

## VE Day Anniversary Quiz for May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – with answers

1. VE Day was celebrated on May 8<sup>th</sup>, 1945, towards the end of World War Two (WWII) when fighting against a particular country in Europe had just come to an end. Which country had surrendered unconditionally to Western and Russian military commanders the day before? (Germany - which was controlled by a political group called the Nazis at that time)
2. In which year did World War II start? (1939)
3. How long ago, and in which year, did WWII end? (75 years ago, in 1945. It had lasted about 6 years.)
4. What do the letters V E in 'VE Day' stand for? (Victory in Europe)
5. Who was the leader of the Nazis, the political group who controlled Germany at the start of the World War II? (Adolf Hitler)
6. Tens of thousands of people came into the centre of London on VE Day to listen to a speech by the Prime Minister which was delivered over the radio through huge loudspeakers in Trafalgar Square. Who was the Prime Minister on VE Day? (Winston Churchill)
7. The king and queen and their two daughters, Elizabeth and Margaret, greeted the cheering crowds from their balcony at Buckingham Palace on VE Day. Who were the king and queen on that day? (George VI and Queen Elizabeth)
8. VE Day brought scenes of joy throughout the UK. People put up flags; banners and streamers were everywhere. There were parties and fireworks. People hugged, sang songs and danced. What colour were the rosettes that some people wore on VE Day? (Red, white and blue)
9. The Soviet Union marked its own "Victory Day" on May the 9th based on a second German surrender to the Soviets in Berlin. Who was the Soviet leader who announced the victory over the radio? (Joseph Stalin)

10. Many soldiers came home after VE Day. Which country were they then preparing to fight? (Japan)
11. News spread throughout the world on 14<sup>th</sup> August 1945 that the war had finally come to an end, but when was VJ -Victory in Japan - Day officially celebrated? (September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1945 - the Japanese signed the official surrender aboard the USS Missouri on that day)
12. What kind of book was given to every person in Britain, to make sure that people got an equal amount of food every week? (A ration book. People had to register and buy their food from their chosen shops. There were no supermarkets, so people had to visit several different shops to buy meat, vegetables, bread and other goods.)
13. The Ministry of Food needed to encourage people not to waste food and to grow their own, if possible, because of rationing. What was the name of the campaign that was started, urging people to use any spare land to grow vegetables? ('Dig for Victory' and land that was used included parks, golf clubs and even the moat at the Tower of London)
14. What was the name of the organisation which was started in World War One, and recreated in World War Two, so that women could work in agriculture (farming), replacing men who had been called up to fight in the war. (The Women's Land Army (WLA). Women who worked for the WLA were known as 'Land Girls'.)
15. At 11am, on VE Day, what sound could be heard throughout the country? (Church bells ringing in celebration)