

Answer Sheet



Auxiliary Territorial Service personnel operating anti-aircraft defences, 1940 (c)

- Q1** In 1939, the Second World War started. It saw the Allied powers battle against the Axis powers. Which were the main countries on each side? **Allies – Great Britain, France, Soviet Union (Russia), the USA; Axis – Germany, Italy, Japan**
- Q2** Early in the war, Nazi Germany planned an invasion of Britain. What was the code name they gave to their plot? **Operation Sea Lion**
- Q3** Throughout August 1940, the German air force attacked Royal Air Force (RAF) bases. This was to try and weaken them before invading. What was the name of the German air force? **Luftwaffe**
- Q4** The first German bombs fell on London in late August and the RAF then attacked Berlin. The Germans then began attacking sites across Britain to destroy morale before their planned invasion. What is morale? **A feeling of confidence or optimism**
- Q5** This propaganda poster was made by the government in 1939. What was its purpose? **To raise morale among the public**
- Q6** Between July - October 1940, the RAF fought a successful campaign against the Germans. This led Hitler to cancel the invasion. What was this conflict called? **Battle of Britain**
- Q7** German bombers continued to attack British cities such as London, Liverpool and Birmingham between September 1940 - May 1941. Why were different places targeted? **Docks – stop the supply of goods by sea; Factories – stop the production of weapons and other military supplies; Ports – stop ships of the Royal Navy; Populated areas – cause fear and destroy morale; Railways – stop the movement of good and troops on land**
- Q8** This bombing campaign became known as the 'blitz'. The term 'blitz' was short for 'blitzkrieg' in German. What does it mean? **Lightning**

- Q9** The Blitz had a huge impact on the lives of civilians. For example, in London, 1.4 million were bombed out of their homes. Worse still, thousands of people were killed. How many people lost their lives in the Blitz? **40,000**
- Q10** During air raids, people would seek cover in a shelter. Some people had shelters in their gardens, but many people took refuge in communal shelters. What type of place are these people sheltering in? **London underground station**
- Q11** During the Blitz, over 1.5 million children, women with babies and sick people were evacuated from the cities for their safety. Where were they sent? **To the countryside, to countries overseas**
- Q12** At the start of the war, all British people were given masks and instructed to carry them at all times. What were these masks designed to protect people from? **Poison gas attacks**
- Q13** This railway worker is putting up a station sign. In the Blitz, station signs across the country were taken down. This caused chaos and so the signs were replaced. But it was still ruled that they mustn't use big letters or be placed too high up. Why do you think there were rules about station signs? **To avoid enemy planes spotting them**
- Q14** At the start of the war, the government recruited around 200,000 ARP volunteer wardens. What does 'ARP' stand for? **Air Raid Precautions**
- Q15** This is an ARP warden's helmet. Why did wardens need to wear steel helmets to protect their heads? **They helped rescue people from bombed buildings**
- Q16** During raids, ARP wardens also did jobs such as directing people to air raid shelters and helping to enforce the blackout. What did people have to do in the blackout to stop bomber planes spotting targets? **Cover up windows at night to stop any light escaping**
- Q17** In 1938, as the threat of war increased, the Auxiliary Territorial Service (ATS) was formed. What was the ATS? **The women's branch of the Army**
- Q18** What kinds of jobs did women in the ATS do? **Cook, mechanic, clerk, driver**
- Q19** By 1943, thousands of women were serving with anti-aircraft units. What do you think these ATS members are using this searchlight for? **To spot enemy planes overhead**
- Q20** In 1940, the Local Defence Volunteers were formed. The force was later re-named the Home Guard and was based in Britain during the war. What was the purpose of the Home Guard? **To protect the country from a possible German invasion**
- Q21** The Home Guard was nicknamed 'Dad's Army'. Why was this? **The Home Guard was mostly made up of men too old to join the regular Army**
- Q22** During the Blitz, many Home Guard members would have operated this type of weapon. What do you think it was used for? **To shoot down enemy planes**
- Q23** What kind of person do you think would have carried a case such as this during the Blitz? **A medical professional**
- Q24** In the war, nurses played an important role in treating casualties both abroad and at home in Britain. Who served as nurses? **Civilian women, military women**

- Q25** These nurses worked on a Casualty Evacuation Train in London. Where did they carry injured people? **From First Aid Posts to hospitals in outer areas of the city**
- Q26** This type of bomb is called an incendiary device. What were incendiary devices designed to do? **Cause a fire to break out**
- Q27** In the Blitz, people were helped by thousands of firefighters. How many fires had London's fire service been called to by the end of the war? **50,000**
- Q28** There were lots of different people who helped with firefighting, including women in the ATS and the volunteers of the Auxiliary Fire Service (AFS). People also joined 'street fire parties'. What were these? **Groups of civilians given equipment and training to put out fires**
- Q29** This is the Defence Medal. It was awarded to people who had served for at least three years in Britain during the war and could be given to both Army members and civil defence workers. What were the colours of the ribbon designed to symbolise? **Orange – the firebombing of the Blitz; Black – the blackout; Green – the ‘...pleasant land of England’**