

VE day

On the 7th of May 1945, Germany surrendered (gave up fighting the war) to Western and Russian military commanders. The next day, the 8th of May, was declared as the official day of celebration. People all over Europe were tired of years of hardship and bombing, they wanted to return to a normal life again.

In London, tens of thousands of people came into the city centre. They listened to a speech by Prime Minister Winston Churchill in Trafalgar Square which was delivered over the radio through huge loudspeakers. People across the UK put up flags, banners and streamers were everywhere. There were parties, fireworks, and some people wore red, white and blue rosettes. We still celebrate VE day today as sign of continued peace and we remember those across Europe who fought in WWII. Read more about VE day here: historyforkids.net/ve-and-vjdays.html and <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/48201749>

Writing Task - VE Speech

Imagine you are Winston Churchill in 1945. You have just discovered that Germany have surrendered meaning that World War 2 is over.

Write a short speech announcing the news to the country.

Your speech should be positive and uplifting and show what a great country Britain is. You can read the original speech, which is also in your school closure pack.

Below there are some hints and tips for you and if you want extra support you can complete the cloze activity below.

Hints and Tips

- You can find some persuasive writing tips here: Look at persuasive writing techniques <https://youtu.be/Mlka2xBvV5Q>
- You can gather information about VE day from the attached PowerPoint presentation
- Key Vocabulary to use

victory	Germany	Great Britain
surrendered	military	declare
celebration	Europe	courage
rejoice	suffering	bombing

- You can also use the Year 3 and 4 word mat
- Churchill uses lots of questions in his speech, could you include some?
- Sentence starters:

It is with _____ that I tell you...	My dear friends...
After...	Before...
Now we can...	Tomorrow....
Although....	However...

Cloze Activity - Fill in the gaps to write Churchill's speech

My _____ friends, it is with _____ that I tell you that the war
between _____ and _____ is over.

After what has seemed like _____ we can finally

_____.

Before this we were a _____ country but now we are even
more

_____.

Did you want to _____? Did we

_____?

Victory is _____. Tomorrow we will wake up feeling

_____ and

_____.

I want to thank you all for what has been a _____

time. Long live the _____.