Germany **surrendered.**

**Key topic 4: Labour in power 1945 -51**

**LABOUR COMES TO POWER**

* May 1945 – end of the **WAR IN EUROPE**
* Hitler was **beaten** and there was **no more bombing in Britain**.
* The war was still going on with **Japan** and people were still away fighting in the pacific or were in Europe dealing with the aftermath of Germany’s defeat.
* People began to think of the future. People were **homeless** because of bombing. **Rationing** got **WORSE**. **Farmers** needed **time** to grow crops again. **Factories** needed time to switch from war production to making **clothes** and **other goods** again, so there were still **shortages**. People wanted **homes, jobs** and a **chance for a better life**.

**What kind of government would provide this?**

**CALLING AN ELECTION**

* Churchill – prime minister and conservative leader.
* Clement Attlee – Churchill’s deputy and labour leader

They wanted to keep the coalition going until Japan was beaten. The labour party rejected this idea. They wanted a **fresh start** for the country

23rd May 1945 – **Churchill** **resigned** and an election date was set for 5th July.

**THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN**

Conservative campaign –

* focused on **Churchill**, not the party
* ‘**Let Him Finish The Job’**
* Promised **new** **homes** and support for the **poor** and the **unemployed**
* Churchill made first election broadcast: **BIG MISTAKE!!!**

**HE...**

* He said a **socialist state** would never work without a **Gestapo** to run it
* He was **comparing the labour party to the Nazis**!!!
* Clement Atlee (labour politician) had been Churchill’s deputy through the war

**26TH July 1945 – LABOUR WON THE ELECTION**

**THE BEVERIDGE REPORT:**

Ernst Bevin – **minister of Labour (and a member of the labour party**)

**Set up a committee** to suggest how to **improve life** in Britain after the war

**WILLIAM BEVERIDGE – chairman**

* 1st December 1942 – Beveridge report was published. Many MP’s (conservative mostly) disagreed with it, only to find it had a **huge amount of public support**. Over 70,000 copies sold in the first day.

**THE RECOMENDATIONS:**

The report said that **the state should support its citizens** ‘from the cradle to the grave’. It had ‘five giants’:

* **WANT** – the lack of basic needs such as food
* **IGNORANCE** – the lack of proper education for all
* **DISEASE** – the lack of proper medical care for all
* **SQUALOR** – poor living conditions
* **IDLENESS** – unemployment

As the government had changed during the war, it meant people expected **higher welfare responsibilities** from them.

Before election:

* **EDUCATION ACT of 1944** – restructured the school system and provided free education to the age of 15
* **FAMILY ALLOWANCES ACT of 1945** – paid mothers 5 shillings a week for every child after the first one.

Labour won as many felt conservatives **WOULD NOT ACT** on Beveridge’s recommendations.

**A NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE**

* Beveridge suggested a **FREE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE**
* **BUT** doctors were **suspicious** of state control of their profession. The **BMA (British Medical Association)** to which many doctors belonged, had a long history of **disputes with the government**.

**THE BMA AND THE GOVERNMENT:**

* 1911 – **BMA** objected to the introduction of **free medical care** for those paying National Insurance. **ONLY** for the person paying, **NOT** his family
* They **fought all changes** that increased free health care
* By the time war broke out, the BMA admitted that **the health service needed reforms**. It was a muddle of different things, free and private.

**WORKING TOGETHER?**

* The BMA **struggled** to reach agreement.
* **Aneurin Bevan** – minister of health – consulted the BMA but pushed through the law at the same time.
* **NATIONAL HEALTH ACT** – passed in November 1946, due to come in force in January 1948 but the BMA delayed it to April then July.

**USING THE NHS:**

* It was **WIDELY** popular. **BUT** the government badly underestimated how **expensive** it was.
* **THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT OF 1949** – set a 1 shilling prescription charge (except for old, poor or disabled)
* Only came in force in **1952**
* Bevan disagreed and **resigned** as Minister of Health because of it
* Another act, in 1951, put a 1s charge on glasses or half the cost of false teeth (again, old, poor or disabled didn’t have to pay)
* These were objected to, but even when in force, **those who needed free treatment were getting it,** a **HUGE** improvement to what it was before the war.