



Speech on Hitler's Invasion of the U.S.S.R

Winston Churchill



Background Information

- ◆ The Second World War
- ◆ The Soviet-German War
- ◆ Winston S. Churchill
- ◆ Oration





The Second World War

- ◆ World War II, was a global military conflict lasting from 1939 to 1945, which involved all of the great powers: organized into two opposing military alliances; the Allies and the Axis.

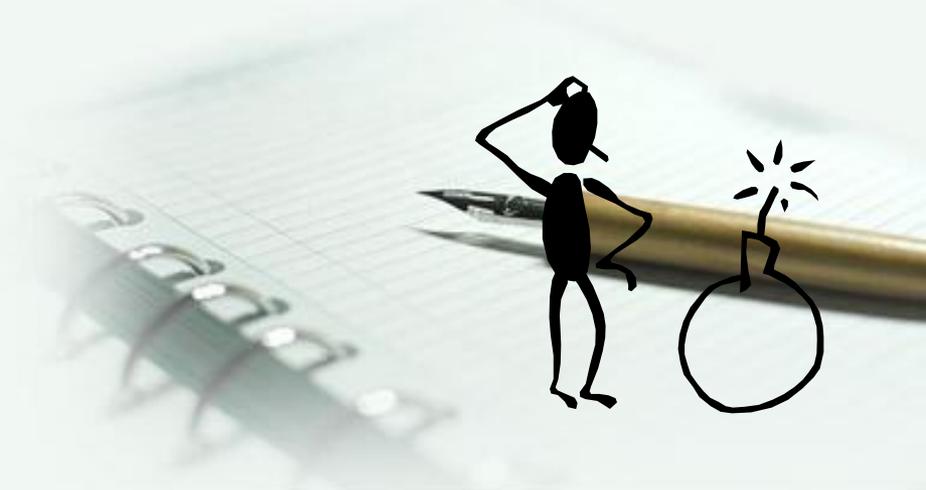
- ◆ On 1 September 1939, Germany attacked Poland.
- ◆ April 1940, Germany invaded Denmark and Norway, and invaded France, Belgium the Netherlands, and invaded Luxembourg on 10 May.
- ◆ With France neutralized, Germany began an air superiority campaign over Britain (the Battle of Britain).
- ◆ On 22 June 1941, Germany invaded the Soviet Union in Operation Barbarossa.



- ◆ In March 1939, Britain and France started talks with the Soviet Union on possible cooperation against Fascist Germany.
- ◆ At that time Britain under Chamberlain and France under Daladier were pursuing a policy of appeasement.
- ◆ After three months' fruitless negotiation, the talks were broken off.



- ◆ Then in order to protect itself, the Soviet Union signed the non-aggression pact with Hitler's Germany on August 23, 1939.
- ◆ On Sept. 1, 1939, Hitler invaded Poland.
- ◆ On Sept. 17, Soviet troops also crossed the border and moved into Poland.





- ◆ The Russo-Finnish war began on Nov. 1, 1939 and ended in March 1940.
- ◆ The Finns sued for peace and ceded an area of over 16,000 m² to the Soviet Union.
- ◆ In June 1940, Soviet troops occupied the three Baltic states and part of Rumania.



- ◆ Before the fall of Poland, British intelligence officers managed to get hold of a German coding machine and a group of code-breaking experts, called the Bletchley Park group, soon discovered how the machine worked.
- ◆ With the help of this machine, the British were able to decipher all German coded messages.



- ◆ So on June 6, the British had already learnt that Hitler was to attack Russia and so passed on a warning to the Soviet Union, which was unheeded.

The Soviet-German War

◆ Germany



◆ U.S.S.R.



◆ Non-aggression Pact

◆ Operation Barbarossa







Winston S. Churchill

Birth **November 30, 1874**

Death **January 24, 1965**

Political Party **Conservative**

Official Title **Prime minister**

Term **1940-1945 Prime minister of the U.K**

1951-1955 Prime minister of the U. K

Known for **Leading the United Kingdom and
the Allies to victory in World War II.**

Award **1953 Nobel Prize in literature**



Suggested Reading List

- ◆ The Winds of War 1971
- ◆ War and Remembrance 1977 by Herman Wouk
- ◆ The World Crisis (6 vols, 1923-31)
- ◆ The Second World War (6 vols, 1948-53)
- ◆ History of the English Speaking Peoples (4 vols, 1956-58) by Winston Churchill



Extended Reading

- ◆ Blood, Sweat And Tears
- ◆ Gettysburg Address
- ◆ For a Declaration of War against Japan
- ◆ Inaugural Address
- ◆ In memory of the Challenger Astronauts



Detailed learning of the text

- ◆ Para.1-Para.6
- ◆ Para.8-Para.12



Questions for Paragraph 1

- ◆ 1) What was Churchill's reaction to the news of Hitler's invasion of Russia? Why?
- ◆ 2) Paraphrase "This changed conviction to certainty."
- ◆ 3) Explain "on an enormous front, and had surprised a large...and seemed to be driving forward with great rapidity and violence."
- ◆ 4) Paraphrase the last sentence of this paragraph.



Questions for Paragraph 2-3

- ◆ 1) Why did Churchill think it was unnecessary to consult the War Cabinet?
- ◆ 2) Explain 'may be of interest'.



Questions for Paragraph 4-6

- ◆ 1) What's the attitude toward Hitler's invasion on the part of capitalist and Right Wing?
- ◆ 2) Why did Churchill think that Hitler was wrong?
- ◆ 3) Explain the metaphor in the sentence "If Hitler invaded...in the House of Commons".
- ◆ 4) In this Para, Churchill mentioned "Hell, Devil, whom do you think he refers to in this context? Why?"

Summary

- ◆ The first six Paras. is the record of the event.
- ◆ Please pay attention to the different sentences used in the two parts when the same idea is mentioned to appreciate the use of language on different occasions.



Questions for Paragraph 7

- ◆ 1) What's Churchill's attitude toward communism?
- ◆ 2) What does he think of Nazi?
- ◆ 3) Paraphrase "It excels all forms of...ferocious aggression."
- ◆ 4) Why did Churchill side with the Soviet Union since he had always been an avowed enemy of communism? Will he change his attitude about communism?
- ◆ 5) What 'crimes, follies' and 'tragedies' was Churchill referring to?



Questions for Paragraph 7

- ◆ 6) Why did he want us to forget the past?
- ◆ 7) In Churchill's view, what were the communists supposed to believe in?
- ◆ 8) Churchill uses an apt simile, comparing the German soldiers to locusts, what effect does the simile achieve?
- ◆ 9) Paraphrase “still smarting from many a British whipping”.
- ◆ 10) How do you interpret the word ‘prey’?



Questions for Paragraph 8-9

- ◆ 1) What do the words 'glare, storm and cataract' respectively refer to ?
- ◆ 2) What is Churchill's single purpose?
- ◆ 3) What policy did Churchill declare Britain would pursue? Or Generalize some points of his policy.

Paragraph 10

- ◆ 1) What kind of war does Churchill call it?
- ◆ 2) Why did Churchill say that Hitler was woefully mistaken?

Paragraph 11

- ◆ 1) Again, how does Churchill explain the reasons why Britain should support and help Russia?
- ◆ 2) What, according to Churchill, was Hitler's motive in invading Russia? Do you agree with him?

Paragraph 12

◆ What's the main idea in the last paragraph?

Rhetorical Device

- ◆ Parallelism
- ◆ Onomatopoeia
- ◆ Alliteration
- ◆ Inversion
- ◆ Antithesis
- ◆ Periodic sentence

Repetition
Assonance
Simile
Metaphor
Allusion
Rhetorical question

Parallelism:

- ◆ The past, with its crimes, its follies, and its tragedies, flashes away.
- ◆ Pray...for the return of the bread-winner, of their champion, of their protector.
- ◆ We shall fight him by land, we shall fight him by sea, we shall fight him in the air.

More example:

◆ I see the Russian soldiers standing....

I see them guarding....

I see the ten thousand villages of Russia....

I see advancing upon....

I see also the dull, drilled, docile, brutish masses....

I see the German bombers and fighters....

I see that small group of villainous....

More example:

- ◆ the return of the bread-winner, of their champion, of their protector
- ◆ We shall fight him by land, ...by sea..., in the air
- ◆ Any man or state... Any man or state...
- ◆ Let us... Let us...

Function:

- ◆ concise in language
- ◆ balance in structure
- ◆ forceful in tone
- ◆ distinguished in significance
- ◆ add clarity and coherence to what one wishes to communicate

Alliteration:

- ◆ for his hearth and home
- ◆ with its clanking, heel-clicking...

I see also the dull, drilled, docile, brutish masses of the Hun soldiers...

Alliteration phrases;



- ◆ chop and change
- ◆ might and main
- ◆ rack and ruin
- ◆ time and tide
- ◆ hale and hearty
- ◆ mud and mire
- ◆ rhyme or reason
- ◆ weal and woe
- ◆ sink or swim

- ◆ 多变
- ◆ 力量
- ◆ 毁灭
- ◆ 岁月
- ◆ 健壮
- ◆ 泥沼
- ◆ 条理
- ◆ 祸福
- ◆ 沉浮

Simile:

- ◆ ...Hun soldiery plodding on like a swarm of crawling locusts.

Function:

- ◆ an association between the large quantity, disgusting way of advancing of German soldiers and locusts.
- ◆ Increase the impact of the language.

Antithesis:

- ◆ Antithesis: deliberate arrangement of contrasting words / ideas in balanced structure / form to achieve emphasis
- ◆ devoid of all theme and principle except appetite and racial domination
- ◆ Any man or state who fights on against Nazidom will have our aid. Any man or state who marches with Hitler is our foe.

Other examples

- ◆ Without the assistance of that Divine Being who ever attended Him, I cannot succeed. With that assistance, I cannot fail. (Abraham Lincoln)
- ◆ And so, my fellow Americans: ask not what your country can do for you --- ask what you can do for your country. (John F. Kennedy)
- ◆ Not that I loved Caesar less
But that I loved Rome more. (Shakespeare)

Periodic Sentence:

- ◆ When I awoke on...invasion of Russia.
- ◆ When I spoke of Hitler's bloodlust...one deeper motive.
- ◆ If Hitler imagines that his attack on Soviet Russia will cause the slightest divergence of aims or slackening of effort in the great democracies who are resolved upon his doom, he is woefully mistaken.
- ◆ Any man or state who fights on against Nazidom will have our aid. Any man or state who marches with Hitler is our foe.

function:

- ◆ a sentence has its main idea at the end of the sentence.
- ◆ This brings an effect of tenseness, suspense and dramatic climax.
- ◆ Add variety to an otherwise monotonous sentence structure.
- ◆ Increase the difficulty of understanding.

Assonance:

- ◆ Assonance: The use of the same or related, vowel sounds in successive words
- ◆ clanking, heel-clicking,...cowing and tying...plodding on like crawling locusts, ...smarting from many a British whipping...
- ◆ easier and safer prey