

Enquiry question: What was the biggest turning point of the Second World War?









What am I going to learn?

1. What was the Second World War?
2. How was Germany able to defeat Poland and France so quickly in 1939/40?
3. Was Dunkirk a victory or defeat for Britain?
4. Why was the Battle of Britain so important?
5. Was the invasion of the Soviet Union Hitler's biggest mistake?
6. Why did America join the war in 1941?
7. Why was the Battle of Midway important?
8. Why was Africa important in the Second World War?
9. How important was the Battle of Stalingrad?
10. How significant was D-Day?
11. Was America right to use the Atomic Bombs?
12. End of topic assessment

Keyword	Definition
Aircraft carrier	a large ship capable of carrying aircraft, they have a runway so planes can take off and land
Amphibious assault	an attack launched from the sea to attack another country on land
Atomic bomb	a weapon with great explosive power that results from the sudden release of energy
Blitzkrieg	a German tactic in the Second World War which aimed to secure quick, decisive victories over her enemies
Blockade	stopping resources or supplies from reaching an area
Evacuation	moving people away from somewhere dangerous
Fleet	a large formation of warships

Keyword	Definition
Lebensraum	the name given to the concept of Germany acquiring more living space for its growing population by invading countries in Eastern Europe
Luftwaffe	the German air force
Pacific theatre	the name given to the fighting in the Pacific during the Second World War.
Radar	a form of technology that can be used to identify the location, speed of travel, height of travel, and direction of travel of objects
Suez Canal	a man-made waterway in Egypt, giving easier access to parts of Africa and Asia
Total War	a war which is unrestricted in terms of weapons used and people targeted
Turning point	a development or event which causes a significant or important change to occur

Who's who?

Allied Powers		Axis Powers	
USA 		Germany 	
Soviet Union 		Japan 	
Britain (and her colonies) 		Italy 	

A **turning point** is an event which causes a significant or important change to occur.



Chronology of main events									
September 1939: Germany invades Poland, WW2 begins.	June 1940: France surrenders to Germany. The BEF is evacuated from Dunkirk.	July-October 1940: The Battle of Britain.	June 1941: Operation Barbarossa – the German invasion of the Soviet Union.	December 1941: Japan launches a surprise attack at Pearl Harbor. USA joins the war.	June 1942: The Battle of Midway.	November 1942: One of the biggest battles in the African Campaign is fought – the Second Battle of El Alamein.	August 1942- February 1943: The Battle of Stalingrad. The deadliest battle of the war.	June 1944: The D-Day Landings.	August 1945: The USA drop two atomic bombs on Japan bringing an end to the war.

