

Important facts

The Battle of Britain and the Blitz were military campaigns of the Second World War, in which the Royal Air Force (RAF) defended the United Kingdom (UK) against large-scale attacks by Nazi Germany's air force, the Luftwaffe.

Hitler sent his Luftwaffe bombers to attack British ports and RAF airfields.

During the Blitz, from September 1940, the city of London was heavily bombed.

Night Bombing – With the failure of daylight bombing raids, Hitler began a series of nightly bombing raids on London and other important industrial cities.

People kept safe by using air raid sirens, shelters and blackout curtains.

Key Vocabulary

Air raid	An attack by military aircraft in which bombs are dropped	
Blitz	The heaving bombing of British cities by German aircraft in 1940 and 1941 is referred to as the Blitz	
Chamberlain (Neville)	Prime Minister of the UK from 1937 to 1940	
Churchill (Winston)	Prime Minister of the UK from 1940 to 1945	
evacuate	To evacuate someone means to send them to a place of safety	
Hitler (Adolf)	Leader of the Nazi Party from 1934 to 1945	
Invasion	To try and take over a place by force	
Luftwaffe	The German Air Force	
military	Relating to or belonging to the army	
Nazi	A member of the far-right political party in Germany	
rationing	The system of limiting the amount of food, water, petrol, or other substances where there is not enough of them	



Many men fought in the war and so women were tasked to carry out much of the war work. Jobs undertaken by women during the war included mechanics, ambulance drivers and air raid wardens.

Germany launched a large bombing attack on the city of London between September 1940 and May 1941. At one point, London was bombed 57 nights in a row.



Many children living in urban areas were moved temporarily from their homes to places considered safer, usually out in rural areas of Britain.

