



When the lights went out

Year Five

Terms 1 & 2

Prior Knowledge/Key knowledge

Year 4	Achievements of early civilisation – Ancient Egypt.
The Allies	Countries (including Britain, France, the Soviet Union and the USA) who joined forces to fight the Axis Powers.
The Axis Powers	Germany, Japan, Italy and other countries that were allies in World War 2.
Neville Chamberlain	Prime Minister of Great Britain at the beginning of war.
Winston Churchill	Prime Minister of Great Britain from 1940.
Hitler, Adolf	Leader of Nazi Germany.
King George VI	King of UK during war

Timeline 1939 - 1945	
1 September 1939	Germany invades Poland. World War II begins.
3 September 1939	France and Great Britain declare war on Germany.
10 May – 22 June 1940	Germany uses quick strikes called blitzkrieg, meaning lightning war, to take over much of western Europe including the Netherlands, Belgium, and northern France
27 May 1940	The evacuation of 340,000 soldiers of the British and French armies from the beaches of Dunkirk.
30 May 1940	Winston Churchill becomes leader of the British government
4 June 1940	The last of the British, French and Belgian forces evacuated from Dunkirk
10 July 1940	Germany launches an air attack on Great Britain. These attacks last until the end of October and are known as the Battle of Britain
22 September 1940	Germany, Italy, and Japan sign the Tripartite Pact creating the Axis Alliance.
22 June 1941	Germany and the Axis Powers attack Russia with a huge force of over four million troops.
7 December 1941	The Japanese attack the US Navy in Pearl Harbour. The next day the US enters World War II on the side of the Allies.
6 June 1944	D-day and the Normandy invasion. Allied forces invade France and push back the Germans.
25 August 1944	Paris is liberated from German control.
30 April 1945	Adolf Hitler commits suicide as he knows Germany has lost the war
7 May 1945	Germany surrenders to the Allies.
8 May 1945	Winston Churchill announces VE Day - Victory in Europe. British people wave flags, sing and dance in the streets. WW2 ends in Europe
6 August 1945	The United States drops the Atomic Bomb on Hiroshima, Japan. The city is devastated.
9 August 1945	Another atomic bomb is dropped on Nagasaki, Japan.
2 September 1945	Japan surrenders to US.

Vocabulary	
Air raid	An attack by planes dropping bombs
Air raid shelter	A building to protect people from bombs.
Blackout	Wartime ban on street lights and other lights at night.
Blitz	German air raids, from a German word 'blitzkrieg' which means 'lightning war'.
Concentration camp	Prison where Jews and other prisoners were kept by the Nazis.
Evacuee	Someone who was evacuated, moved from a danger area to a safer place.
Gas mask	Face mask to protect people against poison gas.
Host family	People who took in evacuees to live with them
Land Girl	The Women's Land Army (WLA) was a British civilian organisation created during World War II so women could work in agriculture.
Rationing	Controlling the supply of food, clothes, petrol and other things.
Siren	Machine that made a wailing noise as a warning when enemy planes were seen.
Stirrup pump	Small hand pump for squirting water to put out fires.
Tuskegee Airmen	The Tuskegee Airmen were the first black military aviators in the U.S. Army Air Corps (AAC), a precursor of the U.S. Air Force.

Key Skills

Change and development over time

Make comparisons between past and present, explaining why things have changed or stayed the same

Significance and Interpretations

Create a balanced viewpoint on interpretations of the past

Use of sources as evidence

Construct informed responses that involve careful selection and organisation of historical information

Explain how historical sources help us to understand more about lives in the present and the past

Big Questions/Challenging Perceptions



Life for most women before the war was quite different than it is today. Typically, most women stayed at home and did not go out to work. Some younger women did go out to work but if they married, they had to give up their job. Women were paid less than men and they were generally only employed to

do 'women's jobs', such as nursing or working as a shop assistant.

How do you think men and women at the time felt about the gender roles? Can children explain how the role of women in British society was affected by the war?

Who is Noor Khan?

When war broke out in 1939, the descendant of Indian royalty Noor Inayat Khan trained as a nurse with the French Red Cross. Quiet and unassuming, Khan was passionate about her father's pacifist teachings – so it was a surprise to some when Khan joined the Women's Auxiliary Air Force after escaping to England during the German occupation of France. There, she was trained as a wireless radio operator

Facts About You Need to Know

Shortly after, Khan was recruited into the Special Operations Executive for service in Nazi-occupied France. Some doubted her suitability for the job, but her fluent French and the shortage of agents had her flying to Paris as a radio operator for the resistance network, under the code name "Madeleine."

After the arrest of many in the Paris resistance, Khan continued to move around undercover, sending messages back to London HQ. In October 1943 she was betrayed and arrested by the Gestapo. She managed to escape for a few hours, but upon her recapture she was sent to solitary confinement at Pforzheim prison in Germany. She was held in chains and tortured, but never revealed any information about the resistance.

From the German prison, Khan was sent to Dachau Concentration Camp where she was brutally beaten. When she still revealed no secrets, the young Muslim woman was shot. Her last word as the firing squad took aim was "Liberté."

Noor Inayat Khan was posthumously awarded the George Cross for courage in 1949, and the French military decoration, the *Croix de guerre*, or Cross of War.

Famous Females Who Changed History: Noor Khan & Jacqueline Cochran



Who is Jacqueline Cochran?

Cochran broke all sorts of flight records (the 100 kilometre and international 2,000 kilometre speed records; the woman's national altitude record; the international open-class speed record for both men and women, and the title of outstanding woman pilot four years in a row)

Facts About You Need to Know

Jacqueline Cochran spent her childhood working in a Georgia cotton mill starting at age six. As a teen, she was hired to sweep the floors of a beauty shop.

In 1936, she earned her commercial pilot's license in just three weeks. Aviation soon became her business, and Cochran quickly began earning medals in air races.

Cochran lobbied for her Women Air Force Service Pilots (WASP) program to absorb the Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron (WAFS), which was headed up by Nancy Harkness Love. The new, larger program would include more than just ferrying; Cochran would train pilots for the rest of the war. After earning the U.S. Distinguished Service Medal in 1945, Cochran continued to break flight records, becoming the first woman to break the sound barrier in May 1953. Cochran was inducted into the Aviation Hall of Fame in Dayton, Ohio — the first woman to be admitted — in 1971.