**WW2 Timeline**

World War II lasted from 1939 to 1945. There were several major events leading up to the war and then during the war. Here is a timeline listing some of the major events:   
  
**Leading up to the War**   
**1933 January 30** - Adolf Hitler becomes Chancellor of Germany. His Nazi Party, or the Third Reich, takes power and Hitler is essentially the dictator of Germany.   
  
**1936 October 25** - Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy form the Rome-Berlin Axis treaty.   
  
**1936 November 25** - Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan sign the Anti-Comintern Pact. This was a pact against communism and Russia.   
  
**1937 July 7** - Japan invades China.   
  
**1938 March 12** - Hitler annexes the country of Austria into Germany. This is also called the Anschluss.   
  
**World War II**   
**1939 September 1**- Germany invades [Poland](http://www.ducksters.com/geography/country/poland_history_timeline.php). World War II begins.   
  
**1939 September 3**- France and Great Britain declare war on Germany.   
  
**1940 April 9 to June 9** - Germany invades and takes control of Denmark and Norway.   
  
**1940 May 10 to June 22** - Germany uses quick strikes called blitzkrieg, meaning lightning war, to take over much of western Europe including the Netherlands, Belgium, and northern France.   
  
**1940 May 30** - Winston Churchill becomes leader of the British government.   
  
**1940 June 10** - Italy enters the war as a member of the Axis powers.   
  
**1940 July 10** - Germany launches an air attack on Great Britain. These attacks last until the end of October and are known as the Battle of Britain.   
  
**1940 September 22** - Germany, Italy, and Japan sign the Tripartite Pact creating the Axis Alliance.   
  
**1941 June 22**- Germany and the Axis Powers attack Russia with a huge force of over four million troops.   
  
**1941 December 7**- The Japanese attack the US Navy in Pearl Harbor. The next day the US enters World War II on the side of the Allies.   
  
**1942 June 4**- The US Navy defeats the Japanese navy at the Battle of Midway.  
  
**1942 July 10** - The Allies invade and take the island of Sicily.   
  
**1943 September 3** - Italy surrenders to the Allies, however Germany helps Mussolini to escape and set up a government in Northern Italy.   
  
**1944 June 6** - D-day and the Normandy invasion. Allied forces invade France and push back the Germans.   
  
**1944 August 25** - Paris is liberated from German control.   
  
**1944 December 16** - The Germans launch a large attack in the Battle of the Bulge. They lose to the Allies sealing the fate of the German army.   
  
**1945 February 19** - US Marines invade the island of Iwo Jima. After a fierce battle they capture the island.   
  
**1945 April 12** - US President Franklin Roosevelt dies. He is succeeded by President Harry Truman.   
  
**1945 March 22** - The US Third Army under General Patton crosses the Rhine River.   
  
**1945 April 30** - Adolf Hitler commits suicide as he knows Germany has lost the war.   
  
**1945 May 7** - Germany surrenders to the Allies.   
  
**1945 August 6**- The United States drops the Atomic Bomb on Hiroshima, Japan. The city is devastated.   
  
**1945 August 9** - Another atomic bomb is dropped on Nagasaki, Japan.   
  
**1945 September 2** - Japan surrenders to US General Douglass MacArthur and the Allies.

**Questions for Timeline**

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| **1) What event triggered the start of World War II?**   * 1. **Hitler came into power**   2. **Germany annexed Austria**   3. **Japan attacked Pearl Harbor**   4. **Germany attacked Poland**   5. **Winston Churchill became leader of Britain**   **2) What year did World War II begin?**   1. **1933** 2. **1935** 3. **1939** 4. **1941** 5. **1942**   **3) What was the name of the long running air attack of Germany on Great Britain that lasted from July 1940 until October 1940?**   * 1. **Battle of Britain**   2. **D-Day**   3. **Battle of the Bulge**   4. **Battle of Iwo Jima**   5. **Battle of London**   **4) What was the battle where the Allies attacked Germany on the coast of France and pushed back the Germans?**   * 1. **Battle of the Allies**   2. **D-Day**   3. **Invasion of France**   4. **Battle of Stalingrad**   5. **Battle of Britain**   **5) What day was the invasion of Normandy or D-Day?**   * 1. **30-Sep-39**   2. **12-Oct-40**   3. **7-Dec-41**   4. **7-May-45**   5. **6-Jun-44** | **6) What caused the United States to enter the war on the side of the Allies?**   * 1. **When Germany invaded France**   2. **When Germany invaded Poland**   3. **When Japan attacked Pearl Harbor**   4. **When Britain and France declared war on Germany**   5. **When Russia entered the war**   **7) What date was the attack on Pearl Harbor?**   * 1. **30-Sep-39**   2. **7-Dec-41**   3. **6-Jun-44**   4. **7-May-45**   5. **2-Sep-45**   **8) What Japanese city did the United State drop the atomic bomb on first?**   * 1. **Hiroshima**   2. **Nagasaki**   3. **Tokyo**   4. **Osaka**   5. **Kyoto**   **9) What year did Hitler become leader of Germany?**   * 1. **1929**   2. **1930**   3. **1933**   4. **1939**   5. **1940**   **10) Who became president when Franklin D. Roosevelt died in 1945?**   * 1. **Dwight D. Eisenhower**   2. **Winston Churchill**   3. **John F. Kennedy**   4. **Harry S. Truman**   5. **Herbert Hoover** |