**air raid**

An attack by planes dropping bombs.

**air raid drill**

Practice for what to do in air raid, such as going to the shelter.

**air raid shelter**

A building to protect people from bombs.

**Allies**

Countries (including Britain, France, the Soviet Union and the USA) who joined forces to fight the Axis Powers.

**allotment**

Small plot of land for growing vegetables.

**atomic bomb**

Weapon first used in 1945 when two bombs were dropped on Japan, killing more than 100,000 people.

**Axis Powers**

Germany, Japan, Italy and other countries that were allies in World War 2.

**blackout**

Wartime ban on street lights and other lights at night.

**Blitz**

German air raids, from a German word 'blitzkrieg' which means 'lightning war'.

**British Empire**

Countries ruled by Britain.

**censorship**

Controlling what people say or write.

**civilians**

People not in the armed forces.

**Civil Defence**

A network of civilian volunteers who assisted in the war effort by helping in air raids and rescuing people from bombed buildings.

**Commonwealth**

Group of friendly countries almost all of which were once part of the British Empire.

**concentration camp**

Prison where Jews and other prisoners were kept by the Nazis.

**coupons**

Slip of paper marked or torn out of a ration book.

**D-Day**

6 June 1944, the date Allied forces landed in Normandy, France.

**evacuee**

Someone who was evacuated, moved from a danger area to a safer place.

**factories**

Places where things are made.

**Forces**

The Army, Royal Air Force, Royal Navy and other services.

**Frank,Anne (1929-1945)**

A German Jewish girl who spent two years hiding from the Nazis in a house in Holland. Her wartime diary was published after the war.

**gas mask**

Face mask to protect people against poison gas.

**general election**

Vote to choose Members of Parliament, and a new government.

**gramophone**

Machine for playing music records.

**Hitler,Adolf (1929-1945)**

Leader of Nazi Germany.

**Holocaust**

Mass murder of Jews and other people by the Nazis.

**host family**

People who took in evacuees to live with them.

**invaded**

Attacked and taken over by an enemy.

**Jews**

People who follow the religion of Judaism.

**liberate**

To free from an enemy's control.

**military uniform**

Clothing worn by soldiers, sailors and airmen.

**Naval**

To do with the navy or warships.

**naval battle**

A fight between ships at sea.

**Nazi**

Short for National Socialist Party (in Germany), a follower of Hitler was also called a Nazi.

**occupied**

Taken over by enemy forces.

**prime minister**

Leader of the government of Britain.

**prisoners of war**

Soldiers captured by the other side.

**propoganda**

Controlling news media (such as radio) to show your side in the best way.

**rationing**

Controlling the supply of food, clothes, petrol and other things.

**refugee**

A person forced to leave their home, often by war.

**register**

A list of names. In WW2 people had to register with shops before they could use their ration books there.

**Resistance**

Fighting back in an occupied country, for example by refusing to help the enemy.

**scrap metal**

Waste metal such as old cooking pans.

**siren**

Machine that made a wailing noise as a warning when enemy planes were seen.

**slogan**

A catchy phrase or saying.

**Soviet Union**

Country made up of Russia and other states that are now independent.

**steam train**

A train pulled by a locomotive burning coal.

**stirrup pump**

Small hand pump for squirting water to put out fires.

**telegram**

A short message sent by phone, then printed out and delivered.

**Underground**

London's Tube rail system.

**United Nations**

Organization set up in 1945 by the Allies to work for world peace.

**war crime**

Mass murder or cruel treatment of people during a war.

**washboard**

Wooden board with ridges, for scrubbing dirty clothes on.