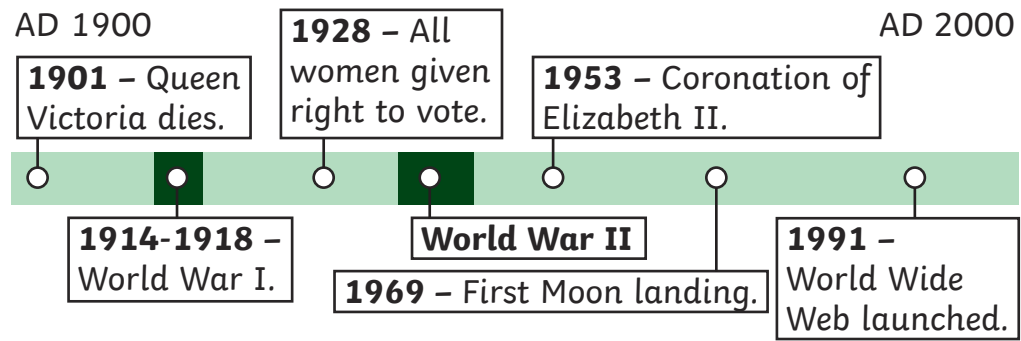


Key Events

1939	1 st September	German troops invade Poland.
	3 rd September	Britain and France declare war on Germany.
1940	10 th May	The Battle of France begins.
	26 th May	Allied forces are evacuated from Dunkirk in France.
	10 th July	The Battle of Britain begins.
	7 th September	The Blitz begins.
1941	7 th December	Japan bombs Pearl Harbor in the US.
1944	6 th June	The D-Day landings.
1945	7 th and 8 th May	Germany surrenders to the Allies. VE Day (Victory in Europe Day) is celebrated the next day.
	6 th and 9 th August	The US drops atomic bombs on two cities in Japan.
	2 nd September	Japan formally surrenders, ending the war.

Timeline



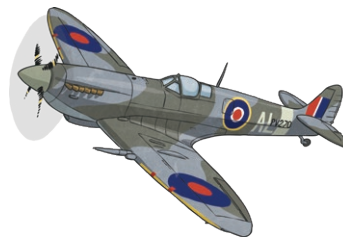
a British Army soldier

The Armed Forces

Before the war, people volunteered for the armed forces but as the war progressed, men and women had to register for National Service. This **conscription** meant that they could then be 'called up' into the armed forces or into other jobs to help the war effort. Women were not given combat roles but they did many different jobs in the armed forces.

The Battle of Britain

In July 1940, Germany planned a secret mission to invade Britain. They began by sending the Luftwaffe (German air force) to bomb British ships, airfields and other targets. RAF (Royal Air Force) planes fought back in what were known as **dogfights**.



Believing they were winning, the Luftwaffe moved on to bombing London on 7th September 1940 (the start of the Blitz). On 15th September, the Luftwaffe launched another attack but the RAF fought back and it was clear that the Germans would not be able to win. This date is **commemorated** every year as the end of the Battle of Britain.

Key Vocabulary

Allies	The United Kingdom, France and Poland, later joined by other countries, including the USSR (Soviet Union), the United States of America and China.
Axis	The Axis Powers were originally Germany, Japan and Italy. Other countries joined them later.
conscripted	Required by law to serve their country in some way, usually in the armed forces.
dogfight	An intense, in-air, close-range battle between individual or small groups of aircraft.
commemorate	Mark or remember a past event.
home front	Doing things at home to support the war was called 'fighting on the home front'.
rationing	Only allowing people to have a certain amount of something.
evacuation	Taking people from a dangerous place to a safer one.

Commemorative Events



Every year, special celebrations are planned to honour and remember the people whose lives were affected by the war. Large **commemorations** are usually held for events including the **evacuation** from Dunkirk, Holocaust Memorial Day, VE Day, D-Day and the Battle of Britain, as well as for Remembrance Day.

The Home Front



In order to make food and other supplies last as long as possible and ensure they were shared fairly, many items were **rationed**.



The government's 'Dig for Victory' campaign encouraged people to grow their own food. Some people also reared their own animals for meat and eggs. Clothes and other items were mended or made into new things.

Although national sports events were suspended during the war, there was plenty of entertainment. The radio was very popular and people also went to the cinema or dance halls. Children played outside or with board games, cards or handmade toys.







Over 3.5 million people, mostly children, were **evacuated** from the cities to the countryside, where it was believed they would be safer from bombing.

With men away at war, women took on important jobs to help the war effort. Jobs included working in factories, engineering and shipbuilding, driving ambulances and nursing, working as Land Girls or air-raid wardens, or joining the armed forces themselves.

Key Vocabulary

county	A small area of the UK containing lots of towns and villages.
prime meridian	An imaginary line which divides the Earth into the eastern and western hemispheres.
immigration	People moving to another country to live there permanently.
UK	The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
Great Britain	England, Scotland and Wales.
landmark	A feature of the landscape or area that is easily recognised.
millennium	A time period of 1000 years. The New Millennium started 1 st January 2000.

The UK

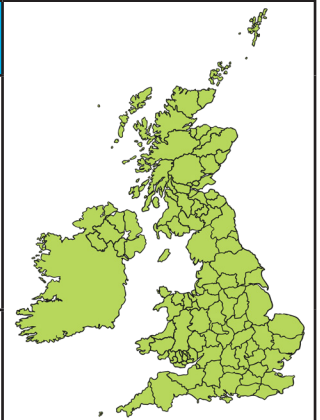
Country	Flag	Capital City	Key Landmark	Key Rivers	High Ground
England		London	Stonehenge	Thames	Pennines
Scotland		Edinburgh	Ben Nevis	Tay	Grampian Mountains
Wales		Cardiff	Snowdon	Severn (also flows through England)	Cambrian Mountains
Northern Ireland		Belfast	Giant's Causeway	Bann	Sperrin Mountains







County

Local Governments control the local areas of **counties** and their services. These services include: Education, Transport, Policing, Public Safety, Social Care

Counties include: Cornwall, Swansea, Londonderry, Aberdeenshire

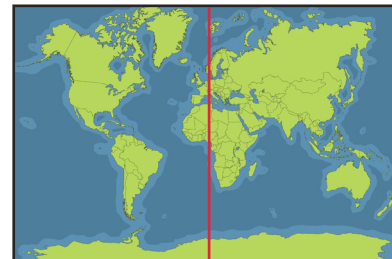


Timeline of London

Date AD (around)	Event	Population (approx.)
43	Romans invaded Britain and built a settlement called Londinium on the banks of the river Thames.	unknown
1066	After the Norman Invasion, many forts were built including the Tower of London.	
1209	London Bridge was built to replace smaller, wooden bridges on the Thames.	
1665	Over 60 000 people died due to the Great Plague.	
1666	The Great Fire of London destroyed 60% of the City.	
1762	Buckingham House was built, now known as Buckingham Palace.	
1805-1886	Landmarks such as Trafalgar Square, Big Ben, Royal Albert Hall and Tower Bridge were built.	
1939-1945	Many houses and buildings were destroyed during the Second World War.	
2000	Millennium Dome and Millennium Wheel (London Eye) were built to celebrate the new millennium .	
2012	Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park built for the Olympic Games.	8 million

Why Might People Come and Move to the UK?

Many people decide to move to and live permanently in the **UK**. These **immigrants** can come from all over the world including Italy, India, China and Australia. They might decide to live in the **UK** to be nearer to family, for work or for a different lifestyle.



Prime Meridian

This imaginary line runs through the Royal Observatory in Greenwich. It is also used as the basis for the world's time zones.