

Devoir commun – fiche de travail sur le thème WW2

WW2 in numbers

74 millions victims on the planet

70 countries involved

17 million soldiers died

1500 planes a day during the most intensive bombings of the Blitz

60 % of London houses destroyed

3104 tons of bombs on London on the night of 10th May 1941

57 consecutive nights of air raids on London

80 % of British women were working in factories on the land or in the army

827000 British children evacuated

Vocabulaire sur le thème des femmes de la guerre

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ally	allié
ammunition	munitions
arms, weapons	armes
battlefield	champ de bataille
casualty	victime
conflict	conflit
dead	mort
defeat	défaite
defend	défendre
die	mourir
draft	mobilisation
field hospital	hôpital de campagne
fight, fought, fought	se battre, combattre
injury	blessure
intelligence	le renseignement
invade	envahir
peace treaty	traité de paix
private	simple soldat
recruit	recrue
rescue	secourir
shell	obus
shoot, shot, shot	tirer (fusil)
soldier	soldat
Surrender	se rendre
troops	les soldats, la troupe
wartime	temps de guerre
wound	blessure
plant	usine
D-Day	le jour J (le débarquement)
clerk	employé de bureau
nurse	infirmière
bravery	bravoure, courage
assembly line	chaîne de montage
carry on	continuer, poursuivre
proud	fier
rationing	rationnement
battle front	front de bataille
homefront	l'arrière
mechanic	mécanicien(ne)
take over	reprendre

Description and analysis of a wartime poster:



This document is a British wartime poster **which** was probably published during the Second World War (WWII) as we can see tanks and bombers from that period in the background

What catches our attention is the photograph of Winston Churchill in the foreground superimposed onto a bluish grey scene of rolling tanks over a rural landscape accompanied by a fleet of bombers in the sky.

Winston Churchill was the British Prime Minister during the Second World War. On this poster, he looks confident and determined. He is gazing at /staring at the horizon.

In the upper part of the poster, we can see bombers flying in formation in a cloudy sky. The V shape **makes us think of** the word Victory. **On both sides**

of Winston Churchill there are tanks/armoured vehicles **which** are firing as we can see smoke all around. We understand that the British armed forces are ready to fight/preparing for war.

The catchphrase "Let us go forward" written in capital letters at the bottom of the poster is probably a quotation from one of Winston Churchill's famous speeches. The words "go forward" echo Churchill's gaze (=regard) : he seems to be looking ahead/to the future and looks ambitious.

The message of this poster is to promote unity in order to be stronger. There is a clear call to action encouraging British citizens to contribute to the war effort through the word "together". Churchill is calling all British citizens to rise up and work together in order to successfully be a part of this war. During the war, propaganda posters were very often used to help the government communicate with the people when they wanted to boost their morale or to warn them against a danger.