



# INTRODUCE Battle of Britain

Year \_\_\_ Term \_\_\_

## PLACE IN TIME



## HEADLINES

The Battle of Britain was one of many battles fought in the Second World War.



A pivotal air battle that Britain had to win because the German invasion of Britain was looming.

**'The Few'** were the airmen who fought in the Battle of Britain.

**Women** took an active part in the war, including Women's Auxiliary Air Force and Women's Land Army.

## LEADERS

**Adolf Hitler**



Dictator  
German Nazi Party

**antisemitic views**

hostility and prejudice against Jewish people

**Invaded Poland**  
1st September 1939  
**Britain at war**

**Winston Churchill**



took over as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom in 1940  
|  
France was falling into Nazi occupation  
|  
May 1940

## MAINLAND EUROPE

The German army led a ferocious campaign to defeat European countries not willing to surrender or join them.

A new type of warfare had been invented by the German armed forces

**Blitzkrieg**

lightning + war surprise attack with rapid and overwhelming force



Germany quickly invaded Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg

**June 1940**



**Battle of France lost**

Britain, supported by countries in its empire, began a defence against the German invasion.

## THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN

1940



**September 1939**

Children, mothers with infants and the frail were evacuated from British cities to rural locations



**January 1940**

Rationing introduced to ensure food was shared fairly



**1st July 1940**

Channel Islands (Guernsey and Jersey) invaded and occupied by Germans

**STARTED**

**10th July 1940**

**Luftwaffe** (German air force) attacked British supply ships in the English Channel



Hitler prepares **Operation Sea Lion** a landing operation against Great Britain!

## GREAT BRITAIN

**13th August 1940**

Luftwaffe attacked British airfields and factories

**BRITISH RADAR**

identified location of German threat



RAF fighter planes sent to intercept them



**24th August 1940**

German bombers accidentally bombed houses in London



British bombed city of Berlin

Hitler ordered London and major British cities to be bombed

**7th September 1940**

**BLITZ begins**



**15th September 1940**

**Battle of Britain Day**

Luftwaffe lost many planes and realised they could not achieve air supremacy

**17th September 1940**

Hitler postpones Operation Sea Lion

**31st October 1940**

**END**  
Battle of Britain ended (although German bombing raids still continued until 1941)