

Ask students to research details of this event and act as war correspondents delivering on-the-spot reports regarding Churchill's seizure and daring escape. More information may be found at the following web site:
www.nls.uk/digitallibrary/churchill/aroving.html

Suggested Internet Resources

Periodically, Internet Resources are updated on our web site at www.LibraryVideo.com

- www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/churchill-blood.html
 Fordham's Modern History Sourcebook offers the full text of Winston Churchill's first speech to the House of Commons, known as "Blood, Toil, Tears and Sweat."
- www.bbc.co.uk/history/war/wwtwo/churchill_audio.shtml
 The BBC provides audio clips from several of Winston Churchill's speeches.
- history.hanover.edu/courses/excerpts/111chur.html
 Hanover College has the full text of Winston Churchill's "Speech Before Commons" (June 4, 1940).

Suggested Print Resources

- Gilbert, Martin. *Churchill and America*. Free Press, New York, NY; 2005.
- Lukacs, John. *Five Days in London*. Yale University Press, New Haven, CT; 2000.
- Mortimer, Gavin. *The Longest Night: The Bombing of London on May 10, 1941*. Berkley Caliber, New York, NY; 2005.

TEACHER'S GUIDE

Jeffrey Litzke, M.Ed.

Curriculum Specialist, Schlessinger Media

TITLES

- | | |
|--|---|
| • WINSTON CHURCHILL | • RICHARD NIXON |
| • DAVID LLOYD GEORGE:
THE CREATION OF
THE MODERN WELFARE STATE | • EMMELINE PANKHURST:
CHAMPION OF THE WOMEN'S
SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT |
| • ADOLF HITLER | • RONALD REAGAN |
| • HO CHI MINH | • FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT |
| • JOHN F. KENNEDY | • MARGARET THATCHER |
| • NELSON MANDELA | • WOODROW WILSON |
| • JAWAHARLAL NEHRU | |

Teacher's Guides Included
and Available Online at:

800-843-3620



Program © 2005 by Voices in Time Inc.
 Teacher's Guide © 2006 Schlessinger Media,
 a division of Library Video Company
 P.O. Box 580, Wynnewood, PA 19096 • 800-843-3620

All rights reserved.

V6651



GREATEST SPEECHES OF THE 20TH CENTURY™

V O I C E S I N T I M E

WINSTON CHURCHILL

Grades 9–12

Great political speeches are authentic and heart felt — designed to move audiences, instill trust, and clearly and effectively communicate goals and policies. *Greatest Speeches of the 20th Century: Voices in Time* will introduce viewers to a wide range of prominent leaders and analyze the rhetoric they used to persuade others during times of dramatic social change and intense political turmoil. Students will become more knowledgeable about the immediate impact and enduring effect of history's most remarkable speeches, and through these stirring words increase their awareness of 20th century world history.



Historical Overview

Winston Churchill became the prime minister of Great Britain in the early days of World War II, as Hitler's blitzkrieg swept across Europe and threatened to conquer the entire continent. Churchill's leadership, stirring speeches and indomitable will galvanized and rallied his countrymen throughout the devastating conflict. His radio broadcasts to the British people maintained a triumphant tone even as British cities suffered relentless nightly bombing from the German *Luftwaffe*. Inspired and uplifted by its prime minister, the British Empire experienced "its finest hour," changing the course of the war, which ultimately led to Allied victory and Germany's unconditional surrender.

Time Line

1874 — Winston Churchill is born in Blenheim Palace.

1895 — Churchill begins military service as a second lieutenant in a British cavalry unit.

1899 — Churchill escapes capture during the Boer War.

1900 — Churchill wins election to Parliament.

1919 — The Treaty of Versailles, ending World War I, is signed.

1922 — Churchill loses seat in Parliament.

1940 — Churchill becomes Prime Minister upon resignation of Neville Chamberlain.

1940 — German *Luftwaffe* begins bombing London.

1945 — The Big Three (Churchill, FDR and Stalin) meet at Yalta.

1945 — Germany announces its unconditional surrender in World War II.

1945 — Clement Attlee becomes Prime Minister.

1951 — Churchill is re-elected Prime Minister at age 76.

1955 — Churchill retires as Prime Minister.

1965 — Churchill dies in London at age 90.

Vocabulary

World War II — The second major war of the 20th century that involved the Allied Powers led by England, France, the Soviet Union and the United States and their opponents, the Axis Powers, which included Germany, Japan and Italy.

Nazi Party — Adolf Hitler's political party in Germany; also known as the National Socialist German Worker's Party.

The Battle of Britain — Germany's aerial bombardment of Great Britain in World War II. Churchill successfully rallied the English against the 1940 German attack. (Also called the "Blitz".)

Duke of Marlborough — The title of British nobility Winston Churchill inherited from his family.

House of Commons — The powerful lower house of Parliament in the United Kingdom.

World War I — The first major war of the 20th century that involved the Allied Powers, led by Great Britain, France and Russia, and their opponents, the Central Powers, which included Germany and Austria-Hungary.

Wehrmacht — The armed forces of Germany in the World War II era.

(Continued)

Dunkirk — A city in northern France that was the site of heavy fighting during World War II. Churchill referred to "Operation Dynamo," the evacuation of hundreds of thousands of troops from the city during the German invasion in 1940, as "the miracle of Dunkirk."

Long Parliament — Revolutionary English Parliament called by Charles I in 1640, which was in session almost continuously during the English Civil War.

Buckingham Palace — The official residence of the British monarch, the site of official state receptions for foreign dignitaries and a major tourist attraction.

Maginot Line — Named after the French minister of defense, Andre Maginot, a line of fortifications France developed after World War I to protect its border with Germany.

Luftwaffe — The German air force, which Hitler used to systematically bomb European cities during World War II.

Discussion Questions

1. How was the Churchill family involved in British politics?
2. Why was Churchill referred to as the "Butcher of Gallipoli"?
3. How did Churchill's "bluntness" affect his political career?
4. Why did Churchill have concerns about Germany in the 1930s?
5. Why did Neville Chamberlain lose the confidence of the War Cabinet, the House of Commons and the British public?
6. What was the formula Churchill used in developing the speeches he gave?
7. In his radio broadcast, how did Churchill perceive the Battle of Britain?
8. How did Anthony Eden describe Churchill's contribution to the war effort?

Activities

- Winston Churchill is considered by many to have been the greatest orator of the 20th century. Ask students to listen to selected Churchill speeches and to analyze their tone and content and evaluate their effectiveness. As an extension, students may identify C-R-E-A-M (Contrast - Rhyme - Echo - Alliteration - Metaphor) elements in Churchill's words.
- Over 40,000 British were killed and over 50,000 injured during the Battle of Britain. Ask students to read Winston Churchill's speech, which he delivered on the eve of the 1940 German Blitz, and speculate about its impact on the British people and the British war effort. "Their Finest Hour" may be found at the following web site: www.winstonchurchill.org/14a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=418
- Over the course of approximately four months in the summer and early fall of 1940, Great Britain became the first nation in history to use air power to retain its freedom and independence. Ask students to research the history of radar and describe the role it played in this decisive battle. Students may also imagine what might have occurred had the Nazis been victorious in the Battle of Britain. How do they think world history might have been changed as a result of this outcome?
- Winston Churchill's early exploits in the British Empire took him to such far-flung locations as India and South Africa where, while a correspondent in the Boer War (1899-1902), Churchill was captured and imprisoned.

(Continued)